

December Meeting

THE CHRISTMAS FEAST 2008

Reported by Alan Lee

On Saturday 13th December members and guests of the society gathered at the refectory, in the grounds of Dover College, for their customary annual feast. As on previous occasions, this once again lived up to everyone's expectations.

Upon arrival members and guests were offered a welcoming drink. Whilst enjoying this first tippie of the evening Quodlibet entertained all present to festive songs. Included in this selection was *O little town of Bethlehem*, *Hark the herald angels sing* and *Once in royal David's city*.

Those present then enjoyed a meal of fine and plentiful food accompanied by red and white wine, fruit juice and coffee. Congratulations to the college chefs and staff for preparing, presenting and serving the excellent food.



The Christmas feast

After the meal the main concert by Quodlibet commenced with a selection of traditional international carols. *Deck the halls with holly* (Welsh), *The boars head* (English), *El noi de la mare* (Catalan) and *Ding dong merrily on high* (French).

Then a short break was taken to enable the raffle to be drawn. I must give special praise to Georgette Rapley, Sheila Cope and Denise Lee who, during the sweet course and first part of the concert, gave up their time and through their hard work ensured such a successful raffle.

Quodlibet then continued with *Gaudete*, *The holly and the ivy*, *A babe was born* and, my highlight of the evening, a most marvellous rendition of *Stille nacht*. Then followed *The goslings* and a most humorous adaptation of *Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer*.

Invited to participate all present then threw themselves wholeheartedly into *Good King Wenceslas*. I am sure the men managed to out sing the women, by volume if not quality.

Quodlibet then sung *We wish you a merry Christmas*. A most heartfelt round of applause then ended the concert at about 10pm.



The members of Quodlibet were:
 Ruth Hoskins – soprano; Jane Farrell – mezzo-soprano;
 Richard Pond – tenor; Jon Williams – bass and Director;
 Peter Giles – countertenor.