

Newbury Chamber Choir

Stories of Christmas

MUSIC BY SCHÜTZ
CAROLS & SCENES
FROM
MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

Saturday 17 December

at 7.30 pm

St George's Church

Wash Common, Newbury, RG14 6NU

Entry free: retiring collection

Heinrich Schütz
THE CHRISTMAS STORY

arr. Edward Lambert

BRIGHTER THAN THE SUN

(A Carol Cantata)

Kristy Swift (*soprano*)

Paul Robinson (*tenor*)

Jeremy Hagan (*bass*)

Newbury Chamber Choir & Players

Heinrich Schütz is widely considered the greatest German composer before Bach: there is no more appealing work of his than the famous *Christmas Story*, a work written in old age but in the new, exuberant Italian style. This version has been re-scored and adapted to the familiar English text of the King James Bible, whose 400th anniversary is being celebrated this year.

Brighter than the Sun - a mixture of old and new - is a cantata on the theme of the Annunciation and contains medieval English carols, scenes from the Mystery Plays, a setting of Mary's *Magnificat* and a Hymn to the Virgin. This is its first performance.

Included in our line up of wonderful singers and musicians is **Kristy Swift**, (*right*), a rising opera star from Australia who has just made her solo debut at Covent Garden.

