

B.A.D.G. presents

'TENANTS OF THE EARTH'

A Christmas tale from Thomas Hardy's Mellstock  
by Alexa Romanes

Music arranged by Will Carnell  
Musical direction - Choir: Jane Lloyd  
Band : Liz Shearman

This rehearsed reading has been devised with material from "Under the Greenwood Tree", some of Hardy's short stories and his poem 'The Paphian Ball' and was originally intended as a play for radio.

The carols are all mentioned by Hardy in his writings. He was concerned that the old traditional church music was dying out, and he recorded in his notebooks many of the words and tunes remembered from his childhood which had been sung by his father and grandfather in their own village.

The tradition of the 'Gallery Quire' of singers and various instrumentalists was being supplanted by the use of organs. Also the Victorian attitude to religion meant that hymns and carols based on folk-dance tunes became inappropriate. They were therefore not included in the hymnals that form the basis of church music today.

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We hope you will enjoy this re-creating of a Christmas in a community not too distant from our own.

A collection will be taken at the end for the charity 'SHELTER'.

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B.A.D.G. WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS