

PRESS RELEASE



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COLLEGE HOSTS CHARITY CAROL SERVICE WITH A DIFFERENCE

Staff, students and guests gathered in Yeovil College's Main Hall on Wednesday 9th December for the annual carol service, which raised money for Cancer Research and the Kibera School project.

The College is noted for its creative approach to the annual event, which combined traditional tunes such as 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' and 'O Come All Ye Faithful', as well as original songs and performances by students.

The College Choir treated the audience to moving renditions of 'Heal the World' and 'Hallelujah', while the 5 Feet Dance Company performed an athletic piece called 'African Skies'. The dance group is made up of A Level and BND Performing Arts students aged 17 to 19 years old.

The event also included College band The Navigators, featuring Sam Askill (lead guitar/vocals), Ashley Poulton (guitar) and Mark Tucker (bass). They played 'Crowbar Christmas', a '70s pop/new wave themed song which recently won the Music department's Christmas song competition.

The highlight of the service was a selection of Christmas songs performed by children from the Children's Centre. Proud parents and staff looked on as they sang 'Little Donkey', 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' and 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas', to the delight of the audience.

The service also featured readings by Vice Principal (Resources) Paul Bowe and College governor Tony Allum. Prayers were led by the College Christian Union.

Principal James Hampton introduced the service. He said "*The College takes a very different and innovative approach to its carol service. It includes traditional carols and readings, as well as more creative and unusual music and dance. In this way, I feel we capture the very essence of Christmas.*"

The event, which was on the theme of 'rich and poor', was led by Reverend David Keen of St James' Church, Preston Plucknett, Yeovil. He said "*The Yeovil College carol service is always a bit different and it was great to have creative input from the choir, dancers and band. It's good to see all sections of the College community get involved, from the nursery right up to the Principal. There was a lot of hard work behind the scenes and it was great to see the place packed.*"

Jarrett Wilson, Yeovil College's Faith Advisor, organised the event. He said "*The annual carol service is a fun and creative way to celebrate this time of year. As a College, we feel it is important to have events like this which highlight our rich and diverse cultural and religious traditions throughout the year. It is a great way of getting everyone involved in something truly unique.*"

The money raised from the carol service went to the Cancer Research charity and an organisation dedicated to building a new primary school in a slum in Kenya.

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Notes to Editors

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