

Eastbourne
CONCERT :
ORCHESTRA

SUMMER CONCERT



WELCOME

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WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER CONCERT COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS SINCE THE END OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR.

Welcome to the 66th season of the Eastbourne Concert Orchestra and our Summer concert commemorating 100 years since the end of the First World War. During this concert we will explore music by composers involved in the Great War as well as pieces of music associated with war in some way.

I am very pleased to welcome two soloists this evening, our very own leader, Simon Smith and Soprano Polly Clark who has performed with us on several occasions.

Polly has chosen two arias from Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro sung by Cherubino who is sent off to fight in the opera and Lascia Ch'io Pianga from Rinaldo, a Handel opera set in the time and action of the religious crusades.

Simon will be performing the famous Lark Ascending by Vaughan Williams.

Our regular audience members will notice the absence of the National Anthem from this concert. I wanted the evening to start with a more reflective mood and help us remember all of those, from all sides, who died as a result of war and felt the Last Post was a more appropriate choice.



**SIMON GOWER
CONDUCTOR**





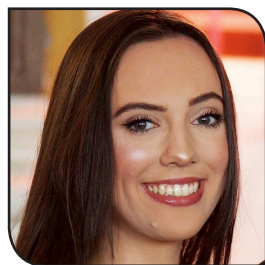
SIMON SMITH: VIOLIN

Simon is a full-time teacher and Head of Strings for the East Sussex Music Service. He began playing the violin and viola at the age of seven and has never looked back!

He grew up in Leeds and had lessons through the local Music Service, before being taught privately by members of the Orchestra of Opera North.

Simon then gained a degree in Music from the University of Hull, before heading to Cardiff to study for a Postgraduate Diploma in Performance, studying both modern and Baroque Viola.

In 2008 he was offered a full-time position as Violin & Viola teacher with the East Sussex Music Service and teaches in schools around Lewes and Newhaven. Outside of ESMS, Simon has been leading the Eastbourne Concert Orchestra since 2010 and also plays with a variety of other groups including the Corelli Ensemble and Martello Quartet. In 2012 he founded Sussex Strings, an amateur string orchestra that he leads and directs. In his spare time Simon enjoys country walks, tending his garden and bespoke cake making.



POLLY CLARKE: SOPRANO

Polly is a 19 year old Soprano from East Sussex. She has had singing lessons with teacher James Anderson since she was 11 years old and has built up a repertoire of operatic, classical and musical theatre works. Having completed A levels last year, she is on a gap year during and was involved with Glyndebourne Youth Opera, participating in workshops and their Opera 'Belongings'.

This September she will be beginning a four year BMus course at University studying Vocal Performance and hopes to go on to study a postgraduate degree at a conservatoire.



PROGRAMME

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THE LAST POST

Performed by Andy Trowhill

VON SUPPÉ - LIGHT CAVALRY OVERTURE

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS - THE LARK ASCENDING

Soloist: Simon Smith

TUNES FROM THE TRENCHES

Arranged by Peter Lawson

HANDEL - RINALDO

Lascia Ch'io Pianga

Soloist: Polly Clarke

WAGNER - DIE WALKÜRE - THE RIDE OF THE VALKYRIES

The Light Cavalry Overture depicts a regiment of Hussars, Hungarian Light Cavalry, riding into a village. This piece was also used as part of the score to the controversial 1915 film *The Birth of a Nation* detailing the lives of two families during the American Civil War.

The Lark Ascending is one of Britain's best loved classical works, topping the Classic FM Hall of Fame list eight times since 2007. Vaughan Williams was working on this piece before the outbreak of war but it would not premiere until 1921. He was arrested on suspicion of espionage on 4 August 1914, the day that Britain entered the Great War. He had been writing in a notebook in Margate as a Navy fleet was engaging in preparatory exercises out to sea. A small boy observed the composer making notes and informed the police. Vaughan Williams worked as a stretcher bearer in the medical corps before being promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery.

Songs from the Trenches is a collection of famous songs sung by soldiers on all sides of the Great War. Singing was often a way for soldiers to while away the long hours and keep their spirits high. You will recognise a lot of these songs, several of which have entered the national consciousness for associations outside of war - Car insurance anyone?

We end the first half with Wagner's famous and instantly recognisable Ride of the Valkyries, the quick march of the British Parachute Regiment. It is often associated with war in film and television including in the original soundtrack to the film *The Birth of a Nation* mentioned earlier and *Apocalypse Now*.

INTERVAL

HOLST - THE PLANETS SUITE, OP. 32

- I. Mars The Bringer of War
- II. Venus The Bringer of Peace
- IV. Jupiter The Bringer of Jollity

BUTTERWORTH - THE BANKS OF GREEN WILLOW

MOZART - LE NOZZE DI FIGARO

Voi che sapete
Non so piu cosa son faccio
Soloist: Polly Clarke

ELGAR - ENIGMA VARIATIONS - NIMROD

ELGAR - POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE MARCH NO. 1

The Planet Suite is Holst's most famous work and it seems somewhat coincidental that the first sketches of Mars were written immediately before the outbreak of war. Holst, being over the maximum age of enlisting, and having poor eyesight was not permitted to fight, but he kept applying for any job throughout the war and was rejected on every occasion. The suite is based on astrological principals and the effects they have on the human psyche rather than the Roman deities.

George Butterworth was a great friend of Vaughan Williams and they would often travel the country together in search of English folk music to transcribe and preserve. Before being sent off to fight Butterworth destroyed a lot of his compositions as he wasn't entirely happy with his work and didn't want them to be discovered and performed in the event of his death. He was killed during the Battle of the Somme in August 1916.

Elgar's music played a significant role in The Great War. Although too old to enlist, he joined the special arm of the local police and then the army reservists but continued to write music including pieces in honour of Belgium and Poland. Although both of the pieces in tonight's concert were written before the Great War they both had a strong influence on the British people and the national view of war. Nimrod, from Elgar's Enigma Variations, is a highly reflective piece and is played every year on Remembrance Sunday at the Whitehall cenotaph in London. Land of Hope and Glory from Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1, became a hugely popular patriotic anthem during the war, a legacy which continues to this day.



THE ORCHESTRA

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FIRST VIOLINS

Simon Smith
Hazel Brewer
Liz Bux
Angela Chalkley
Andrew Dumitrescu
Mike Goss
Jill Vaughan
Sandor Vegh
Rachel Williams

SECOND VIOLINS

John Caroe
Shelia Bellamy
Fiona Bourne
Charlottle Beeson
Julia Carlton-Lowe
Eleanor Ruskin
Yvonne Spear

VIOLAS

Karen McCarthy
Vieda Mercer
David Woozley

CELLOS

Jonathan Bruce
Kathryn Anderson
Kate Macdonald
Jill Maddock
Helena Pearce
Karen Sinstadt

DOUBLE BASS

Julian Baker
Alison Gibb
Toby Oliver

FRENCH HORN

Chris Willard

TRUMPETS

Andy Trowhill
Ron Smith

TROMBONES

Drew Smith
Louis Moisan

FLUTES & PICCOLO

Gill Willis
Kate Breeze

OBOES

Sian Russell
Denis Edwards

CLARINETS

Nigel Allen
Stephanie Bond
Jason Carbonell-Ferrer
Marie Crawford

BASS CLARINET

Raeph Mountford

BASSOONS

Kate Denny
Theresa Young

PERCUSSION

Avril Vegh
Jake Skingle

TIMPANI

Patricia Golds



PATRONS

B.S Baker, ESQ
Mrs R.J Baker
Mrs J.M Booth
Miss J Ferguson
Mrs S Goss
J. Grutchfield, ESQ
Mrs H Grutchfield
J Hammond. ESQ
Mrs P Hammond
Mrs J Haughan
Miss J Hayward
Hon Ald. A E Leggett
Mrs B Leggett

S. Lloyd, ESQ, MP
Mrs Z Luck
J.P Snowden, ESQ
Mrs J.P Snowdon
Mrs J Stevens
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Mrs L Thompson
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Woodall
Mrs K Worsley

PRESIDENT

The Worshipful
The Mayor of Eastbourne

CHAIRMAN

B.E Waters, ESQ M.B.E

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ninefield Proms

Friday 27th July
Elm Cottage, Marlpits Lane
Ninfield, 7.30pm

Christmas Concert

Tuesday 4th December
All Saints Church, 7.30pm

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Eastbourne Concert Orchestra



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NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY PRESENTS

NINFIELD MUSIC FESTIVAL

PROMS

Friday 27th July

GIG

Saturday 28th July



Eastbourne
CONCERT :||
ORCHESTRA

PROMS
Friday 27th July
Marl pits Lane,
Ninfield TN33 9LD

With a selection from the musicals,
films and traditional proms favourites

Featuring Soprano Polly Clarke

Gates open 6.00pm

On site parking

Assistance dogs only

Music from 7.30

Refreshments & Bar

no glass / bottles

Tickets available at:

The Stores, Lower Street, Ninfield

All enquiries on and before the day 07858 555 343

Or on-line:

www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk