

Notations

The ASHBY CONCERT BAND NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2014

"Making music at the heart of the East Midlands"

Notes from the Director of Music

In our Spring newsletter I told you that the emphasis for 2014 was going to be on classical music. Our two Viennese evenings in May and July were very successful, far more so than we expected. In October we are performing a concert of popular classics at St. Helen's Church in Ashby de la Zouch.

It is difficult to say just which of the many pieces we will be playing is likely to be the most popular. The Triumphal March from Aida by Giuseppe Verdi, Finlandia by Jean Sibelius, Crown Imperial by William Walton, Pomp & Circumstance March No. 4 by the great Edward Elgar, the Finale from Symphony No. 9 by Antonin Dvorak, Procession of the Nobles by Nicholas Rimsky-Korsakov or Danse Bacchanale by Camille Saint-Saens are all going to be competing for the "big theme" of the evening. It is going to be difficult for me to decide which one to use to open the concert, let alone which one should bring the evening to a resounding conclusion. In addition to the big concert pieces I have just listed we also have the Waltz from Sleeping Beauty by Tchaikovsky, the Waltz from Coppelia by Delibes, the wonderful Vilia from The Merry Widow by Lehar and the hauntingly beautiful Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana by Mascagni.



Finally there will be two solo instrument feature pieces; Laura Storer our Principal Oboe player will be performing the Marcello Oboe Concerto, and Ben Henderson our Principal Bass Trombone player will be playing Cameos for bass trombone & wind orchestra composed by Gordon Jacob. Other than Symphony Hall, Birmingham, where else can you go within a reasonable drive of Ashby to hear a programme of music on that scale?

In November we will once again be performing an evening of music with the Seaforth Highlanders Pipe & Drum band at the annual Poppy Appeal concert. The programme of music will include six joint pieces where the Band and the Pipers will perform together, and of course one of those pieces will be Highland Cathedral.

In December we will round out the year with our annual Christmas concert. Along with some old favourites there will also be a significant number of new pieces. Do you want to know what they are? Well you will just have to come along to Holy Trinity Church on Saturday 20th December!

After a year of classical music we will be returning to the ever popular American and film music theme for 2015. In May we will once again be performing the opening concert of the Ashby Arts Festival; this will be a really special occasion because we will also be aiming to raise as much money as possible for the Rainbows charity. We also have concerts planned for June and July but I will tell you more about them in our Spring 2015 Notations.

Welcome to Elmer

Our latest recruit to Ashby Concert Band doesn't play an instrument, in fact he's too small to see over a music stand, but we're hoping he is going to become a favourite with players and audience alike.

Elmer is our new ACB mascot – our Ashby Concert Bear! He is going to frequent our Facebook page and hopefully show the friendly side of the band to prospective members. We found him in a charity shop looking forlorn wearing a very faded Christmas jumper. We rescued him and are in the process of making him some brand new clothes including his own concert uniform and orange ACB polo shirt.



A great debate took place about what to call him, many musical suggestions were put forward but we finally settled on Elmer after the composer Elmer Bernstein. Elmer would like to get to know all of our supporters so patrons look out, next time you attend a concert you may find yourself snapped with our cute little mascot!

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Portrait Of A Player

We are pleased to welcome Emese Tünde Nyilas to Ashby Concert Band. Emese is from Orosháza, a town in Hungary. Orosháza is in western Hungary and is bordered by two rivers, the Maros and the Koros. It is a cultural centre and musically quite interesting, because in 1912, the Cantor, Marcel Lorand, studied music there under Béla Bartók. Music there is steeped in the folk genre.

Emese is currently working in Ashby de-la Zouch as an au-pair. Somehow she gets the energy to come to our Monday evening rehearsals at Holy Trinity Church! Emese is not sure at the moment for how long she is planning to stay in England, but we are happy to have her here as a member of our band for as long as she is able.



Emese has been playing the French horn for over twelve years and has performed many times in an orchestra in her home town before coming to England. Apart from the horn, Emese plays the piano, but she only admits to playing 'a bit'! She enjoys playing a wide variety of music, especially film scores and music which is written specifically for the French Horn. Her preferences for listening to music are just as diverse as her playing. Emese enjoys Mozart, but at the other end of the spectrum likes Slipknot! Apart from music, Emese's hobbies are reading and cookery. I'm sure her charges are grateful for that! We hope Emese continues to enjoy playing her French Horn and being a member of the Ashby Concert Band.

Dates for your Diary

Sat 11th October 2014 : St Helen's Church, Ashby de la Zouch 7.30 pm – a concert of popular classics to raise funds for the church heritage fund

Fri 7th November 2014: Holy Trinity Church, Ashby de la Zouch 7.30 pm – our annual concert for the RBL Poppy Appeal featuring the Seaforth Highlanders

Sat 20th December 2014: Holy Trinity Church, Ashby de la Zouch 7.30 pm - our annual Christmas concert

Supporters Acknowledgements

Ashby Concert Band is especially grateful for the continued support of our Patrons:

Mrs M Tuckey

Mr & Mrs J Backhouse

Joan Hardwick

Diane & Steve Sinfield

Alan Tricker

Mr Derek & Mrs Teresa Hayes

Kay Stephens

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and for the assistance given to the band by Johnson, Murkett & Hurst, Accountants of Ashby de la Zouch.