

THE GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC

GPS

A graphic of a musical staff with five horizontal lines, positioned above the text 'GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'.

GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

The GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, for the Friends of the Guildford Philharmonic Orchestra, is Guildford's foremost musical appreciation group. It was founded primarily to encourage both its own members and the public at large to be aware of, and to enjoy, the Orchestra's season of concerts in the Civic Hall, the Hall originally built for Guildford's own orchestra. Also it provides opportunities to enjoy a wide variety of first class musical events at special Members' Evenings.

As the Society is a registered charity it welcomes payment of subscriptions by deed of covenant. For the Member this of course means no increase for the four-year period covered, and for the Society the additional income of the reclaimed tax, at basic rate, on such payments. Funds are used to help with substantial publicity for the Philharmonic concert season. Practical help is given at concerts.

In addition to Members' Events, special evenings and receptions, Society members receive a wealth of benefits which include: –

- Priority booking for the series at the start of each concert season at discount rates.
- "THE GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC", the Society's magazine.
- Visits to other concert venues where the Orchestra is booked to perform throughout the South East and beyond.
- Cassettes, CDs and records at discount rates from Record Corner, Godalming.
- Opportunities to attend Orchestra rehearsals (by arrangement through the Philharmonic Office).
- A special welcome for New Friends of the Orchestra, enjoying and helping to ensure the continued success of the Guildford Philharmonic Orchestra in its contribution to the quality of life in Guildford and the South East.

MEMBERSHIP RATES:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Annual Subscription (minimum) | £9.00 |
| Joint subscription (husband and wife) | £15.00 |
| Persons under the age of 18 (minimum) | £6.00 |
| Retired pensioner (minimum) | £6.00 |

To join please write to the Administrator:-

Mrs Iris Bennett,

Applegarth, The Drive, Cranleigh, Surrey. GU6 7LY

with your name and address, and either a request for a Deed of Covenant form or the appropriate subscription. Alternatively you may enrol at the Society's stand in the foyer of the Civic Hall at concerts.

THE GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC

The Newsletter of the Guildford Philharmonic Society

President - Lady Groves

Administrators:
Iris and Peter Bennett
Applegarth, The Drive,
Cranleigh. GU6 7LY
(Tel: 0483 276131)

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Mrs Jill Hurst
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Wormley, Godalming. GU8 5SW
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Treasurer:
Bob Cowell
1 Penhurst, Shores Road,
Woking. GU21 4HP
(Tel: 0483 770896)

Price - 50p, free to Members

September 1992 Issue

News Editor: John Carter: 42 Poltimore Road, Guildford, Surrey. GU2 5PN Tel: 0483 571762

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Members

We start this season with great sadness, knowing that we will not see the well-loved figure of Sir Charles on the rostrum again.

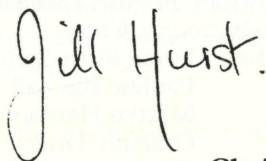
We will be reminded of him in many ways when listening to our orchestra which he loved so much.

I hope we will see this season as a glorious tribute to a great man.

We were delighted with the success of our sponsorship of Karen Downs and we have decided to renew our sponsorship for a further season. Information about the young player - Rachel Ives, is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

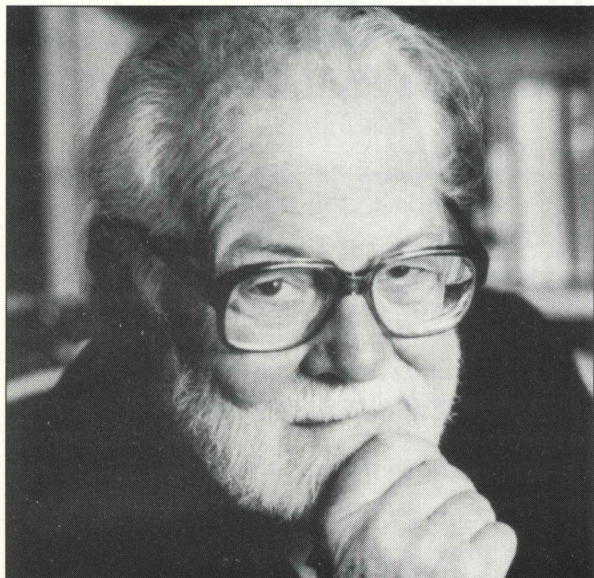
The committee and I look forward to seeing you at the concerts and members receptions.

"Good listening,"



Chairman

Sir Charles Groves, CBE



Sir Charles died on Saturday June 20th aged 77. We were all saddened to hear of his death.

Many tributes have been said and written about him and in respectful memory and appreciation for all he did, I quote a few.

“... he was as accomplished a musician as any of his generation in this country. Indeed, it was his devotion to the art of music and the institutions that he served, at the expense of a glamorous career, that gave him his irreplaceable role in so many areas of British musical life.”

Gerald Larner, The Guardian.

“Charles Groves was one of the most dedicated, hardest working conductors of his generation.”

The Times

“... a musician who combined dignity, artistry and integrity.”

John Ludlow

“The musical world has lost a great conductor and gentleman. Eschewing superficiality and flamboyance almost to a fault, he interpreted the great classics with depth and sincerity.”

Hugh Bean

“... there was hardly any part of musical life that he did not touch... he was much loved... he was a very modest man.”

John Drummond, BBC Proms July

“... not only a great musician, but a gentleman”

Sir Edward Downes at a Memorial Concert in Lichfield Cathedral.

“... a mellifluous conductor”

G.P.S. Member

We intend to hold our own Memorial Concert for Sir Charles on Friday 23rd October, 1992 at 8pm in Guildford Cathedral.

The programme will include Beethoven's Emperor Concerto with John Lill as soloist and the Mozart Requiem with the Guildford Philharmonic Orchestra and the Guildford Philharmonic Choir.

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| The soloists will be | Fiona Firth-Spiller | Soprano |
| | Pauline Birchall | Mezzo-Soprano |
| | Martyn Harrison | Tenor |
| | Graham Titus | Bass |

The Conductor will be En Shao

Tickets are priced at £7.50 (Concessions and Subscribers £5.00) and are available from the Civic Hall Box Office (0483 444555) or the G.P.O. Office (0483 444666).

The Funeral of Sir Charles Groves, CBE

On Friday 26th June 1992 I was in the Crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral attending the funeral of Sir Charles Groves, and with many others, famous and not so famous, to give thanks for his life. St. Paul's Cathedral, and the choir, which we were reminded Sir Charles had led as a boy were very dear to him and his family and it was very fitting that the service should be held there.

Lady Groves and the Very Reverend Alan Webster who conducted the service and gave the address, arranged the most moving service with the choir of St. Paul's giving of their best with inspired singing. There was music by William Croft, John Goss, Walford Davies and Gabriel Faure with the choir's final offering being 'In Paradisum' from his Requiem. Sir Charles' son Jonathon read the wonderful poem 'Dedication' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and in his address the Rev. Webster spoke warmly and with humour of Sir Charles and his commitment, kindness and consideration - all of which qualities we have experienced in good measure here in Guildford.

It truly was a fond farewell we bade Sir Charles that day and I was proud to be a part of it to honour the memory of someone we held in high esteem and affection and who will be greatly missed by us all.

RITA HORTON

Sadly, we report the death this Summer of Mrs. Winifred Richards.

Many of the older members will recall that Mrs. Richards was active in the early years of the Guildford Philharmonic Society and in particular getting the Subscription Series off of the ground.

We extend our condolences and sympathy to the members of her family.

Members Events 1992/93

- 23rd September** Pre-Season Wine and Cheese party
Burchatts Farm Barn, Stoke Park - 7.30pm
Pre-Season concert review by Terry Barfoot
£5.00 (£4.00 for subscribers and Society members)
Tickets from GPO Office (0483 444666)
Open to Members and Non-members
- 27th September** New Members Reception. (Free to Members, £2 for guests)
Civic Hall Restaurant
- 21st October** Members Evening at Methodist Hall at 8pm
Peter Clack *Principal Horn, GPO*
Margaret Clack *Piano*
- 29th November** Reception for Members
Cost: £2 per person.
Tickets on application to Mrs Elizabeth Hodge.
- 10th February** Recital by Young Musicians
from The Royal Grammar School, Guildford.
Concert in Big School at 8pm
- 7th April** Annual General Meeting at Methodist Hall.
Recital by Sponsored Young Player.
- 8th May** End of Season Reception for members and orchestra.
£2 for members and guests. Tickets on application
to Elizabeth Hodge.

Tickets obtainable from Mrs Elizabeth Hodge,
Chairman Social sub-committee, 27 Harvey Road, Guildford. (0483 579026).

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope when applying for tickets.

Members evenings charges are: Members £1 - Guests £3.

Programme for Members Evening – 21st October, 1992

"From Hosepipe to Tibetan Horn"

(Peter will be bringing various unusual instruments to demonstrate).

Music will Include:

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Rondo | Cooke |
| Nocturne | Strauss |
| Sonata in Eb | Danzi |
| Rondo | Mozart |

Peter Clack



Peter Clack began playing the trumpet at the age of 15. He joined the army where he became a horn player winning The Cousins Memorial prize at Kneller Hall.

He played regularly with the L.P.O. and London Mozart Players before joining the Music staff at Charterhouse. He has been principal horn with The Guildford Philharmonic Orchestra for many years.

Margaret Clack

Margaret Clack began playing the piano at the age of 5. She studied with Eric Harrison at The Royal College of Music where she won The Hubert Sharpe and McEwen prizes. She has taught the piano at Charterhouse for many years.



Choir News

By the time that this gets into print the 1991/2 season will be over and the choir should be enjoying a well earned rest. As promised in the last Newsletter we ended our season on a high note - (actually it was a low one and very quiet at that!) On 2nd May in the Civic Hall our rendition of Vaughan William's Sea Symphony was very well received in a concert conducted by Tod Handley who was standing in for Sir Charles. What a thrilling experience that was for all who were there. Equally exhilarating but in an entirely different way was our last concert on 10th July in Holy Trinity Church when, under Neville Creed, we sang Haydn's Little Organ Mass and Faure's Cantique de Jean Racine and Requiem.

We now look forward to next season. Our contribution to the Philharmonic Subscription Series will consist of three concerts. In November we shall be joined by the Freiburg Bach Choir to present Brahms' German Requiem. This will be followed in 1993 with a performance of Belshazzers's Feast. We shall round the season off with Haydn's Die Paukenmesse. In addition to it is planned to make a return visit to Freiburg and sing Handel's Israel in Egypt with our German friends in their magnificent cathedral. We are also hoping to take part in the 1993 Guildford Festival.

This promises to be a full and exciting year for the choir. If you would like to be part of it, do please contact us and we shall be pleased to let you have more details. Either ring Kathy on 0483 444666 or come along at 7.30 on a Monday evening when our rehearsals begin again in September to the Methodist Hall in Woodbridge Road. We shall be delighted

MICHAEL DAWE

STOP PRESS . . . CHOIR NEWS . . . It seems likely now that the return visit to Freiburg will now not take place in February 1993 but in October. As yet no final decisions have been made but it seems probable that instead of putting on Israel in Egypt once at Freiburg, we shall instead perform Britten's War Requiem twice - once in the City Hall in Freiburg and again the following day in the superb Cathedral in Colmar.

This change of plan will make an already interesting programme even more attractive and challenging. So if you are contemplating joining us, don't delay - apply today before all the vacancies are taken.

MICHAEL DAWE.

Sponsored Chair

As you will have read in the Chairman's letter, The Guildford Philharmonic Society is again sponsoring a 'chair' in the violin section of the Orchestra this year. (Rachel Ives)

The cost to the Society is over £600, so it is even more important for you to pay your subscription for this year on time. If you pay by covenant, the Society is able to reclaim money from the Income Tax Authorities - please consider this method of payment if you have not already paid your subscription for this year. As a member you also benefit because it ensures that your subscription cannot be raised for the ensuing three years, despite any increase that may take place.

Any donations towards the cost of the sponsorship will be gratefully received and should be sent to Iris or Peter Bennett marked "Sponsorship Chair".

Peter tells me that the first 100 applications for renewal/new membership this year gave an income of about £680 and donations of £144.

Rachel Ives



Rachel was born in July 1970, into a family of professional musicians. She started to play the violin at the relatively late age of 12, and obtained a place in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain aged 14. Rachel continued her musical studies at the Royal College of Music in 1988 where she learnt first with Hugh Bean and subsequently with Rodney Friend. During this time she led the Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra, led two of the College's Orchestras and participated in masterclasses with Dorothy Delay and Igor Oistrakh. She graduated this July and was awarded the Woltman and the Hilda Anderson Dean prizes for violin playing.

Karen Downs

At the request of several members I reproduce the notes of the talk given by Karen Downs (our Sponsored Chair for 1991/92) after her recital on 8th April, 1992.

"Ladies and Gentlemen - thank you for inviting me to play to you here today. I would also like to take the opportunity of thanking you all for setting up this sponsorship scheme, which has proved a great opportunity for me.

As some of you may already know. I was a pupil of Hugh Bean and John Ludlow at the Royal College of Music and I graduated with an Honours degree, having led the Sinfonietta in my final year.

I left college to embark on a freelance career which at first was very difficult, as work for many young players is hard to come-by without experience. But how does one obtain any experience without first being given a chance?

This is why I believe this sponsorship scheme is so important to young players such as myself. It has given me an opening into the professional world, developing contact with other players, who, by the way, took an active interest in this.

Playing for the GPO means working with top London leaders, world class conductors and international soloists. The atmosphere is a very friendly and encouraging one.

I feel my orchestral skills have developed giving much greater confidence. Through this scheme my name has become better known amongst musicians generating offers of more freelance work.

I very much hope that this society is able to continue this scheme as it will be of lasting benefit to future generations of young players, providing a stepping stone into the profession.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you once more for sponsoring me and being so friendly and supportive. I would also like to thank my pianist Ian Munro, who has spared his time from a busy solo career to come and play.

Thank you everyone.

The Party Shop

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OPEN MON - SAT 9 - 5.30

Sing with the
GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Chorus Master - Neville Creed
Rehearsals on Mondays 7.30pm to 9.30pm
at the Methodist Hall, Guildford

For information about membership apply to:-

**Kathleen Atkins, Guildford Philharmonic Office, Guildford Borough Council,
The Lodge, Allen House Grounds, Chertsey Street, Guildford, Surrey. GU14 4HL
Tel: Guildford (0483) 444666**

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GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

1992/93 SUBSCRIPTION SERIES CONCERTS

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1992 at 3.00pm

Slavonic Dances Op. 46 Nos. 1, 2 & 5
Piano Concerto in A minor
Symphony No. 5 in Eb

Dvorak
Schumann
Sibelius

JOHN LILL
JACEK KASPSZYK

piano
conductor

Sponsored by Hart Brown & Co., Solicitors

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 1992 at 7.30pm

Overture: Die Meistersinger
Violin Concerto No. 3 [K216]
Capriccio Espagnol
Suite: Firebird

Wagner
Mozart
Rimsky Korsakov
Stravinsky

MAYUMI FUJIKAWA
EN SHAO

violin
conductor

Pre-concert talk at 6.15pm in the Civic Hall with En Shao

SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER 1992 at 7.30pm

Ein Deutsches Requiem

Brahms

ANNETTE ROBBERT
OLIVER WIDMER
GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
FREIBURGER BACHCHOR
HANS MICHAEL BEURLE

soprano
baritone

conductor



In the presence of a Civic delegation from Freiburg

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER 1992 at 7.30pm

A Night on the Bare Mountain
Violin Concerto in D
Symphony No. 3 (Eroica) in Eb

Mussorgsky
Tchaikovsky
Beethoven

SERGIU SCHWARTZ
MEIR MINSKY

violin
conductor

The Crossley Clitheroe Memorial Concert

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 1992 at 3.00pm

Introduction and Allegro Op. 47
Trombone Concerto
[world premiere orchestral version]

Elgar
Bourgeois

Winter Legends
performed with financial support from the Arnold Bax Trust.

Bax

CHRISTIAN LINDBERG
MARGARET FINGERHUT
VERNON HANDLEY

trombone
piano
conductor

Pre-concert talk at 2.00pm in the Civic Hall with Vernon Handley

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER 1992 at 7.30pm

Slavonic Dances Op. 72 Nos. 1 & 8 and
Op. 46 No. 7
Violin Concerto in D
Symphony No. 1 in C

Dvorak
Beethoven
Balakirev

PETER CROPPER
JAMES LOUGHRAN

violin
conductor

SUNDAY 17 JANUARY 1993 at 7.30pm

Overture: Semiramide
Cello Concerto in B minor
Symphonic Dances

Rossini
Dvorak
Rachmaninov

STEVEN ISSERLIS
JOHN FORSTER

cello
conductor

SATURDAY 6 FEBRUARY 1993 at 7.30pm

Pulcinella
3 Gymnopedies
Symphony No. 9 (The Great) in C

Stravinsky
Satie
Schubert

JACEK KASPSZYK

conductor

Pre-concert talk at 6.15pm in the Civic Hall with Jacek Kaspszyk

SATURDAY 6 MARCH 1993 at 7.30pm

(Guildford International Music Festival 1993)

CIVIC CONCERT

Symphony No. 6 (Pathétique) in B minor
Belschazzar's Feast

Tchaikovsky
Walton

WILLARD WHITE
GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
BRIAN WRIGHT

bass/baritone
conductor

Sponsored by BOC
In the presence of the Mayor of Guildford



SUNDAY 28 MARCH 1993 at 3.00pm

La Carnaval Romain
Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini
Symphony No. 1 in Ab

Berlioz
Rachmaninov
Elgar

FREDERICK KEMPF
(BBC Young Musician of the Year 1992)
BRIAN WRIGHT

piano
conductor

SUNDAY 25 APRIL 1993 at 3.00pm

Ave Verum Corpus
Symphony No. 41 (Jupiter) in C
Paukenmesse

Mozart
Mozart
Haydn

EILEEN HULSE
WENDY VERCO
PHILIP SHEFFIELD
WILLIAM DAZELEY
GUILDFORD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
NEVILLE CREED

soprano
alto
tenor
bass
conductor

SATURDAY 8 MAY 1993 at 7.30pm

Slavonic Dances Op. 72 No. 7 and
Op. 46 Nos. 3 & 8
L'Arlesienne Suite
Ritual Dances from
Midsummer Marriage
Suite No. 2: Daphnis & Chloe

Dvorak
Bizet
Tippett
Ravel

VERNON HANDLEY

conductor