

## **Nidderdale Community Orchestra Newsletter**

Welcome to the News Letter, telling you stuff you may already know – and some stuff you might not. Since the last letter, the Orchestra has played an Autumn, a Christmas and a Spring concert, the last on the 14<sup>th</sup> May at St. Cuthbert's Church, Pateley Bridge. Each concert had its very own character, but each had one thing in common: we had a wonderful audience. Family turned up, as did friends – as well as a sizeable number of people who simply want to hear beautiful music played in lovely spaces by an orchestra that loves what it is doing.

The Autumn concert had us picking up pieces we have finessed over the course of time, including Schubert's 3<sup>rd</sup> Symphony. We also had an old friend in Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A - a friend in all senses of the word: our clarinet soloist was once again David Auld, who made the music his own, and by extension, ours.

The Christmas concert was a family event, with all the music that makes people feel exactly as they should at the time of year. There's nothing quite like it, except hopefully the next Christmas concert with the NCO.

The latest concert was when we introduced our new pieces, but once again with an old friend of the orchestra: the flautist, Anna Noakes of the Royal Academy of Music. She played Cecile Chaminade's Concertino for Flute with all its complicated attractions (very French), then went straight to the other end of the musical spectrum playing two Andean folk tunes on the Pan pipes. For a few minutes, Pateley became Peru, and it was fantastic.

Our largest piece was Beethoven's 5th Symphony, so big and demanding it made us... trepidatious. It was a blessing to have the help of friends from the Harrogate Philharmonic Orchestra, bringing so much to the performance, adding confidence and substance to all the sections they played with. We could never do so well without them.

### **So what now?**

New pieces that we are becoming acquainted with: Benjamin Britten's arrangement of Rossini in Soirees Musicales (who knew Britten could be so JOLLY?); Dvorak's Slavonic Dances (fiery) and Vaughan William's Folk Songs (touching). There'll be other pieces, notably The Nidderdale Suite, created especially for the orchestra by Andy Wilson and Bryan Western, to be played alongside Paul Harris's film images of Nidderdale that inspired it. It's going to be beautiful and intimate, unmissable. The concert, with its programme still to be arranged, will be on the 12th November 2023.

As always, we have conductor Bryan Weston to thank for the joy we get out of turning up to rehearse and perform. Also Bidy Noakes for keeping us organised and sane. And, as usual, if anyone reading this has an instrument and is not already a member, please think about joining. There is no downside to turning up and playing. Rehearsals will begin again on Tuesday, 12th September. And in case we all miss each other too much in the meantime – a distinct possibility - John Mitchell (violins) has very kindly offered to host a BBQ in his garden in August, details to be arranged between us all.

### **And so on to other news.**

Alongside playing concerts, our members have been achieving all kinds of things and it seems a shame not to know about it. On that basis, here are just a few examples of what they've been up to, and what they have coming up.



**Buckingham Palace** On the 14<sup>th</sup> June, Jill Quinn received nothing less than an MBE for her work with the Dementia Forward Trust, the charity she started back 2012. It's a mark of just how much she has done to make a difference in such a difficult field, supporting over 4,500 families, whose lives have been affected by dementia.



**Sarah Garforth has work in two coming exhibitions** In the Chantry House Gallery Summer Show, Ripley, 8<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September she'll be showing the first of her Skye oil paintings; and from the 5<sup>th</sup> August - 17<sup>th</sup> September, her 12 month 'Down The Field' screenprint project. Every month captures the changes in flora and fauna at Gouthwaite Reservoir. See them on her website [www.sarahgarforth.co.uk](http://www.sarahgarforth.co.uk). Or better still, visit them at Brantwood, Coniston Water, at the John Ruskin Arts and Crafts house where they will be on show.

**Louise Mauborne's swing band** 'The Woodside Big Band', will be playing at Ripon Spa Gardens' Band In The Park, 2 - 4 pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> July, and at Pateley Bridge band stand, 2 – 4 pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> August. Be there or be square.

**Egusphere** Emily Dowd is to have a paper published by Egusphere, the scientific repository of the European Geosciences Union. Her research upends aspects of previous thinking in how methane levels are driven in different parts of the globe. It's a really important contribution to the understanding of climate change, and already the wider world is taking an interest. Find it at <https://egusphere.copernicus.org/preprints/2023/egusphere-2023-132/>

**Arcadian Strings** (with whom members of NCO's first violins moonlight!) is playing at St. Paul's United Reformed Church, Harrogate, on July 16<sup>th</sup>, with soloists, Liuba and Nadia Kalmykova, performing Bach's Concerto for Two Violins, and more besides. You can also catch them all at Birstwith Church on the 14<sup>th</sup> July at 10.00. Tickets £10.

All in all, It's been a fine year to be a member of the NCO. Until we meet again, enjoy the summer.



Biddy Noakes's garlic!



Elephant moth settled on Sarah Whittington's hand

