

## COMMUNITY NEWS - Tuesday 14 November 2023

### IPSWICH ARTS ASSOCIATION with CHRIS GREEN

Two days and counting: that is the time left before the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Ipswich Arts Association. The meeting is on Thursday of this week at 7.30pm by Zoom. It is open to any member of the public, but particularly members of associated groups and societies of IAA. Having read a very recent report about the AGMs of major FTSE companies with only a handful of shareholders turning up to attend the meeting “face to face”, video meetings do make it easier for people to join in, although there are certain aspects of social interaction which get lost. So, once again I make the plea to those who read this column, please do join us. Details of the meeting are on the IAA website. Apart from the formalities of approving the accounts and electing Officers for next year, it is the only way we can move the interests of the Association forward in supporting member groups.

One of the aspects of being Chair of any charity is working with committed colleagues to pursue the interests of the organisation. I have been fortunate in having long-standing relationships with many of those who have become Trustees over the years. I was therefore saddened to read of the recent death of Mary Hollis. Mary had been associated with the work of the IAA for decades having served on its Executive, and been involved in many working groups, not least in the development of the Charter hangings and also the Ipswich Town Lectures. She was a mine of information having been trained as a professional librarian, and brought with it a clear way of working. She was not afraid of voicing her opinions- of which she had many, but they were mostly welcome and always given constructively. Would that we had more individuals like Mary coming forward to promote “the arts”.

Well, the Annual General Meeting is a good place to find out what is currently going on, and to consider offering a few hours each month in an important cause.

We are entering the busy time for music organisations as they come to the end of their autumn rehearsals with performances. Hadleigh Choral Society perform on Saturday 18 November with a programme conducted by Christopher Phelps. The main work is Mozart's *Requiem* and other works by Mozart and Haydn. The concert starts at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Hadleigh. The same evening, the Community Light Orchestra gives a concert in St Michael's and All Angels Church, Martlesham featuring a young Suffolk oboist, Ellen Hall. This talented student recently passed the top grade with distinction at the age of 15 and will be a most welcome

addition to the CLSO's programme of classical music and songs from the shows. Admission to the 7.30pm concert is free with a retiring collection in aid of Ipswich Citizen's Advice. Saturday evening seems to be even more popular with groups because it is also the night when the Ipswich Chamber Choir performs showcasing music by Josef Gabriel Rheinberger including his best-known sacred composition, the beautiful six-part motet *Abendlied* (Evening song.) *Music for a Winter's Night* starts at 7pm at St Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich. Tickets cost £15 (with concessions for students) and are available from Music World in Ipswich or Woodridge Violins or one can go on-line [www.ipswichchamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.ipswichchamberchoir.org.uk) via the WeGotTickets button.



*Ellen Hall. Credit; Community Light Orchestra.*



*Hadleigh Choral Society. Credit: HCS.*

A recent letter in this newspaper welcomed my comments about music to lighten the darkness, and to follow that up, my CD selection for this week is a disc called *Canticles of Light* with three works by contemporary British composer Bob Chilcott and three others of his contemporaries sung with consummate skill by a young Polish choir conducted by Agnieszka Frankow-Zelazny (Signum SIGCD 729).

If you have a story to share with other organisations, please email IAA chairperson, Professor Chris Green at: [cjc.green@talktalk.net](mailto:cjc.green@talktalk.net)

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