

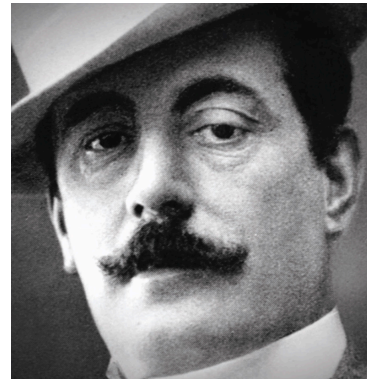
## COMMUNITY NEWS - Tuesday 26 March 2024

### IPSWICH ARTS ASSOCIATION with CHRIS GREEN

Look, enough is enough! Having successfully managed to get people to distinguish between the rapper “Professor Green”, and myself, a “real” Professor of many years standing. Now I have to contend with a named double who has been appointed lead sergeant for the rural and wildlife crime beat. So, congratulations to Sergeant Chris Green of Suffolk Constabulary (see EADT, 21 March).

Congratulations to him, and I join with Police Commissioner Tim Passmore in wishing him well, and a reminder that Tim once played in the orchestra I conducted. That was when he was but a young man.

On the subject of names, northern Italy was blessed by a long tradition of Puccinis. The family contributed for generations to the life of the church in their home town of Lucca. Along comes Giacomo Puccini, junior and he decides that church duties are not for him (other than flogging off some organ pipes to earn some spare cash), and he turned his attention to something altogether different- composing “steamy” operas that would earn him a top place in the world of music. Well, there were a few pieces that escaped the net and I am delighted that both the Stour Choral Society and Trianon Music Group have chosen to perform the young Puccini’s *Messa di Gloria* in separate concerts in April. It is really a great piece with more than a hint of the future opera Puccini.



*Giacomo Puccini.*  
Credit: Public domain.

Now along comes a recording that has taken my breath away. Gustavo Gimeno conducts the Orfeo Catala and the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg in a new recording of the *Messa* along with three orchestral pieces by Puccini, the anniversary of whose death in 1924 we commemorate this year. Just listen to the section *Cum sancto spiritu* that ends the second movement, and the speed at which the conductor takes it must have players and singers on their toes. What a work supported by a first-rate 2022 recording (Harmonia Mundi HMM905367).

As we enter spring, it is good to see some music series re-starting. Music at Rushmere has long been a valued feature of the local musical landscape. The spring series commences on Sunday 7 April. This year’s programme will be held in support of Suffolk Wildlife Trust, the only organisation dedicated wholly to safeguarding Suffolk’s wildlife and countryside. One current initiative of particular interest to those of the community living on the east side of Ipswich is the transformation of Martlesham Wilds from an organic farm to a nature reserve. Once again, there is no charge for admission to these concerts and everyone is welcome to attend. Refreshments are provided and the organisers invite voluntary contributions after each event. As usual, the concerts present a high quality of performance and a wide range of musical styles. The first concert is a fascinating and somewhat unique programme with Michael Broadway paying his first visit to St. Andrew’s. Recently retired as Curator of the organ at

the Royal Albert Hall, Michael will bring his pianola, link it to St Andrew's baby grand piano and perform a programme of classical works in his unique style.



*Michaels Broadway. Credit: Michael broadway.*

Have you heard of Martyn's Law? There is currently a consultation being undertaken over this legislation that relates to the security of premises. Making Music has been active in drawing the attention of its member societies about this. If you did not think it might apply to your organisation, then you had better think again. Any group that hires premises that would fall into the 'standard tier' would be impacted by this legislation, directly or indirectly.

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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