

COMMUNITY NEWS - Tuesday 7th. June 2022

IPSWICH ARTS ASSOCIATION with CHRIS GREEN

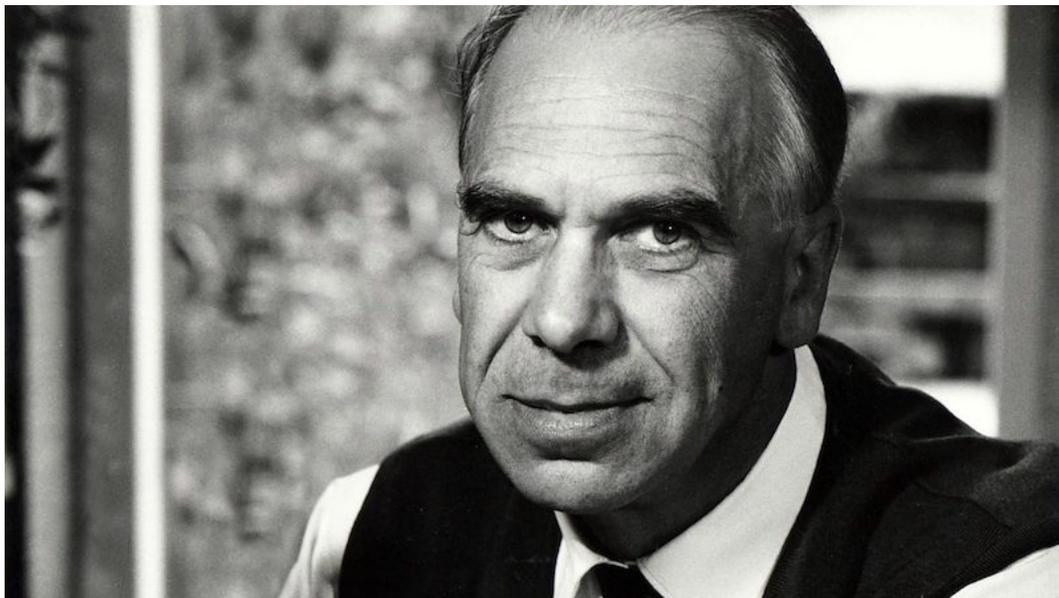
Amongst all the recent partying, it was a humbling moment to hear about the young players of the Ukraine Youth Orchestra. BBC Radio4 broadcast a short clip at the tail end of a newscast about the Orchestra which, I believe, was currently in Poland rehearsing and preparing for a series of concerts. It must be so hard for these young players as they rehearse for public performances and yet still have families in conflict zones. It makes the efforts that some of us make to come together to rehearse, feel like a stroll through the park.



Ukraine Youth Orchestra. credit: BBC

Close to home, musical life is gradually returning to something like normal. This coming week is the Ipswich Town Concert on Thursday 9 June at 1pm. Actually, the 50-minute event brings together words and music in the happy combination of the Suffolk Poetry Society and Alan Loader (baritone), with theme of "Travel". Organised by Ipswich Arts Association, the concert will feature members of the Suffolk Poetry Society performing poems about journeying and songs to complement including a selection from Vaughan William's *Songs of Travel* which involves settings of verse by Robert Louis Stevenson. Admission to the event is free but with a retiring collection.

Journeying is certainly involved in my choice of CD this week which brings together a number of neglected orchestral tone-poems by British composers with former conductor of the Ipswich Orchestral Society, Rumon Gamba, conducting the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. Surrey, Gloucestershire, Berkshire and the Solent are just a few of the places celebrated by a range of composers including former Suffolk resident, William Alwyn, Ivor Gurney and Ralph Vaughan Williams (Chandos CHAN 10939). The “tone poem” is a neglected form of orchestral work these days, but it did allow composers a chance to write orchestral works that were both descriptive, relatively brief in length and great concert-programme fillers. It is such a pity we hear so few of them these days because the performances recorded here in 2017 make a most persuasive case for resurrecting some of them.



William Alwyn. Credit: BBC

Ipswich Arts Association holds a meeting for member societies by Zoom on Monday 13 June at 7.30pm. Each society should have received details of the meeting and login information. Please do try to ensure that someone from your society joins the meeting which will be the first since early spring. There are many topics that need discussing, so here is a chance to share your views.

The Ipswich Chamber Choir lead the way with public concerts this month. On Saturday 11th June members will be celebrating summer with a programme of music inspired by the traditional song of the British Isle including *The Lark in the Clear Air*, *Brigg Fair* and *The Sailor and Young Nancy*. The concert is at St Andrew's Church, Rushmere, IP5 1DH at 4.00pm and afterwards visitors will be welcome to stay for refreshments with sandwiches and cake

included in the ticket price of £15 (Students £5, Under 18s free) There is ample space for parking in the car park just along from the church. Tickets are available from the website: www.ipswichchamberchoir.org.uk or Music World Ipswich, Woodbridge Violins and Choir Members.



St Andrew's Church Rushmere.

Keep your news coming to me about events that are scheduled. Next week I will be featuring two concerts scheduled for the end of the month. The Ipswich Symphony Orchestra performs at the Ipswich Corn Exchange on Saturday 25 June at 7.30pm when music by Elgar and Britten feature. Adam Gatehouse conducts the concert with Maxim Calver, BBC Young Music finalist as soloist in Elgar's Cello Concerto. The same evening, The Dorian Singers present *Curtain Up!* at Kirton Church Hall, Church Lane, Kirton, IP10 0PT. Included in the Dorian programme are medleys from a number of musicals including *Oliver!* and *Les Misérables*. This concert also starts at 7.30pm. And, if you want a pleasant afternoon in the rolling North Essex countryside, come along to support the Anglia Singers when they perform *Thank you for the music*, on Sunday 19 June at 4.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Shalford near Braintree. I hope to be conducting.

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