



August 2017

ISLE OF MAN
Symphony
ORCHESTRA



NEWSLETTER

www.iomso.co.uk

Happy Holidays?

Greetings to all Members and Friends. I hope you're all enjoying your Summer break. The Summer concerts in early July (supporting Queen's Pier Restoration Trust) are now a distant memory - fun to play and well-received by our audiences. (Photos on page 3.) We'll be back rehearsing on 6th September, preparing for our Villa concert in December. Read on for more details.

A Little Light Music

Lovers of light classical music who tuned into Manx Radio at 9.00pm on Wednesday 12th July, will have been surprised, and hopefully delighted, to hear the opening of Ernest Tomlinson's *Little Serenade*. This beguiling piece has been chosen as the theme music for Manx Radio's brand new classical music hour, *A Little Light Music*, hosted by our musical director, Maurice Powell.

Manx Radio already broadcasts specialist programmes for opera, jazz and brass band enthusiasts, but there has long remained a slot in the schedules for classical music. Maurice is recognised for his research into aspects of the Island's musical heritage, and a well-known speaker on such topics as Haydn Wood and his family on the Island, the once-popular 'Kelly' songs, and the variety of concert artistes who appeared in Douglas during the hey-day of the tourist era, such as Florrie Forde, Marie Lloyd, Nellie Melba, Clara Butt, John McCormack, Paul Robeson and Harry Lauder.

The style of the new programme is relaxed and informal, with Maurice introducing the pieces and the performers, and adding just a few words about the music. Popular classical pieces will rub shoulders with fascinating and enjoyable lesser-known pieces, and around fifty per cent of the programme will be devoted to that delightful genre known as British Light Music, with works

by Haydn Wood, Eric Coates, Robert Farnon, Ronald Binge and many more featuring regularly. As Alan Keith, the presenter of BBC Radio's long-running *Your Hundred Best Tunes*, put it: 'join me on a musical journey; who knows how long our journey will be, or where it will take us'.

When talking recently about the new programme, Maurice said: 'The choice of *Little Serenade* for the introductory music was inevitable. Not only does it pay a small weekly tribute to an iconic and much-loved figure in the world of light music, but for me this timeless gem is *the* quintessential piece of light music.

A Little Light Music can be heard on Manx Radio between 9.00pm and 10.00pm on Wednesday evenings, or if you missed it, on manxradio.com, Listen Live or On Demand. Happy Listening!

Concert Dates for your Diaries.

**Sunday 3rd December : Villa Marina :
2:30 : Family Gala Concert.**

Monday 18th December : RGS : Mill Ensemble (with members of IOMSO).

Saturday 10th February : St. Paul's Church, Ramsey : Fauré Requiem with Ramsey Choral (small group)

**Saturday 3rd March : QE2 (tbc) : 7:30 :
Spring Concert**

**Sunday 25th March : Villa Marina :
2:30 : Choral Concert**



Gala Concert 2017



We shall very soon be starting rehearsals for our **Family Gala Concert** in the Villa Marina on Sunday, 3rd December at 2.30pm. This promises to be enjoyable for all ages and includes some well-known pieces, plus a few which may be new to our audience.

This year our chosen charity is the Manx SPCA, so we hope to be able to give them a generous donation. We can only do this if we have a big audience, so please support the event!

The programme includes Rossini's Overture 'The Thieving Magpie', Prokofiev's 'Entrance of the Montagues and Capulets' (famous as the theme tune of 'The Apprentice'), 'La Calinda' by Delius, Tchaikovsky's Rose Adagio from 'Sleeping Beauty', Capriccio Espagnol by Rimsky-Korsakov and many more.

Also featured are soprano Karen Elliott and baritone Matthew Quinn singing some well-known arias and saxophonist Chris Sullivan in Glazunov's Saxophone Concerto.

We will also be giving the world premier of Charles Guard's new composition 'The Legend of St. Maughold'.

Tickets will be available in October from the Villa box office and Welcome Centre, online at villagaiety.com or via the Hotline : 600555.

Look out for updates in future Newsletters, on our website and facebook page!

New Season Ahead!

As we start the new season, there are a few things to remind you of.

Please can all members of IOMSO make sure they pay their membership fee (£50) as promptly as possible.

Friends of IOMSO will shortly be asked to kindly renew their subscriptions. We would be very pleased to hear from any businesses who might be willing to become corporate sponsors. We rely on the generosity of local supporters to help towards the considerable expenses of running the orchestra.

Also we will be keen to learn of anyone who might be interested in taking advertising space in the programme for our Gala Concert in December. Details from paulawadsworth@manx.net

There will be a couple of string rehearsals during the term. Possible dates are November 1st (during half term) and November 8th.

The AGM will be on 25th October at the end of the usual rehearsal. If anyone thinks they might be willing to join the committee, please speak to Andrew Cole.

Finally we need a big audience for the Gala Concert in December, so, as Andrew Cole put it: "Please start preparing all your friends and relations by writing a note on their fridge!"

Rehearsal Schedule 2017

Sept 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th : St. Johns : 7:30

Oct 4th, 11th, 18th : St. Johns : 7:30

Oct 25th : St. Johns : 7:30 : with AGM at 9

****Nov 1st : No Rehearsal (Half Term)****

Nov 8th : Strings only : St. Johns : 7:30

Nov 15th, 22nd, 29th : St. Johns : 7:30

Saturday Dec 2nd : St. Johns : 2:00 (tbc)

**Sunday Dec 3rd : Villa Marina : 10:00
(Concert : 2:30)**

Dec 6th : Ramsey Choral group



Summer Concert, Bunscoill Rhumsaa, 8th July 2017



The Queens Pier Restoration Trust were delighted with the concerts and raised donations of £764 over the two nights. They were keen for their grateful thanks to be conveyed to the orchestra for its efforts.



*Photos courtesy of
Frank Warburton*