



Our February Concert - Sunday 23 February, 3.00pm



Our concert this month commences at 3.00pm
in the Forum:

*Sounds and Sweet Airs - Shakespeare in Song - a prologue
five acts and an epilogue*

featuring **Roderick Williams**, baritone,
Carolyn Sampson, soprano, and **Joseph Middleton**, piano

Our President, **Roderick Williams**, last sang for us in 2022, accompanied by Susie Allan. He had before that performed the three great Schubert song cycles for us over a three-year period, accompanied by Iain Burnside. **Carolyn Sampson** and **Joseph Middleton** were here together in the spring of 2015, an appropriate season as it marked Carolyn's first solo recording *Fleurs*.

We like to feature here highly praised discography by the artists. With so many excellent recordings 'in the bank', one might think it impossible to narrow them down. For example, Hyperion's list of all the songs Roderick Williams has recorded for them extends to 20 pages! His very latest recording, issued this month, is in a rather different genre and has a Malvern (and Club) connection: Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Carolyn Sampson and Joseph Middleton also have made many highly praised recordings, often performing together. We highlight their *Fleurs* (see above) on BIS2102, not only because it won awards at the time, but also because when they performed it for us in April 2015 it was just a few weeks after its release.

Sounds and Sweet Airs - A Shakespeare Songbook was released on BIS2653 in September 2023, and it features all three of today's artists performing no fewer than 37 songs on this theme. You may wish to count how many will be sung this afternoon!



Education Outreach - Tuesday 11 February



The Annual Workshop and Concert, sponsored by the Club, took place on 11 February. If you didn't attend the free lunchtime concert at Christchurch, you missed a treat.

Michael Bochmann and Pro Anima led the day. They worked with students from local schools during the morning and the recital which followed included pieces the students had rehearsed with them. The chance to play alongside seasoned professionals was one which the youngsters really appreciated, and we trust it will have inspired them to greater things.

Sincere thanks to Severn Arts for organising this event for us.



Next Concert - Sunday 27 April, 7.30pm



With no concert in dreary March, we next meet in April when the clocks will have moved forward. Our sixth concert of the season will start at 7.30pm on a Spring evening with the **Sitkovetsky Trio** - an award winning young piano trio.

Their programme will start with a new work by Lena Sierova, a young Ukrainian composer, followed by the first trio Beethoven wrote, known as *The Ghost*, because of its eerie slow

movement. To end, they will play the work Ravel composed in a hurry in 1914 before enlisting at the start of the First World War.



Committee Members and other Volunteers

As you all know, the Club is run by a small Committee elected by you, the members, at the AGM. We are always on the lookout for new members to join the Committee. Wide musical knowledge is by no means essential, as there are many other tasks to be done where no particular experience is required.

What you may not know is that it is not only the Committee which makes the Club tick. There are many others who help by performing a myriad of tasks 'behind the scenes'. These can range from the collection and distribution of posters, (where Jean Upton and Judith Taylor in particular play an important role), help with the Club website (Catherine Banks), or indeed writing and designing this Newsletter (John Gregory and Sarah Musgrave)!

If you are at all interested in helping in any capacity, or would like to recommend someone, please do contact:

Club Secretary Alison Hunka - 07763 464305 or
Club Chairman Richard Price - 01432 890415.



Other Music - Malvern Theatres

Saturday 15 March	7.30pm	The Academy of Ancient Music, Bojan Čičić, Director and violin, play four Bach Violin Concertos
Sunday 30 March	7.00pm	Ellen Kent's production with The Ukrainian Opera and Ballet, Kyiv Puccini - <i>La Bohème</i>
Thursday 3 April	7.30pm	Emma Johnson (clarinet) and Friends, Simon Callaghan (piano), Fenella Humphreys (violin), Thomas Carroll (cello), play Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms and Messiaen
Sunday 13 April	3.00pm	Armonico Consort and Baroque Orchestra Handel - <i>Israel in Egypt</i>



Other Music - Elsewhere

Thursday 6 March	7.30pm	Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham Piatti Quartet play Purcell/Britten, Mendelssohn, Joseph Phibbs and Schubert. Cheltenham Music Society. Tickets: 01242 528764 or www.cheltenhamtownhall.org.uk
Saturday 8 March	6.00pm	Hellens Manor Henry Lewis, piano, plays CPE Bach, Beethoven, Messiaen, Tchaikovsky. Tickets: www.hellensmanor.com
Wednesday 12 March	7.00pm	Hereford Cathedral Ex Cathedra Consort and Baroque Ensemble perform a Latin American Baroque Ritual. Tickets: www.courtyard.org.uk
NB. The same concert is also taking place at the Town Hall, Birmingham at 4.00pm on Sunday 9 March. Tickets from www.bmusic.co.uk		
Saturday 15 March	3.00pm	St Mary's Church, Painswick Clare Hammond, piano: Bonis, Tailleferre, Debussy, Holst, Ravel Tickets: www.painswickmusicsoc.co.uk
Sunday 16 March	3.00pm	Malvern St James School Chandos Symphony Orchestra with Tom Porter, clarinet Bax, Finzi, Elgar. Tickets: www.chandos.org.uk
Saturday 22 March	7.30pm	Worcester Cathedral Worcester Festival Choral Society, Meridian Sinfonia Bach - St Matthew Passion. Tickets: www.wfcs.online
Sunday 23 March	3.00pm	Ivor Gurney Hall, Gloucester Craig Ogden, guitar, and Miloš Milivojević, accordion, play a mixed programme. Tickets: www.gloucestermusicociety.org.uk
Thursday 27 March	6.30pm	Holy Trinity Church, Hereford Apollo5 and Hereford Cathedral School Choirs Tickets: www.trybooking.com
Saturday 29 March	7.00pm	Gloucester Cathedral - Gloucester Choral Society Verdi - <i>Requiem</i> . Tickets: www.gloucesterchoral.com
Saturday 29 March	3.00pm	Huntingdon Hall, Worcester The Fitzwilliam Quartet play Grainger, Liz Johnson and Schubert Tickets: www.worcserenade.co.uk or 01905 611427
Sunday 6 April	3.30pm	Angel Centre, Worcester Amyas Ensemble, Emily Baines (recorders and director) <i>The Ghost in the Machine</i> . Tickets: www.earlymusicworcs.org
Thursday 24 April	7.30pm	Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham Paul Lewis, piano, plays Beethoven, Mozart and Brahms Tickets: www.cheltenhamtownhall.org.uk



Sunday 21 September 2025 7.30pm

Ben Goldscheider French horn, with **Callum Smart** violin and **Richard Uttley** piano

Mozart Horn Quintet K407 (arr. Naumann)
Ligeti Trio for horn, violin and piano
Clara Schumann *Three Romances* Op.22
Brahms Horn Trio Op.40

Sunday 19 October 2025 7.30pm

Adrian Brendel cello, with **Simon Crawford-Phillips** piano

Fauré Cello Sonata No.2, Op.117
Delius Cello Sonata
Fauré *Romance* and *Papillons*
Debussy Cello Sonata
Beethoven Cello Sonata in A, Op.69

Sunday 23 November 2025 3.00pm

Mark le Brocq tenor, with musicians from **London Mozart Players**

Schubert Quartettsatz D.703
Vaughan Williams *On Wenlock Edge*
Robert Schumann Piano Quintet



Sunday 18 January 2026 3.00pm

Rachel Podger violin, with **Brecon Baroque**

Biber *1681 Sonatas*
Biber Sonata No.1 in A; Sonata No.2 in D minor; Sonata Representativa;
Sonata No.6 in C minor *Scordatura*; Sonata No.3 in F
JJ Froberger Suite in A
JH Kapsberger Toccata in D minor



Sunday 22 February 2026 3.00pm

Dame Sarah Connolly mezzo soprano, with **Malcolm Martineau** piano

Barber Three Songs Op.10
Debussy *Chansons des Bilitis*
Duparc *Extase; L'invitation au voyage; Chanson Triste; Au pays ou se fait*
Mahler Selection from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn*
Britten A Charm of Lullabies
Bennett A History of the Thé Dansant



Sunday 15 March 2026 7.30pm

Castalian String Quartet

Love Letters
Robert Schumann *Der Dichter Spricht* (arr. for string quartet)
Kurtág *Aus der Ferne III*
Dvořák selection from *Cypresses*
Janaček String Quartet No.2 *Intimate Letters*
Brahms String Quartet No.2 in A minor, Op.51 No.2

Sunday 26 April 2026 7.30pm

Isata Kanneh-Mason piano

Beethoven Sonata No.2, Op.27 No.2 *Moonlight*
Ravel *Gaspard de la Nuit*
Beethoven Sonata No.21, Op.53 *Waldstein*

All at Malvern Theatres. Artists and dates are subject to change.

The 18 January concert will be additional to the usual six concert series.