



perspectives

CHELtenhamARTSCULTURE

Cheltenham Arts Council: awards_funding_publicity_events listings

**CHELtenham MUSIC SOCIETY
PLUS: PROMENADE PRODUCTIONS · YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS
CHELTENHAM ARTS COUNCIL AWARDS**

February – May 2016

From the mysteries of space and the brightest stars in classical and contemporary music, to the biggest names in jazz and the top thinkers, journalists and writers in the world: the line-ups of Cheltenham's four Festivals of Jazz, Science, Music and Literature promise another unmissable year.



CHELTENHAM JAZZ FESTIVAL 27 APRIL - 2 MAY

The best way to spend the May Bank Holiday weekend! A party atmosphere takes over Cheltenham's picturesque Montpellier Gardens, as the town fills with music. Julian Arguelles, Django Bates, Christian Scott aTunde Adjuah, Tim Berne, Omar Sosa, Giovanni Guidi, Rom/Schaerer/Eberle - and many more to be announced.

"one of the best jazz festivals in the world" - Jamie Cullum



THE TIMES CHELTENHAM SCIENCE FESTIVAL 7-12 JUNE

The annual six day celebration of how the world works, with science, engineering and technology for adults, schools and the whole family. Last year's (very) big success was the DinoZone, and we've got something even bigger this year: the SpaceZone!

"Without doubt, the premier science festival in the country" - Brian Cox



CHELTENHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL 6-17 JULY

Sublime chamber music, huge symphonic sounds in the Town Hall, and never-before-seen performances of brand new music - it's a Festival of musical adventures for all ages. Festival Proms, including Nicola Benedetti, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Evelyn Glennie with Christian Lindberg, and the John Wilson Orchestra are on sale now.

"Concert-going doesn't get much more feel-good than this" - BBC Music Magazine

Festival Proms on sale now!



THE TIMES AND THE SUNDAY TIMES CHELTENHAM LITERATURE FESTIVAL 7-16 OCTOBER

One of the biggest and longest running of its kind - a Festival of all forms of the written and spoken word, with the world's most exciting names in literature, politics, journalism, entertainment.

"This year's unrivalled cultural destination" - Andrew Holgate, Literary Editor, The Sunday Times

Tickets on sale now: visit cheltenhamfestivals.com or call **0844 880 8094**

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Welcome

One observation that is often made about Cheltenham's cultural scene is the vibrancy of its amateur artists, groups and collectives. Not an evening passes without the hubbub of choirs singing, actors rehearsing or writers sharing stories. Here at Perspectives, we try to bottle some of this energy and excitement and, we hope, inspire you to join in too.

In this issue, we hear from Karen Jones, Chair of Cheltenham Arts Council, the membership organisation which publishes this magazine and which aims to support and develop local amateur arts. CAC held its annual awards ceremony last September and we hear about the winners, whose dedication and talent have had an impact on Cheltenham's arts scene over the past year.

a wonderfully talented bunch and a beacon for Cheltenham's future

I interview Sir David Pepper, Chair of Cheltenham Music Society, about their enviable roster of past artists, their plans for the future and why Pittville Pump Room is such a gem. We also hear from Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra, who pay tribute to their retiring Manager, Peter Tomlinson.

We delve into amateur dramatics and ask one prominent group, Promenade Productions, to shed some (lime)light on why being involved in theatre - whether on stage or behind the scenes - is such fun.

And we offer a glimpse at the winners of the 2015 Gloucestershire Young Photographers, a wonderfully talented bunch and a beacon for Cheltenham's future as a honeypot for the arts and culture.

Do get in touch if you'd like to comment or contribute: editor@cheltenhamartscouncil.co.uk **Hollie Smith-Charles**



"ONE NIGHT IN BANGKOK" FROM CHES BY PROMENADE PRODUCTIONS (SEE P.4)



DAVID ADAMSON, CHELTENHAM CAMERA CLUB, GREEN PLOVER (SEE LISTINGS)



COLIN HARRISON, CHELTENHAM CAMERA CLUB, THE FLOWER MAN (SEE LISTINGS)



PERSPECTIVES TEAM
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Perspectives is produced three times a year. The next issue will span June - September 2016.

SUBMISSION (ADS AND EVENTS) MUST BE WITH US BY THE END OF APRIL FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE NEXT ISSUE. PLEASE EMAIL EVENT DETAILS TO PERSPECTIVES.LISTINGS@GMAIL.COM

FROM SECRETS TO STRING QUARTETS

INTERVIEW WITH SIR DAVID PEPPER, CHAIR,
CHELTENHAM MUSIC SOCIETY

Since 1947, Cheltenham Music Society has created an annual programme of chamber music for our town. As plans for their 70th anniversary season take shape, I met with the Chair, Sir David Pepper, to find out more.

In 1971, a 24-year old soprano from Cheltenham shared the bill of a Cheltenham Music Society concert with a number of other up-and-coming musicians and singers. Still studying at the Royal Academy, this was four years before Felicity Lott made her debut at Wigmore Hall and subsequently went on to become one of Britain's best-loved recitalists, opera stars and a Dame.

Cheltenham Music Society was formed by a group of local music teachers with a passion for chamber music who stretched their limited funds by programming a mixture of professional musicians and local amateur talent. The policy of featuring "young artists with promise" has been a theme throughout their history and it has paid off, with Felicity Lott, who returned for a full recital a decade later but also, most notably, with the Takacs Quartet, a world-renowned string quartet who have been playing for CMS for over thirty years.

For current Chair, Sir David Pepper, a passion for chamber music drives his own enthusiasm for the Music Society. He joined in the 1980s, a "golden age" where membership numbers were high, audiences were at capacity and notable performers from all over the world were attracted to play in the visual and acoustic gem of the Pittville Pump Room, the Society's home since 1973.

Though not a musician himself – a great



SIR DAVID PEPPER

regret of his – he loved the concerts from the start, especially the string quartets. He was fortunate during one of his early seasons to experience several of the sublime late Beethoven quartets, complemented by a series of lectures at the Cheltenham branch of the Workers' Education Association (WEA).

He joined the committee and served as Treasurer for a number of years, but stepped down when he took on the Directorship of GCHQ. He retired in 2008, has been Chair since 2009 and continues to get much pleasure from music.

The greatest challenge facing the Society, he believes, is audience loyalty. They rely almost entirely on ticket sales for their income but with audiences increasingly unwilling to commit to a whole series, membership has steadily declined and now sits at about 180, about half the capacity of the Pump Room. This loses them the security of advance bookings and brings to the fore the need to attract single-concert ticket buyers, a much more fickle audience.

David wryly observes that he has spent his entire career in the shadows, trying to avoid attention, but is now wracking his brains to work out how to garner publicity and reach new audiences. The challenge, he believes, is how to get people that would probably enjoy the concerts to even notice you – especially for the more adventurous programming of their separate series, Cheltenham Contemporary Concerts.



© ELLEN APPEL

TAKACS QUARTET

One hopes the techniques employed by CMS are somewhat different from those of David's former employer, but if it's not stretching the comparison too far, the principle is similar – how can you cut through all the 'noise' of the internet to find the people you're looking for?

It's a common problem for local music societies and across the West Midlands they are now working together to focus their minds on marketing and publicity.



© ANDY HOLDSWORTH

CARDUCCI QUARTET

David recently stepped out of the shadows to help run a workshop on the effective use of the Internet and has even set up the CMS Twitter account @cheltmusicoc.

Meanwhile, the focus for David and his committee is on curating the best programme they can for their 70th anniversary series – coming up in 2017/18. In the spirit of inclusivity, they have asked audiences for suggestions and feedback on who they have most enjoyed in recent years. The Takacs and Carducci Quartets are confirmed and a young artist will feature, as always. Thanks to some extra donations, they are also commissioning a new work for string quartet. And – harking back to the spirit of the early years, when "Social Evenings" had equal billing with the concerts – they are also planning a get-together to celebrate this most Cheltenham of institutions.

By Hollie Smith-Charles

Catch the end of the 2015/16 series with concerts at the Pump Room from the Takacs Quartet (4th Feb), Atea Wind Quintet (8th March) and Tamsin Waley-Cohen & Huw Watkins (14th April). There is also a Contemporary Concert with James Noble & Simon Callaghan (16th Feb) at Dean Close.

Look out for the 69th series from autumn 2016.

www.cheltmusicoc.co.uk

TREADING THE BOARDS WITH PROMENADE PRODUCTIONS

AN INTERVIEW WITH CHELTENHAM'S MUSICAL THEATRE AFICIONADOS

I. How did Promenade Productions come about?

Promenade Productions, Cheltenham's popular and successful amateur dramatic society, first brought live musical theatre to Cheltenham in July 1984 when *Oklahoma!* hit the stage of the old Shaftesbury Hall. Now, over 30 years later, the society continues to flourish. Some of the original members are still active, not least our Chairman, John Pannett.

In the early 1990s Promenade Productions moved home to the well-equipped Bacon Theatre at Dean Close School where all productions are now staged.

In addition to a fully staged musical with full orchestra each summer, the society has become well known for its Traditional Family Pantomime, with *Jack and the Beanstalk* being the latest production in January 2016.

Over the years, Promenade Productions has received many awards from the National Operatic & Dramatic Association and Gloucestershire Theatre Association. For the 2014 season, the society's 30th anniversary year, the society won five GTA awards – the summer musical, *The Wizard of Oz* won Best Musical and 'Dorothy' won Best Youth Performer.

There is no shortage of up and coming talent – Young Promenaders caters for budding thespians from the age of 6. Many progress to adult membership. They have recently presented *Alice: The Musical* and will be looking forward to *The King and I* in summer 2016.

II. How do you choose which shows to produce?

Perhaps one of the most important decisions is to decide what show would



IN 2014, FIVE AWARDS FROM THE GTA WERE PRESENTED BY PHIL MCCORMICK (TOP LEFT), FOUNDER MEMBER OF THE GTA. THE TROPHIES WERE RECEIVED BY CHAIRMAN JOHN PANNETT, AND (LEFT TO RIGHT) HELEN HARRIS, LAUREN POULSON AND HEATHER NEWMAN

be 'good box office'. This might sound mercenary but we have to cover the costs of any production, which in the case of our summer musical will be substantial, often in the region of £20,000. It's a case of 'bums on seats'.

We ask members for suggestions, compile a short list and once the decision has been made, apply for a licence.

III. What is the best thing about being in an amateur dramatic society in Cheltenham?

A sense of achievement when the curtain opens on a first night and the feeling of being part of a team, a family. Promenade Productions have always fostered this feeling, offering support at times when members have problems of one sort or another.

IV. What advice would you give to budding young actors?

Be a team player and not a prima donna – know what you can contribute to the society whether on or off stage. Have commitment – be prepared to put in the hours, not just on rehearsal nights, but prepare your role, whether it's in the back line of the chorus, in a principal role or backstage. And learn to work together. It is in fact a very good discipline!



OKLAHOMA!

V. How would you like to see Promenade Productions develop in the future?

Our goals are to continue to give members the opportunity to develop their skills and to give them confidence.

A number of former members have gone on to a career in showbiz including Alex Bourne who was nominated for an Olivier Award for his role as Fred Graham in the West End production of *Kiss Me, Kate*; Kirsty Hemming, a former 'Cinderella', who went on to be a TV journalist; Jack Jones who performs with The English National Ballet; Lucy Gill who is in the cast of *Jersey Boys* in the West End; and Tim Phelps who is presently appearing in cabaret in Cyprus.

VI. How can local people get involved in your next show?

It's not about just being on the stage, there are Back-Stage, Costumes, Scenery and Props and Make-up as well as Publicity, Poster and Programme design, Ticket sales, Front-of-House and Musical arrangement.

These are all essential to making a show successful. And of course, friends, family and the interested public buying tickets – this is the best way to ensure that Promenade Productions continues to thrive.



MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY FROM ALICE: THE MUSICAL BY YOUNG PROMENADERS

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING OR SUPPORTING PROMENADE PRODUCTIONS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.PROMENADEPRODUCTIONS.CO.UK

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY – MAY 2016

VISUAL ARTS

Glos. Young Photographer of the Year, entries close Sat 19 Mar, open to all Glos. school pupils, accepted entries will be on display at Chelt Camera Club's annual exhibition. See cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk

Cheltenham Camera Club Annual Exhibition & Lecture, Sat 14 – Sat 21 May, Parabola Arts Centre, incl. lecture on 14 May by Guy Edwardes, see website above.

Call to artists: Broadway Arts Festival Open Art Competition June 2016, entries close Sat 30 Apr, details & registration: broadwayartsfestival.com or info@littlebucklandgallery.co.uk

AT THE GARDENS GALLERY, MONTPPELLIER GARDENS:

10am-5pm daily, as listed:

Student Exhibition, Wed 17 – Tue 23 Feb.

James Fowkes, Wed 24 Feb – Tue 1 Mar, architectural models and paintings.

Cherish Marshall, Wed 2 – Tue 8 Mar, oil portraits & textiles.

Cheltenham Art Club Exhibition, Wed 9 – Tue 15 Mar.
Janet James & Sally Wyatt, Wed 16 – Tue 22 Mar, landscapes.

Angie Spencer, Wed 23 – Tue 29 Mar, oil seascapes, landscapes, skyscapes.

Robbie Chapman, Wed 30 Mar – Tue 5 Apr, contemporary mixed media landscapes.

The Wilson, Wed 6 – Tue 19



DOMINIC BERRY AT THE POETRY FESTIVAL

Apr.
Nikki Seville, Wed 20-Tue 26 Apr, Art Gifted by God.

Rita Thorn, Wed 27 Apr – Tue 3 May, inks & mixed media pieces on canvas and paper.

Uni. of Glos. Photography, Wed 4 – Tue 10 May, Student Exhibition.

Cheltenham Group of Artists, Wed 11 – Tue 17 May.

Annette Turner, Wed 18 – Tue 24 May, fine art painting & sculpture.

Group Exhibition, Wed 25 – Tue 31 May, Mike Duckering.

MUSIC

Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra, Sat 30 Jan, 7:30pm, Pittville Pump Room, Mussorgsky, Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky. Cond. David Curtis, piano Anna Shelest.

Chelt Recorded Music Society, Tue 2 Feb, 2:30pm, Bayshill Unitarian Church Hall, Shakespeare's Music, Malcolm Lewis. Details: Jenny 01242 582470.

Takács Quartet, Thu 4 Feb, 7:30pm, £26/21, Pittville Pump Room, Haydn String Qt C major, Beethoven D maj + C maj.

Cheltenham Opera Society, Matilde di Shabran (Rossini), Sat 6 Feb, 2-6.30pm, with tea, £5 non-members, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, dvd of 2012 Rossini Opera Festival production with Juan Diego Florez.

Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra, Sat 6 Feb, 7:30pm, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, Kodaly, Copland, de Falla. Cond. James Ross.

Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra: Return of the Children's Concert, Sun 7 Feb, 3pm, Pittville Pump Room, Strauss, Leopold Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Hans Zimmer, Howard Blake. Feat. Balcarras Sch Chamber Choir, Charlton Kings Junior Sch & a chance to meet the orchestra. Early booking advised.

The Oriel Singers, The Four Loves, Sat 13 Feb, 7:30pm, Pershore Abbey.

James Noble (clarinet) & Simon Callaghan (piano), Tue 16 Feb, 7:30pm, £10 on the door, Prince Michael Hall, Dean Close, a blend of C.20th & contemporary British composers.

Cheltenham Opera Society Trip, The Marriage of Figaro (Mozart), Fri 26 Feb, 7pm (coach 2.30pm), Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff, WNO.

Chelt Recorded Music Society, Tue 1 Mar, 7:30pm, Bayshill Unitarian Church

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY – MAY 2016

Hall, The Unknown Bliss, Gerald Towell. Details: Jenny 01242 582470.

Wells Virtuosi Spring Serenade, Thu 3 Mar, 7:30pm, £10, Pittville Pump Room, Elgar, Finzi, Holst, Suk & Dvořák, in aid of the Mayor's Charities.

Cheltenham Opera Society Trip, Norma (Bellini), Mon 7 Mar, 7:30pm (coach 9.30am), London Coliseum, ENO.

Atéa Wind Quintet, Tue 8 Mar, 7:30pm, £19/15, Pittville Pump Room, Mozart, Bizet, Taffanel, Françaix, Bridge, Nielsen.

St Cecilia Singers Concert of English Song, Sat 12 Mar, 7:30pm, All Saints Church, works by Stanford, Holst & Vaughan Williams. Tickets: Holst Museum 01242 524846.

Cheltenham Bach Choir & the Corelli Orchestra, Sat 12 Mar, 7:30pm, Cirencester Parish Church, St John Passion: J.S. Bach.

Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra, Sat 12 Mar, 7:30pm, Pittville Pump Room, Stravinsky Firebird Suite, Prokofiev Piano Concerto 2, Tchaikovsky Symp 2.

Chelt Recorded Music Society, Tue 15 Mar, 2:30pm, Bayshill Unitarian Church Hall, Around the World in 90 Mins, Mick Harris. Details: Jenny 01242 582470.

Musica Vera, Sat 19 Mar, 7:30pm, £12, U-16 free, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, Mozart, Durante, Vivaldi. Cond. David Dewar, with Musica Vera Camerata. Proceeds to Maggie's.

Chelt Recorded Music Society, Tue 5 Apr, 7:30pm, Bayshill Unitarian Church Hall, Sources of Innocent Merriment, Colin Bailey. Details: Jenny 01242 582470.

Cheltenham Opera Society, English Touring Opera singers recital, Thu 14 Apr (date tbc: check cheltenhamoperasociety.org.uk), 12-1.15pm, £8, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, tickets: Tourist Info or at the door.

Tamsin Waley-Cohen (violin) & Hugh Watkins (piano), Thu 14 Apr, 7:30pm, £22/18, Pittville Pump Room, Bach, Beethoven, Reynaldo Hahn, Szymanowski.

Cheltenham Choral Society, Sat 16 Apr, Holy Apostles Church, Fauré: Requiem.

The Oriel Singers, Sat 16 Apr, 7:30pm, St Faith's Church, Dorstone.

Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra, Sun 17 Apr, 3pm, Pittville Pump Room, Zampa: Hérold, La boeuf sur la toit: Milhaud, Symp No.2: Brahms.

Chelt Recorded Music Society, Tue 19 Apr, 2:30pm, Bayshill Unitarian Church Hall, Chelt Music Festival, Past & Present, Meurig Bowen. Details: Jenny 01242 582470.

The Oriel Singers, Far Beyond the Stars, Thu 21 Apr, 7:30pm, St Gregory's Church.

Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra, Sat 30 Apr, 7:30pm, Pittville Pump Room, Tchaikovsky: Romeo & Juliet, Swan Lake, Rachmaninov: Piano Concerto 2.

Cheltenham Opera Society AGM & Film, Sat 14 May, 5pm Tea, 5:30pm AGM, 6pm Film, £5 non-members, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, Petr Weigl's 1988 film of Eugene Onegin (Tchaikovsky). Buffet supper in interval (book in advance).

Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra, Sat 14 May, 7:30pm, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier, Mendelssohn, Vaughan Williams. Cond. Jonathan Mann.

Charlton Kings Choral Society, Sat 21 May, 7:30pm, Holy Apostles Church, John Wright: In Praise of Earth's Beauty, Duruflé: Requiem, Fauré: Cantique de Jean Racine.

STAGE & DANCING

Cheltenham Operatic & Dramatic Society: Noises Off, Sat 30 Jan – Sat 6 Feb (ex.31 Jan), 7:45pm (+2pm Sat 6), £12/10, Playhouse, Michael Frayn's farce within a farce.

The Cotswold Savoyards: Anything Goes, Tue 17 – Sat 21 May, 7:30pm + 2pm Sat 21, Everyman, Cole Porter's musical. Tickets 01242 572573.

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY – MAY 2016



DEANA AT THE POETRY FESTIVAL

CHELTENHAM POETRY FESTIVAL

Fri 6 – Sun 15 May,
full programme

cheltenhampoetryfest.co.uk,
highlights will include:

READINGS: George Szirtes & Carrie Etter, 14 May, The Wilson, Rhian Edwards, 8 May, Strand, Todd Swift, 7 May, Playhouse.

STAND-UP &**PERFORMANCE POETRY:**

Matt Black, 7 May, Playhouse, Peter Wyton, 8 May, Strand, Angie Belcher, 13 May, Smokey Joe's, The Slam, 13 May, Smokey Joe's.

MARKING 400 YEARS SINCE SHAKESPEARE'S

DEATH: Cheltenham Poetry Festival Players, 8 May, Strand.

TALKS: Shakespeare, Tennyson, Joyce, 7 May, venues tbd, Yeats, 14 May, Oxfam, Comic Poetry, 15 May, Muffin Man.

WORKSHOPS: With Matt Black, Graham Burchell, Kim Fleet, David Clarke.

UK FILM PREMIERE: *Guys Reading Poetry*, & Q&A

with Director Hunter Lee Hughes, 6 May, Playhouse.

Stuart Maconie, introducing his favourite poetry, 7 May, Playhouse.

LECTURES & MEETINGS

Cheltenham German Club Stammtisch, twice a month, town centre, for details: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg Arnold 01684 772966.

WEA Walking Book Group, monthly, 2 – 4pm, Pittville Park, info: wea-cheltenham.co.uk or 01242 524621.

Cercle Français, Soirée film, Mon 1 Feb, 7.30pm, Church House, Painswick Rd, cercle-francais-cheltenham.webs.com

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 1 Feb, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Crisp and Dry.

Cheltenham Poetry Society, Poets – Dead or Alive, Tue 2 Feb, from 7pm, £3, Smokey Joe's, Bennington St, poetry of Edward Thomas. Info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham Italian Society: Alla scoperta di Ravello, una gemma della Costiera Amalfitana, Mon 8 Feb, 7 for 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, with Davide Ventola, in Italian. Info: cheltenhamitaliansociety.webs.com or John Sheppard 01242 243167.

Cheltenham Civic Society: Capturing the Moment, Tue 9 Feb, 7.30pm, £5 (members £3), Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, 150 Years of Photography in

Cheltenham. With John White, Chelt Camera Club.

Cercle Français, La photographie, Mon 15 Feb, 7.30pm, Church House, Painswick Rd, with Mike Bain. **Cheltenham Writers' Circle**, Mon 15 Feb, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Beneath the Radar.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Reading Group Meeting, Tue 16 Feb, 7-10pm, £5 (subscribers £3), Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham Local History Society, Tue 16 Feb, 7.30pm, Municipal Offices, Port to Port: the Sharpness Canal, with Paul Barnett.

Who built Pittville? Thu 18 Feb, 7.30pm, £10 /£8 /£5, includes drink, Main Hall, Pittville School, talk by Steve Blake for Holst Birthplace Museum & Friends of Pittville. Tickets from the Museum 01242 524846.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting, Tue 23 Feb, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham German Club: Deutschland und der Euro, Fri 26 Feb, 7.15 for 7.45pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, with Prof.Dr. Oliver Landmann, in German. Info: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg Arnold 01684 772966.

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 29 Feb, 7.30pm,

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY – MAY 2016

£2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Making it Happen.

Cheltenham Local History Society, Tue 1 Mar, 10.30am, £2, St Luke's Hall, The Cotswold House, with Lionel Walrond.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Workshop, Tue 1 Mar, 7-10pm, £3, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Glos. Gardens &

Landscape Trust: Historic Rhododendrons, Thu 3 Mar, 7pm, £6 (members £4), Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, illustrated talk by Beverley Lear. See ggl.org

Cercle Français, Mon 7 Mar, 7.30pm, Church House, Painswick Rd, petites présentations sur une variété de sujets, détails à suivre.

Cheltenham Civic Society AGM & Open Forum, Tue 8 Mar, 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, Have your say on the Society's work.

Cheltenham Italian Society: A digital tour of Rome, Mon 14 Mar, 7 for 7.30pm, Parmoor



WORDS ESCAPE ME AT THE POETRY FESTIVAL



RAYMOND ANTROBUS AT THE POETRY FESTIVAL

House, Lypiatt Terr, with Dr Matthew Nicholls. Info: cheltenhamitaliansociety.webs.com or John Sheppard 01242 243167.

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 14 Mar, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Talk: TBA.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Reading Group Meeting, Tue 15 Mar, 7-10pm, Parmoor House, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham Local History Society, Tue 15 Mar, 7.30pm, Municipal Offices, Cheltenham in the Great War, with Neela Mann.

Cheltenham German Club: Kandinsky in Germany, Fri 18 Mar, 7.15 for 7.45pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, with Mike Phillips. Info: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg Arnold 01684 772966.

Cercle Français, Les métiers à travers la chanson, Mon 21 Mar, 7.30pm, Church House, Painswick Rd, with Tony Callen.

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 28 Mar, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Hairy Monster.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting, Tue 29 Mar, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cercle Français, Le voyage du vrai d'Artagnan au 17ème siècle, Mon 4 Apr, 7.30pm, Church House, Painswick Rd, with Joel Binet.

Cheltenham Local History Society, Tue 5 Apr, 10.30am, St Luke's Hall, The extraordinary story of the Cotswold Stone Pipe Company, with Hugh Torrens.

Cheltenham Poetry Society, Poets – Dead or Alive, Tue 5 Apr, from 7pm, £3, Smokey Joe's, Bennington St, poetry of Sylvia Plath. Info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Glos. Gardens & Landscape Trust: Working within our historic parks and gardens, Thu 7 Apr, 7pm, £6 (members £4), Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, talk by Mark Darwent. See ggl.org

Cheltenham Italian Society: Una sfumatura diversa di giallo, Mon 11 Apr, 7 for 7.30pm, Parmoor House, with Roy Ranken, in Italian. Info: cheltenhamitaliansociety.webs.com or John Sheppard 01242 243167.

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY – MAY 2016

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 11 Apr, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, AGM.

Cheltenham German Club: Das europäische Parlament, Fri 15 Apr, 7.15 for 7.45pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, with Philip Cole. Info: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg Arnold 01684 772966.

Cercle Français, Joséphine et Eugénie – Impératrices des Français, Mon 18 Apr, 7.30pm, Church House, Painswick Rd, with Germaine Jones.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Reading Group Meeting, Tue 19 Apr, 7-10pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham Local History Society, Tue 19 Apr, 7.30pm, Municipal Offices, Gloucester's Railways: Then and Now, with Tony Conder.

Cheltenham Civic Society Civic Awards Presentation, Wed 20 Apr, 4pm, Town Hall, with Victoria Thornton, founder of Open City.

Cheltenham Civic Society Civic Awards Lecture, Wed 20 Apr, 7.30pm, Harwood Hall, Christ Church, Victoria Thornton on "Living Architecture".

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 25 Apr, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Going Public.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting, Tue 26 Apr, info:

Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Workshop, Tue 3 May,

7-10pm, £3, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, info: as above.

Texting Holst: Holst's use of poetic & other texts, Fri 6 May, £10 /£8 /£5, includes drink, time+ venue tbc, talk by Nigel Simeone. Tickets: Holst Museum 01242 524846.

Cheltenham Italian Society: Assemblée Generale Annuale, Mon 9 May, 7 for 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, Serata sociale con buffet ecc. Info: cheltenhamitaliansociety.webs.com or John Sheppard 01242 243167.

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 9 May, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Writing Exercise: TBA.

Cheltenham Civic Society: Strozzi Palace, Tue 10 May, 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Power & Politics in late C.19th Cheltenham, with Michael Storm.

Cheltenham German Club Generalversammlung, Fri 13 May, 7.15 for 7.45pm, Parmoor House, AGM, Kleines Büfett, Unterhaltung. Info: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg 01684 772966.

Cercle Français, Assemblée générale, Mon 16 May, 7.30pm, Church House, Painswick Rd, suivie par une mini-conférence.

Cheltenham Local History Society AGM, Tue 17 May, 7.30pm, Municipal

Offices, followed by Gwilym Davies – Folk Music of Gloucestershire.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Annual Awayday, Thu 19 May, writing retreat, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham Writers' Circle, Mon 23 May, 7.30pm, £2, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terr, encouraging creative writing at all levels. Theme: Free Range.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Reading Group Meeting, Tue 24 May, 7-10pm, Parmoor House, info: Sharon Larkin 07540 329389.

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting, Tue 31 May, info: as above.

CHELtenham WEA COURSES: Details: wea-cheltenham.co.uk or Derek Briggs 01242 234488. Please enrol via website or tel. 0845 4582758.

Day School: Archaeology – Above & Below, Sat 9 Apr, 10am-4pm, £30, St Mark's Methodist Church Hall, with afternoon visit to St Mary's Charlton Kings. Tutor: Mat Mcall. Ref.C3526800.

Further your French with Fun, Thu 21 Apr – Thu 9 Jun (ex.19 May), 2-4pm, £56, Christ Church Hall, with Annette Binns. Ref. C3526803.

SUBMISSION (ADS AND EVENTS) MUST BE WITH US BY THE END OF APRIL FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE NEXT ISSUE. PLEASE EMAIL EVENT DETAILS TO PERSPECTIVES.LISTINGS@GMAIL.COM

CELEBRATING OUR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

A REPORT FROM CHELTENHAM'S ANNUAL ARTS AWARDS
BY KAREN JONES, CHAIR, CHELTENHAM ARTS COUNCIL

Every year Cheltenham Arts Council invites nominations from members of affiliated societies for its annual awards, which recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions to the voluntary arts in Cheltenham. These contributions, which can be for long service or a particular contribution over the previous year, showcase the wide range of activities offered by our thriving voluntary arts sector. The achievements of the winners represent an impressive breadth of knowledge, dedication and commitment. In a most enjoyable evening at the Playhouse Theatre, the awards were presented this year by Councillor Duncan Smith, Mayor of Cheltenham.

Citations are awarded to members of affiliated societies, with the Joyner Cup awarded to the most outstanding candidate. Although not awarded this year, I'd like to highlight the Webster Cup which is awarded to the most promising person under 18 years for achievement in any branch of the arts in the preceding year; in this case nominations can also be made by the general public.

THE WINNERS

LINDA KIRKHOPE: JOYNER CUP Nominated by Cheltenham Camera Club for her role as Secretary over the past six years, she has enabled the Club to go from strength to strength in the run up to its 150th anniversary. Linda has been instrumental in organising the annual exhibition, the international Salon and the Gloucestershire Young Photographers' competition.

**VICKI BEAUREGARD: CHELTENHAM OPERA**

GROUP CUP Nominated by Promenade Productions in recognition of her boundless enthusiasm and commitment to music and young peoples' theatre in Cheltenham.

DAVID DRINKWATER: CITATION

Nominated by Cheltenham Local History Society in recognition of his research, which has uncovered valuable and previously undocumented information about Gloucestershire men who fought and died in the First World War.

ROGER & MAUREEN JENNER: CITATION

Nominated by Cheltenham Italian Society for their long service and dedication to the Society. On their retirement from the committee last May, Maureen had served for 19 years as a Committee member and Roger for 17 years as Honorary Treasurer.

IAN UNDERHILL: CHARLES IRVING AWARD

received on behalf of Subtone Jazz Club. Awarded to a local organisation that has provided support through sponsorship of the voluntary arts in Cheltenham, Subtone was nominated by Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts.

**TUDOR WILLIAMS: CITATION**

Nominated by Cheltenham Writers' Circle, of which he is a founder member. He received his award for his contributions to writing in Cheltenham and his long service and dedication to the Circle.

VALEDICTORY CONCERT FOR PETER TOMLINSON

CHELTENHAM CHAMBER ORCHESTRA HONOURS OUTSTANDING MANAGER

A valedictory concert was held on Saturday 26th September 2015 at St Andrew's Church, Cheltenham, to celebrate the enormous contribution made by Peter Tomlinson to Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra over nearly forty years. He was not only the Orchestra's Principal Flute but also, from 1987, it's Orchestral Manager. Peter chose the music for the programme which was by Delius and Brahms, and a first performance of John Frith's Serenade for thirteen wind instruments.

Peter first played with Laurence Hudson in the late 1960s before also being appointed Orchestral Manager in 1987. He then subsequently played under Robin Proctor, Denise Ham, Gavin Sutherland and other guest conductors.

Peter has led a busy life with a mixture of professional engineering and musical fulfilment. He became President of Queen Mary University of London Music Society whilst studying for his degree in mechanical engineering. Apart from Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra he has also played in many other orchestras including Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra, of which he was Chairman for ten years and Principal Flute for many more, and the Bel Canto Opera Orchestra. Throughout these years he has been unstintingly supported by his viola-playing wife, Gill and horn-playing son, Paul. Peter was a founder member of the wind quintet "Classic Wind".



PETER TOMLINSON AT HIS VALEDICTORY CONCERT, RECEIVING THE WATERCOLOUR FROM CONDUCTOR, GAVIN SUTHERLAND.

In recognition of his long service and commitment to music in Cheltenham, Peter has been awarded three separate, very valued, Cheltenham Arts Council Citations (1993, 2000 & 2014).

Peter made the difficult decision to retire from these activities at the end of 2014, and to mark the occasion, conductor Gavin Sutherland, on behalf of the Orchestra and many friends in the audience, presented him with a watercolour by Robert Goldsmith of Peter playing the flute.

YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CHELTENHAM CHAMBER ORCHESTRA HERE:
WWW.CHELTENHAMCHAMBERORCHESTRA.ORG.UK

JUNIOR STARS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

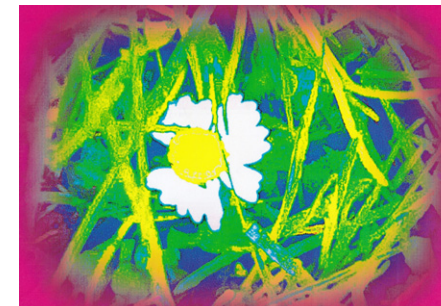
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2015

Every year, Cheltenham Camera Club invites budding young photographers from schools across the county to take part in a competition. Here are photographs from the 2015 winning entries. Best Primary School (Swindon Village) and Best Secondary School (Cirencester Kingshill). The winning entries for the 2016 GYP Competition will be on display at the Club's Annual Exhibition at Parabola Arts Centre, Cheltenham between 15 – 21 May 2016 along with a selection from pupils at the winning schools.

Primary winners



FIRST PLACE
SPRING HAS SPRUNG BY BRONWYN WHEELER OF BEECH GREEN PRIMARY

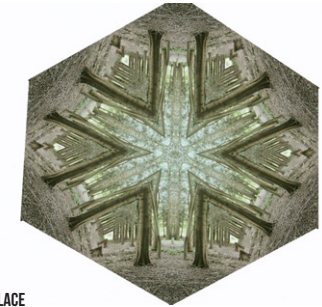


SECOND PLACE
THE MAGIC DAISY BY LEO LEES OF PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL



THIRD PLACE
MIRROR 'SELFIE' (DETAIL) BY JULIA MIELEWCZYK OF CALTON PRIMARY

Secondary winners



FIRST PLACE
FOREST KALEIDOSCOPE BY REBECCA BOWSHER OF CIRENCESTER KINGSHILL



SECOND PLACE
THE EVOLUTION OF MAN BY ALICE BEARD OF CIRENCESTER KINGSHILL



THIRD PLACE
MITCHELL BOY BY RENE NISTOR OF COLN HOUSE SCHOOL

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HAM** TOWN HALL
& PITTVILLE
PUMP ROOM

CHELTENHAM CONCERT SERIES

SEPTEMBER 2015 - JUNE 2016

REMAINING CONCERTS

19 February

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

12 March

BBC National Orchestra of Wales

23 April

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

25 May

The Hallé

15 June

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

TICKETS: from £12.50

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* Charges to 0844 numbers cost 7p per minute, plus your telephone company's access charge and mobile providers may vary.

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