



perspectives

CHELTENHAM ARTS CULTURE

Cheltenham Arts Council: awards_funding_publicity_events listings

October 2019 – January 2020

*Bath Road utility boxes • Holst Museum exhibition
Honk! Jr • Churchdown Male Voice Choir
Musica Vera • German Club*

Advertising Charges

HALF PAGE ADVERT

£25 for CAC members or £75 for non-members

FULL PAGE ADVERT

£50 for CAC members or £150 for non-members

Please contact cheltenhamartsperspectives@gmail.com for more information.

Submissions must be with us by the following dates for consideration for the next issue:

End of November deadline for Feb/May Issue

End of March deadline for June/Sept Issue

End of July deadline for Oct/Jan Issue

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COVER IMAGE: KIMBERLEY THOMAS
'NOT SO GREEN MAN', WHICH IS AVAILABLE AS
PRINTS, AND INSTALLED AT CHAPEL ARTS FOR THE
CHELTENHAM PAINT FESTIVAL, SEPTEMBER 2019.



PERSPECTIVES TEAM

EDITOR RACHEL TEDD

LISTINGS ALICE HODSDON

TEMPLATE DESIGN CHANTAL FREEMAN

Dear Readers

A very warm welcome to the latest edition of Perspectives, covering October 2019 to January 2020. Writing this in the warmth of an August afternoon, it seems rather bizarre to be looking towards the autumn, let alone Christmas and the New Year, but it's heartening to look through the Listings and see what a wealth of cultural activities we have ahead of us.

Before I go any further, I would like to say a resounding "Thank You" to my predecessor as Perspectives editor, Sharon Larkin, who did so much to enhance and modernise this publication. Her inspiration and advice has been invaluable, and Cheltenham Arts Council owes her a significant debt of gratitude. As Sharon mentioned in her last editorial, CAC also has a new Chair - Sue Silcock - and we will be finding out a bit more about her in the next issue. As for me, in addition to being Hon Sec of CAC, my own involvement in the arts in Cheltenham includes Cheltenham Bach Choir, the Holst Museum, performing Renaissance and medieval music with The Waites of Gloucester and Ypotryll, and very recently becoming Hon Sec of the Cheltenham Music Festival Society. In my spare time (!) I like knitting and killing virtual monsters in an online game.

In this issue, we start with details of a wonderful project to enliven the environment in the Bath Road area, where prosaic utility boxes have



RACHEL TEDD

become works of art. On a similar theme, by the time you read this, the Cheltenham Paint Festival will once again have adorned the town with some truly fantastic artwork. It really lifts the spirits to walk or drive a familiar route and see it transformed.

We also take a look back at the childhood of Cheltenham's famous son Gustav Holst, reflected in a fascinating exhibition at the Holst Birthplace Museum. While childhood doesn't seem to have been a particularly happy time for the young Gustav, the same can't be said for the kids involved in the debut production by the CODS Youth Theatre - the reviews from the participants are just lovely.

There's also a plea from Showcase, a long-standing costume and fancy dress

*Perspectives is produced three times a year.
The next issue will span February - May 2020.*

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

company that works closely with many members of Cheltenham's voluntary arts community. They need someone to take over the business – it's a fantastic opportunity so do have a read and alert any likely candidates.

One of CAC's main responsibilities, and one of its greatest pleasures, is to be able to award grants to member organisations. Two of those organisations, the Churchdown Male Voice Choir and the Musica Vera choir, have contributed articles on how that grant money has been used. We're always delighted to receive feedback on grant usage, so please do get in touch. In this edition, you'll also find the first in a new series of articles

called "Meet the Members", in which we'll be telling you a bit more about the organisations that make up Cheltenham Arts Council. This time, the focus is on the Blue Moon Harmony Choir. And finally, we celebrate (at least) 70 years of the German Club – Herzlichen Glückwunsch to them!

I do hope you enjoy this edition of Perspectives, and on behalf of Cheltenham Arts Council I wish you a very cultural and peaceful autumn, Christmas and New Year.

Rachel Tedd,
PERSPECTIVES EDITOR



NEW WORK FROM CHELTENHAM PAINT FESTIVAL

DECORATING THE BATH ROAD UTILITY BOXES

ADRIAN PHILIPS WITH NEWS OF THE LATEST REFRESH

The Bath Road is a very special shopping street, full of independent traders, great shops, restaurants, pubs and cafes. But if it is to thrive, then residents need to use the excellent services that it provides – and also help to ensure it looks good.

Nineteen boxes were decorated in 2014, but Rhys has just finished a refresh. A number of boxes have been added to the scheme, others have been entirely repainted, and others again have been cleaned, with any scratches or deterioration attended to. The decorated boxes can now be seen along



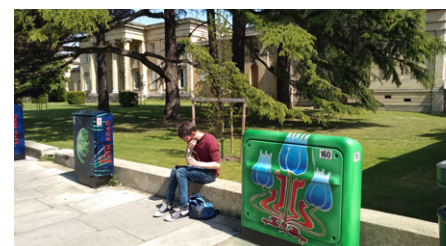
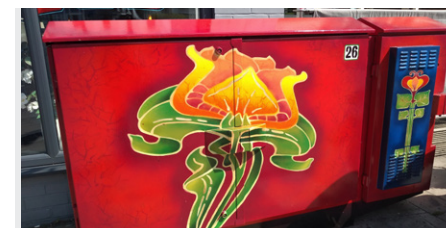
RHYS COWE BUSY AT WORK DURING THE PAINTING OF NEW UTILITY BOXES

So that's why, over the past 5 years, three residents' associations (St Philip and St James Area Residents' Association [SPJARA], the Naunton Area Residents' Association [NARA] and Cheltenham Connect) have undertaken a number of small environmental schemes to brighten up the Bath Road, with financial support from the council. Cheltenham College joined the group in 2019.

A number of small scale projects have been undertaken (including tree planting, planters and an art work). But the biggest project is the decoration of 25 utility boxes belonging to Virgin Media, BT Openreach and Glos Highways. These employ colourful designs inspired by the Victorian tiles in a butchers' shop in the Bath Road, the cedar trees in front of Cheltenham College and Victorian glass in the nearby St Philip and St James church.

The work was designed by Chantal Freeman and executed by Rhys Cowe.

the entire length of this part of the Bath Road, all the way from the Norwood Arms to the Suffolk Road traffic lights. As part of the same scheme, the Norwood Arms roundabout has been branded with the Bath Road logo.



A VICTORIAN CHILDHOOD

AN INSIGHT INTO HOLST'S EARLY LIFE

Laura Kinnear, curator at the Holst Birthplace Museum, gives us an insight into Holst's early life, reflected in the museum's current exhibition.

What was Gustav Holst's childhood really like? We almost certainly will never know, although it's generally assumed that it wasn't an especially happy one. Firstly, his mother died when he was only seven years old, a horrendous tragedy for both



DRESSING UP IN THE SCHOOL ROOM

him and his younger brother Emil, which would have impacted on them throughout their lives. Moreover, it seems that his father Adolph wasn't always the easiest of individuals. According to Theodore von Holst, Gustav's nephew, 'Children in



A YOUNG VISITOR IN THE LEARNING SPACE

the von Holst household were expected to be seen and not heard, and those who offended against this or other rules would be punished in various ways, including confinement to their rooms on a diet of mealy-pap' (maize porridge). However it was Adolph who was responsible for introducing Gustav to music. The young Holst attended All Saints' Church, where his father was choirmaster, and he sang in the choir; when he was older he assisted his father at concerts at The Rotunda and The



GUSTAV HOLST, AGED ABOUT 3 YEARS OLD

Corn Exchange. Nevertheless the divisions were there between father and son. As Thorley von Holst, Gustav's half-brother, recollected: 'Gustav departed radically from his father's wishes in the field of music', adding that their father had wanted Gustav to 'establish himself in Cheltenham as an assistant in a piano conservatory, a post which Gustav declined.'

Gustav's childhood story is just one we are exploring in our most recent exhibition, 'A Victorian Childhood', which runs until 14 December. Through toys, books, costume and photographs, visitors can reflect on what childhood may have meant to the boys and girls who grew up in the 19th century. What was infancy like, both for the baby and the nervous parents who would have been all too aware that their child might die before it reached five? And if they were fortunate enough to survive infancy, what world did they enter into? Of course, it would have differed greatly depending on whether their background was rich or poor, or like Gustav Holst, something in between. By the time Gustav was born, the 1870 Education Act had come into place, so although not all children went to school for a variety of reasons, it was now much more likely that a child would have had some sort of education, however patchy. Gustav famously disliked games and mathematics when he attended Cheltenham Grammar School.

As part of the exhibition we have created hands-on areas for our younger visitors. In the exhibition room we've constructed a Victorian school room, where visitors can write and sketch and get some idea of what a schoolroom may have been like, and in the Learning Space children will be able to immerse themselves in the world of Alice in Wonderland and Treasure Island – two of the most popular Victorian children's books.

ALSO SEE THE DETAILS OF THE HOLST BIRTHDAY CONCERT
IN THE LISTINGS ON PAGE 9

CODS YOUTH THEATRE 'HONK! JR'

INAUGURAL PRODUCTION - A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

CODS Youth Theatre debuted this July with a quacking production of 'Honk! Jr', a musical adaptation of the much-loved tale, The Ugly Duckling. What a splash they made!

A cast of ducks, geese, hens and even a wicked cat swanned onto the stage at the Cheltenham Playhouse Theatre from 25th – 27th July. First night reviewer, Simon Lewis, admired how *'it overflowed with joy, panache and several especially strong performances'* and credited the cast who *'performed with gusto and garnished with animated dance sequences'*.



CODS Youth Theatre started life in February 2019, with a bustling workshop audition day. The production team then had the difficult task of casting the show, before launching into rehearsals. Each week the cast learnt new harmonies, dance routines and perfected their characters. Director Laura Bishop oversaw the lighting, set design, sound, costumes and props, bringing together a *'visual feast of colour and feathers'* (Jo Wilson-Hunt, National Operatic & Dramatic Organisation). Most importantly, everyone had a lot of fun along the way! Musical Director Amber Smith said: 'It has been such a wonderful show to be a part of.'



HONK! JR SOLIST

The children have been enthusiastic throughout and shine on stage.'

Of course, the most important reviews are from the cast, so below are a few quotes from our favourite ducks and geese. Keep an eye on www.codsonline.co.uk/youththeatre for further updates.

'It has been the best experience of my life.'
– Lucy

'I've made lots of new friends and never want it to end!' – Tilly

'It is fabulous and I would definitely do a CODS Youth Theatre show again!' – Evie



HONK! JR CAST



MEET THE MEMBERS

BLUE MOON HARMONY CHOIR

Blue Moon Harmony is a mixed voice harmony choir with a wide ranging vocal repertoire covering all styles and tastes of music. At the helm is our Musical Director Charmaine Worrall, well known and respected for her sense of humour, easy going charm, professionalism and high standards, making even the most taxing rehearsals lots of fun. Charmaine is also Musical Director of the Cotswold Male Voice Choir, so joint concerts can be easily organised with spectacular results.

We do several concerts a year, including more light-hearted events such as our annual Summer Coffee Morning and Christmas concerts (audience participation welcome at the latter). We also arrange several social events each year including barbecues and Sunday lunches.

We have sung at many prestigious venues including Cheltenham Town Hall, Pittville Pump Rooms and Gloucester Cathedral, and have raised many thousands of pounds for charity. Our next concert is at Bethesda Methodist Church, Great Norwood

Street, Cheltenham, on Saturday 23rd November at 7.30pm. The Marlborough Ladies Choir are our guest singers - we visited and sang for them in Marlborough last year.

With the current trend for keeping fit, singing is one of the forgotten forms of exercise. Apart from the physical improvements it can bring, there are also mental and spiritual benefits, uplifting one's very heart and soul. We would love to hear from any potential new members - you do not need to be able to read music to sing. We rehearse every Thursday evening at 7.30pm in the Denley Hall at Bishops Cleeve.



We can be found online at <http://www.bluemoonharmony.co.uk/> where you can find videos of some of our songs.

We are also on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bluemoonharmonychoir/> or simply search for Blue Moon Harmony Choir.

LISTINGS: EVENTS DIRECTORY OCTOBER 2019 - JANUARY 2020

VISUAL ARTS

Cotswold Art Club

Demonstration: Nick Dawe, wildlife painting in acrylic

Sat 19 Oct, 2.30-4.30pm, The Pavilion, Hatherley Lane, first taster visit is free, info and updates: cotswoldartclub.com

Holst Birthplace Museum: Diwali Children's Craft Drop-in

Tue 29 Oct, 11am-3pm, £1 per child plus an annual admission ticket, Gustav Holst loved Indian culture. Celebrate Diwali by making a candle holder to take away, no need to book. There will also be a special Spice Trail around the house throughout half term

AT THE GARDENS GALLERY, MONTPELLIER GARDENS:, 10am-5pm daily, as listed: Literature Festival

Thu 3 - Sun 13 Oct

Jan Whitton

Sun 20- Tue 22 Oct

Cheltenham Group of Artists

Wed 23 - Tue 29 Oct

Robert Goldsmith

Wed 30 Oct - Tue 5 Nov

Janet James

Wed 6 - Tue 12 Nov

Claudia Hawkins

Wed 13 - Tue 19 Nov

Caroline Hill

Wed 20 - Tue 26 Nov

Anthony Dawes

Wed 27 Nov- Tue 3 Dec

Jane Brighton

Wed 4 - Tue 10 Dec

Lucy Denny

Wed 11 - Tue 17 Dec

Thomas Gowen

Wed 18 - Sat 21 Dec



NEWLY PAINTED UTILITY BOXES NOW BRIGHTENING THE BATH ROAD

MUSIC

Holst Birthday Concert

Sat 5 Oct, 7.30pm, £16, St Andrew's Church, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra in association with The Holst Birthplace Museum, Holst: Fugal Concerto, Songs without Words No.1, Lyric Movement, Mozart: Overture Don Giovanni, Symph No.39 in E, Vaughan Williams: Romance from Serenade in A minor
Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra: The Virtuoso Violin Sat 12 Oct, 7.30pm, £17/£14, students 50%, U18s free, Pittville Pump Room, Weber: Overture Der Freischütz, Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto, soloist Michael Foyle, Brahms: Symph No.3
Broadwoods Present: Inspirations from England Sun 13 Oct, 2pm + 7pm, £20 inc. wine and canapes, Holst Birthplace Museum, music by Holst,

Elgar, Sullivan, Stamford, Vaughan Williams and Britten, tenor: Greg Tassell, piano: Gary Branch.

Please book via curator@holmuseum.org.uk

Cheltenham Opera Society: Das Rheingold, Wagner (DVD)

Sun 13 Oct, 3pm, £5 non-members (at the door), St Andrew's Church, Montpellier Street, cheltenhamoperasociety.org.uk

Cheltenham Music Society: Esmé Quartet

Thu 17 Oct, 7.30pm, £20, £15, U26s £5, Pittville Pump Room, Bridge: Novelletten, Beethoven: String Qt. in F, Schubert: String Qt. in G. cheltmusicsoc.co.uk

Cheltenham Bach Choir Come & Sing: The Armed Man

Sat 19 Oct, 10am-4pm, concert 3pm, £15, Holy Apostles, London Road, all ages and abilities can join us to sing Karl Jenkins' mass for chorus and soloists, cheltbachchoir.com

Cheltenham Opera Society: Die Walküre, Wagner (DVD)

Sun 27 Oct, 2pm, £5 non-members (at the door), St Andrew's Church, Montpellier Street

Cheltenham Music Society: Scordatura

Women's Music Collective

Sun 27 Oct, 3pm, £10, U26s free, Prince Michael Hall, Dean Close, chamber ensemble dedicated to performing music by women, inc. Rebecca

EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2019 – JANUARY 2020



NEW WORK FROM CHELTENHAM PAINT FESTIVAL

Clarke, Helen Grime, Thea Musgrave, Rhiannon Randle, Caroline Shaw, Tania Leon, Amy Bryce and Bushra El-Turk. cheltmusicsoc.co.uk

Cheltenham Chamber Orchestra: Belshazzar's Feast Sun 3 Nov, £18, Town Hall, with Chipping Norton Choral Society, orchestral and choral pieces by William Walton and James MacMillan

Cheltenham Opera Society: Rigoletto, Verdi (WNO) Wed 6 Nov, 7.15pm, Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff, contact Cheltenham Opera Society for more info. cheltenhamoperasociety.org.uk

Cheltenham Music Society: Takács Quartet Wed 6 Nov, 7.30pm, £30, £25, U26s £5, Pittville Pump Room, Haydn: String Qt. in C, The Bird, Bartók: String Qt. No.6 in D, Mendelssohn: String Qt. No.2 in A minor. cheltmusicsoc.co.uk

Cleeve Chorale: Come and Sing Haydn's Creation Sat 9 Nov, 9.45am, concert 3pm, £15, students £5, concert only: £5, St Michael & All Angels, Bishop's Cleeve, rehearse

and perform with Musical Director Heather Parker and new accompanist Lucy Morrell, inc. lunch and tea and cake, tickets: George Lewis Footwear or ring 01242 674114 or on the door. clevechorale.co.uk

Cheltenham Bach Choir: The Dream of Gerontius, Elgar Sat 9 Nov, 7.30pm, Town Hall, with the Regency Sinfonia, cond. David Crown

Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra Autumn Concert Sun 10 Nov, 3pm, £12, Pittville Pump Room, inc. world premiere of Concerto for Viola & Orchestra by Gilbert Biberian performed by viola soloist Richard Crabtree and Rachmaninov: Symph No.1

Cheltenham Choral Society Autumn Concert Sat 16 Nov, 7.30pm, £15, inc. interval drink, U13s free, Christ Church, Vivaldi: Gloria, Mozart: Coronation Mass, Cherubini: Requiem in C Minor. Cond. Alex Thacker, accomp. Alison Howell. Tickets: Wilson Tourist Info 01242 245530 and Eventbrite. cheltenhamchoralsociety.org.uk

Blue Moon Harmony Choir Sat 23 Nov, 7.30pm, Bethesda Church, concert with guest singers The Marlborough Ladies

Charlton Kings Choral Society Sat 23 Nov, 7.30pm, Pittville Pump Room, Mozart: Requiem and Ave

Verum, Holst: Clear and Cool - the Song of the River (first performance since 1897). Soprano: Hannah Davey, mezzo soprano: Serena Kay, bass: Nicholas Perfect, cond. John Wright with Regency Sinfonia

Cheltenham Opera Society: Le Comte Ory, Rossini (DVD) Mon 25 Nov, 7pm, wine and mince pies in the interval, £5 non-members (at the door), St Andrew's Church, Montpellier Street

Musica Vera: High Baroquary Sat 30 Nov, 2.30pm, £12, U18s free, St Matthew's Church, baroque music from Italy, Austria and England, Vivaldi, Pachelbel, Haydn, Marcello, with Musica Vera Camerata. musicavera.eu

Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra Sat 30 Nov, 7.30pm, Pershore Abbey, Glazunov: Concerto for saxophone, soloist Lydia Kenny, Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite No.1, Tchaikovsky: Symph No.6 - Pathétique. In support of Farmers Overseas Action Group, tickets from info@foag.org

Cheltenham Music Society: Pomegranate Piano Trio Tue 3 Dec, 7.30pm, £20, £15, U26s £5, Pittville Pump Room, Mozart: Piano Trio in B flat, Fauré: Piano Trio in D minor, Ravel: Piano Trio in A minor. cheltmusicsoc.co.uk

The Oriel Singers: Coffee Concert Sat 7 Dec, 11am, Holy Apostles, orielsingers.org.uk

Cleeve Chorale Christmas Concert Sat 7 Dec, 7.30pm, £5, accompanied children free, St Michael & All Angels, Bishop's Cleeve, popular carols, with children from Bishop's Cleeve Primary Academy, refreshments inc. mince pies. Tickets on the door, from George Lewis Footwear or ring 01242 674114

Cheltenham Choral Society: Tapestry of Christmas Music Tue 10 Dec, 7.30pm, £10, £5 U13s, Pittville Pump Room, join a family carol concert, with pupils from Prestbury St Mary's, Dunalley Primary and The Beauregard Youth Choir

Gotherington Singers Christmas Concert Sat 14 Dec, 7.30pm, St Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane

Cleeve Harmony: Carols at the Barn Sun 15 Dec, 4pm, doors open 3.30pm, £5, children free, Bishop's Cleeve Tithe Barn, inc. mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets from George Lewis Footwear, or tel 07875 578688, or email maggie.levings@gmail.com

Cheltenham Bach Choir: Messiah, Handel Sat 21 Dec, 7.30pm, Town Hall, with the Musical & Amicable Society Baroque Orchestra

Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts: The Nutland Concert Fri 3 Jan, 3pm, Bethesda Church, presented by Fiona Wild,

EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2019 – JANUARY 2020



NEW WORK FROM CHELTENHAM PAINT FESTIVAL

a wonderful afternoon of performances by past participants of the Keith Nutland Memorial Award Class, tickets on the door

Cheltenham Music Society: Tasmin Little, violin & John Lenehan, piano Wed 8 Jan, 7.30pm, £25, £20, U26s £5, Pittville Pump Room, Brahms: Sonatensatz, Lili Boulanger: Nocturne, Amy Beach: Violin Sonata in A minor, Clara Schumann: 3 Romances, Brahms: Violin Sonata No.3 in D minor. cheltmusicsoc.co.uk

Cleeve Harmony: Birthday Open Evening Wed 22 Jan, 7.45pm, Bishop's Cleeve Tithe Barn, have some fun finding out more about being part of our ladies choir, all are welcome to

join us as we celebrate our seventh birthday. cleve-harmony.org.uk

Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra: A Voyage around Europe: Northern Lights Sat 25 Jan, 7.30pm, £17/£14, students 50%, U18s free, Pittville Pump Room, Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite No.1, Sibelius: Symph No.7, Tchaikovsky: Symph No.1 - Winter Dreams

Cheltenham Philharmonic Orchestra Winter Concert Sun 26 Jan, 3pm, £12, Pittville Pump Room, feat. pianist Joanna MacGregor. cheltenhamphilharmonic.co.uk

EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2019 – JANUARY 2020

STAGE & STAGE STAGE & DANCE

Cheltenham Operatic & Dramatic Society: Our House

Fri 11- Sat 19 Oct 7.30pm + 2pm
Sat 19th, £17/£16, Playhouse,
the Madness musical is a
London love story, featuring a
collection of hits. codsonline.
co.uk

The Cotswold Savoyards:

Calamity Jane Tue 5- Sat 9
Nov, 7.30pm + 2pm Sat mat.
£15/£16, Playhouse, the classic
movie musical brought to
life on the (Deadwood) stage.
cheltplayhouse.org.uk

Music & Laughter Fri 22- Sat
23 Nov, 7.30pm + 2.30pm Sat
mat. £10, £7 conc. for matinee
(seniors and U15s), Bishop's
Cleeve Tithe Barn, Cleeve
Harmony and Bishop's Cleeve
Players entertain in a joint
production, suitable for ages
7+. Tickets from George
Lewis Footwear or contact
bishopsclleeveplayers@yahoo.
co.uk

Promenade Productions

**Panto: Robinson Crusoe and
the Pirates** Thu 16- Sun 19 Jan
7pm Thu&Fri, 12pm, 4.30pm
Sat, 2.30pm Sun, £11-£16
Bacon Theatre, traditional
family panto and a
swashbuckling adventure, by
Alan Frayn, tickets: Showcase
01242 224144

LECTURES & MEETINGS

WEA Walking Book Group

monthly, 2-4pm, Pittville Park,
info: marketingsouthwest@
wea.org.uk

Cheltenham German

Club Stammtisch twice
a month, the Bank
House pub, for details:
cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.
com or Greg Arnold 01684
772966

Cheltenham German Club

**Daytime Conversation
Group** first Thursday of the
month, Everyman, details:
hazelphanson@googlemail.
com

Guten Montag German

Discussion Group Mondays,
11am-12.30pm, £8, Global
Footsteps Café, Portland Street
cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.
com/events.htm

Cheltenham Local History

Society Tue 1 Oct, 10.30am,
£2, St Luke's Church Hall, A
Magnificent Edifice: building
the church of St Gregory the
Great, Cheltenham, 1853-1876,
with Joanna Vials

Cheltenham Civic Society:

The Holst Victorian House
Tue 1 Oct, 7.30pm, visitors
£10, Parmoor House, Lypiatt
Terrace, Steve Wood,
Chairman, Holst Birthplace
Trust, on the challenges
they face as a small museum
out of the town centre and
ambitious plans for the future.
cheltenhamcivicsociety.org.uk

Cercle Français: Au fil du

Rhône Mon 7 Oct, 7.30pm,
St Luke's Church Hall,
with Thierry Viennois.
cheltenhamfrenchcircle.co.uk

The Arts Society

**Cheltenham: Eternity in
an Hour, the art of William
Blake** Tue 8 Oct, 7.30 for

8pm, guests £7, refundable
on joining, Sacred Hearts
Hall, with William Vaughan.
Guests please book via
Mary Wright 01242 582202.
theartssocietycheltenham.
org.uk

Holst Birthplace Museum:

Victorian Book Group Wed
9 Oct, 10-11.30am, The War
of the Worlds by H.G. Wells,
revisit old favourites and
discover forgotten classics in
this monthly meet-up, no need
to book just turn up having
read the book. Free with an
annual admission ticket,
a small donation towards
refreshments welcome.
holstmuseum.org.uk

Leckhampton Local History

Society Wed 9 Oct, 7.30pm,
visitors £2, Glebe Cottages,
Church Road, Funerary
Monuments: Gloucestershire's
Hidden Gems, with John Reid

Cheltenham Italian Society:

Last Supper in Pompei Mon
14 Oct, 7.30pm, Parmoor
House, Lypiatt Terrace,
with Paul Roberts. Info:
cheltenhamitaliansociety.org.
uk

The Arts Society

**Cheltenham: Bath:
Architecture and Domestic
Living** Tue 15 Oct, 10 for
10.30am, £7 inc. refreshments
Isbourne House, 3 Wolseley
Terrace, with Philip Wilkinson.
Non-members welcome,
info: Alexandra Davies 01242
230294

Cheltenham Local History

Society Tue 15 Oct, 7.30pm,
Municipal Offices, Broken By
Age Or War: Life At The Royal

Hospital, Chelsea, with Mick
Kippin

Cheltenham German Club:

**When blau doesn't mean
blue** Fri 18 Oct, 7 for 7.30pm,
Parmoor House, Lypiatt
Terrace, with Erhard von
Büren, author of Ein langer
blauer Montag and Helen
Wallimann, translator, in
German and English. Info:
cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.
com or Greg Arnold 01684
772966

**Cercle Français: Des
parallèles entre la conquête
spatiale et l'exploration des
océans** Mon 21 Oct, 7.30pm,
St Luke's Church Hall, with
Philippe Blondel

Holst Birthplace Museum:

NEW WORK FROM CHELTENHAM PAINT FESTIVAL

EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2019 – JANUARY 2020

Knit Your Bit Tue 22 Oct,
2-4pm, spend a cosy few hours
in front of our fire knitting
and enjoying tea and cake,
no need to book. Free with
an annual admission ticket,
a small donation towards
refreshments welcome

**Charlton Kings Local &
Family History Society**

Tue 22 Oct, 7.30pm, Baptist
Church, Charlton Kings,
England discovers Russia, with
Edward James. charltonkings.
org.uk

**Prestbury Local History
Society: Public Houses
of Prestbury** Mon 28 Oct,
7.30pm, Prestbury W.I. Hall,
with Rebecca Silence

Cheltenham Poetry Society

**Members' Writing Group
Meeting** Tue 29 Oct,
further info: 07540 329389
cheltenhampoetrysociety@
gmail.com

Cheltenham Civic Society:

**Re-dedication of the
WW1 Battlefield Crosses**
November, Cheltenham
Minster, new date tbc, please
see cheltenhamcivicsociety.
org.uk

**Cercle Français: Bordeaux
hier et aujourd'hui** Mon 4
Nov, 7.30pm, St Luke's Church
Hall, with Maryse Wright

Cheltenham Poetry Society

**Workshop, led by Sharon
Larkin** Tue 5 Nov, 7-10pm,
£4 inc. refreshments,
Rosalind Room, Parmoor
House, Lypiatt Terrace,
further info: 07540 329389
cheltenhampoetrysociety@
gmail.com

Cheltenham Civic Society:
Task Force Update Tue 5 Nov,
7.30pm, visitors £10, Parmoor
House, Lypiatt Terrace,
Jeremy Williamson, Managing
Director, Cheltenham
Development Task Force,
gives his annual update on
the major schemes taking
place or planned for the town.
cheltenhamcivicsociety.org.uk

Holst Birthplace Museum:

Victorian Book Group Wed 6
Nov, 10-11.30am, The Tenant of
Wildfell Hall by Anne Brontë,
revisit old favourites and
discover forgotten classics in
this monthly meet-up, no need
to book just turn up having
read the book. Free with an
annual admission ticket,
a small donation towards

EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2019 – JANUARY 2020

refreshments welcome

Gloucestershire Gardens and Landscape Trust Mon 11 Nov, 7.15 pm, £4, non-members £6, St Luke's, Church Hall, St Luke's Place, Garden history and our knowledge of plants, with Michael Lear, ggl.org

Cheltenham Italian Society: La mia Città e la mia Regione: Trento in Trentino Mon 11 Nov, 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, Alto Adige (Part II), with Paolo Detassis. Info: cheltenhamitaliansociety.org.uk

The Arts Society Cheltenham: Art and the Industrial Revolution Tue 12 Nov, 7.30 for 8pm guests £7, refundable on joining, Sacred Hearts Hall, with Andrew Spira. Guests please book via Mary Wright 01242 582202. theartsocietycheltenham.org.uk

Leckhampton Local History Society Wed 13 Nov, 7.30pm, visitors £2, Glebe Cottages, Church Road GCHQ: 100 Years in the Making, with Dave Abrutat

Cheltenham German Club: Gustav Klimt; a carefully constructed image? Fri 15 Nov, 7 for 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, with Mike Phillips, in English. Info: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg Arnold 01684 772966

Holst Birthplace Museum: Bake Back in Time Sat 16 Nov, 11am-3pm, Victorian baking on the coal-fired range. Free with an annual admission ticket, a small donation towards refreshments welcome

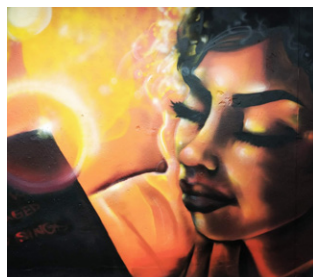
Cercle Français: L'Ouverture du Canal de Suez en 1869 Mon 18 Nov, 7.30pm, St Luke's Church Hall, with Janet McDermott

The Arts Society Cheltenham: Gainsborough: Costume Design Tue 19 Nov, 10 for 10.30am, £7 inc. refreshments, Isbourne House, 3 Wolseley Terrace, with Malcolm Kelsall and Alex Davies. Non-members welcome, info: Alexandra Davies 01242 230294

Holst Birthplace Museum: Knit Your Bit Tue 19 Nov, 2-4pm, spend a cosy few hours in front of our fire knitting and enjoying tea and cake, no need to book. Free with an annual admission ticket, a small donation towards refreshments welcome

Cheltenham Local History Society Tue 19 Nov, 7.30pm, Municipal Offices, Researching 'the Old Man': the story of Cheltenham's Sherborne Street sweeps, with Steven Blake

Prestbury Local History Society: Tradesmen of Prestbury Mon 25 Nov, 7.30pm, Prestbury W.I. Hall, with Neil Pryce-Jones



NEW WORK FROM CHELTENHAM PAINT FESTIVAL

Charlton Kings Local & Family History Society Tue 26 Nov, 7.30pm, Baptist Church, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham Suffragettes movement, with Sue Jones. charltonkings.org.uk

Cheltenham Poetry Society AGM and Members' Writing Group Meeting Tue 26 Nov, further info: 07540 329389 cheltenhampoetrysociety@gmail.com

Cheltenham Festival of Performing Arts: AGM and coffee morning Sat 30 Nov, 10am, Christ Church Hall, Malvern Road, for existing and new volunteers, anyone interested in being involved in the running of the Festival is welcome to join us, in particular we are seeking someone to lead our fund-raising effort as Festival Development Executive

Cercle Français: Soirée amicale Mon 2 Dec, 7.30pm, cheltenhamfrenchcircle.co.uk

Cheltenham Civic Society: Paterson Memorial Lecture Wed 4 Dec, details tbc, please see cheltenhamcivicsociety.org.uk

Cheltenham German Club: Nikolausfeier Fri 6 Dec, 7 for 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, Unterhaltung, kleines Büffett. Info: cheltenhamgermanclub.webs.com or Greg Arnold 01684 772966

A Victorian Family Christmas Sat 7 Dec, free with general admission, Holst Birthplace Museum, join us for a real seasonal treat exploring the Holst house decorated traditionally for Christmas and a range of special activities throughout the day including baking and crafts

Gloucestershire Gardens and Landscape Trust Mon 9 Dec, 7.15pm, £4, non-members £6, St Luke's Church Hall, St Luke's Place, Gardens in my life, with Dominic Cole, ggl.org

Cheltenham Italian Society: Letteratura del Novecento in Puglia Mon 9 Dec, 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, with Maria Ursi Amesbury. Info: cheltenhamitaliansociety.org.uk

Holst Birthplace Museum: Knit Your Bit Tue 10 Dec, 2-4pm, spend a cosy few hours in front of our fire knitting and enjoying tea and cake, no need to book. Free with an annual admission ticket, a small donation towards refreshments welcome

Cheltenham Local History Society Tue 10 Dec, 7.30pm, Municipal Offices, Mistletoe: history, legend, myth and harvesting, with Jonathan Briggs

The Arts Society Cheltenham: Christmas and Covent Garden Tue 10 Dec, 7.30 for 8pm, guests £7, refundable on joining, Sacred Hearts Hall, 300 years of Christmas shows at one of London's greatest theatres, with Sarah Lenton. Guests please book via Mary Wright 01242 582202. theartsocietycheltenham.org.uk

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting Tue 10 Dec, further info: 07540 329389 cheltenhampoetrysociety@gmail.com

Leckhampton Local History Society Wed 11 Dec, 7.30pm, visitors £2, Glebe Cottages, Church Road, Magic Lantern Christmas, Show, with Patrick Furley

The Arts Society Cheltenham: Breathing the air of better company: Jane Austin and Bath Tue 17 Dec, 10 for 10.30am, £7 inc. refreshments, Sacred Hearts Hall, with Adrian Barlow. Non-members welcome, info: Alexandra Davies 01242 230294

Leckhampton Local History Society Wed 8 Jan, 7.30pm, visitors £2, Glebe Cottages, Church Road, Road Travel and Transport in Georgian Gloucestershire, with Nicholas Herbert

Cheltenham Italian Society: Italian Art and Propaganda under Fascism 1922-1943 Mon 13 Jan, 7.30pm, Parmoor House, Lypiatt Terrace, with Giuliana Pieri, in English and Italian. Info: cheltenhamitaliansociety.org.uk

The Arts Society Cheltenham: Fashion from 1940-1950: Utility to Glamour Tue 14 Jan, 7.30 for 8pm, guests £7, refundable on joining, Sacred Hearts Hall, with Dr Kate Straddin. Guests please book via Mary Wright 01242 582202. theartsocietycheltenham.org.uk

The Arts Society Cheltenham: Dublin Architecture Tue 21 Jan, 10 for 10.30am, £7 inc. refreshments, Isbourne House, 3 Wolseley Terrace, lecturer tbc. Non-members welcome, info: Alexandra Davies 01242 230294

Cheltenham Local History Society Tue 21 Jan, 7.30pm, Municipal Offices, The Battle of Tewkesbury, 1471, with Richard Goddard

Cheltenham Poetry Society Members' Writing Group Meeting Tue 28 Jan, further info: 07540 329389 cheltenhampoetrysociety@gmail.com

CHURCHDOWN MALE VOICE CHOIR

FEEDBACK FROM GRANT RECIPIENTS

Treasurer and Membership Secretary Mike Pictor writes:

Churchdown Male Voice Choir is well into its second half-century, having been founded in 1965. In that time the singers have raised thousands of pounds for many worthwhile charities. Only recently, four-figure sums were raised for Guide Dogs for the Blind, and also for the restoration fund for St Mary's, Frampton-on-Severn. By giving audiences enjoyable concerts, the choir is rewarded as much by the knowledge that it is helping others as by the applause it receives.



THE NEW SOUND SYSTEM

everyone will be heading west as Cornish choirs play host and join us in providing entertainment at venues in Falmouth and Penzance.

A good sound system is a key part of the choir's practice and of its presentation. The Musical Director needs to impart his instructions to the singers at rehearsals, and the compère has to enhance performances by keeping the audience involved. The choir was recently awarded a grant from CAC's Trafford Fund towards a new sound system. Chairman Roger Higgs told the choir: "We are extremely grateful to the Cheltenham Arts Council for the money to upgrade our vital equipment."

There is much more to read about the choir on our recently re-vamped website. You can also listen to us on our official YouTube Channel. Or why not check us out in person? The choir is always in need of tenors and basses as members retire or move from the area. Come and give it a try on a Monday night, and help the choir make music, and support good causes, for the next 50 years.

Most Mondays in the year, a rehearsal takes place at the Churchdown Community Centre from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Familiar songs are revised and new ones attempted in order to provide a good variety in readiness for the next public performance. In addition, once a year, coaches take singers and supporters on tour to various parts of the UK, and sometimes abroad. This October,

Find out more about
Churchdown Male Voice Choir at
www.churchdownmvc.org

MUSICA VERA

FEEDBACK FROM GRANT RECIPIENTS

Angela Walker, secretary of Musica Vera, tells us about the amazingly varied programme at a recent choral workshop organized by the choir.

Musica Vera held a most enjoyable and inspiring choral workshop at Bethesda Methodist Church on Saturday 18 May. This event was made possible by a generous grant awarded by Cheltenham Arts Council. The workshop was led by the Choir's Director of Music, David Dewar, and Hilary Davies of the Natural Voice Network.

The afternoon began with David getting everyone on their feet for physical and vocal warm-ups before introducing the singers to different types of choral music. We started with plainsong and looked into some elements of its notation – following this with everyone singing (using plainchant notation) *Qui Creavit Celum*, aka *The Song of the Nuns of Chester*.

In the second session, Hilary introduced us all to Natural Voice techniques. She then taught us a folk song from Dalmatia, Croatia, before getting everyone dancing and singing a traditional South African

song in the Xhosa language. This session enabled everyone to learn pieces without using music notation.

In the final session we started with a setting of the Lord's Prayer in Russian. Then David led the singers through music by Thomas Tallis and Anton Bruckner, explaining as we went along how to make the most of the music by using the right vowel sounds for both music and language together with aspects of ensemble and vocal technique to bring out the intent of the music. We thus were able, in the course of the afternoon, to give everyone some experience of singing in Latin, Croatian, Russian, Xhosa, and English – a challenge to which all rose creditably and with enthusiasm.

The Choir would like to thank everyone who came along on the day, thereby helping to make it such a successful event. The majority of attendees were visitors, so that the Workshop served a larger community of singers in Cheltenham rather than only members of Musica Vera.

www.musicavera.eu



CHELTENHAM GERMAN CLUB

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF EXISTENCE

One of Cheltenham's most popular foreign language clubs is celebrating its 70th birthday in September 2019.

It is not known exactly when the German club first started in Cheltenham, but it is generally assumed that members have been meeting regularly since at least 1949. One of the longest serving members, John Kennet, joined in 1957, became Treasurer in 1960 and was elected Chairman in 1965, then Secretary in 1995. He "retired" in 2010 but remains an active member, having served on the Club's committee for 50 years!

The "Deutsche Klub", as it prefers to be known, organises regular monthly talks

and events covering a wide variety of subjects to do with the German-speaking world. It is perhaps unusual in that the members, who are mainly British, generally converse in German, some fluently, others using as much of their limited knowledge of the language as they can manage.

The German Club might in fact be much older than 70: the club's website reports that in 1935 a solicitor named George Booy attended a meeting of the "German Club". Four years later, in 1939, a wedding party was apparently held at the "Austrian-German club". Does this make it the oldest language club in Cheltenham?



NEW WORK FROM CHELTENHAM PAINT FESTIVAL

SHOWCASE NEEDS NEW OWNERSHIP

CAN YOU HELP?

John and Heather Pannett established Showcase nearly 30 years ago, and are now looking for someone with a similar passion for dance and theatre to take over the business. Their aim has always been to provide excellent service in both the Dancewear and Fancy Dress departments, and they would like this legacy to continue.

Showcase offers an unrivalled range and quality of costumes, and their collection of costume accessories – hats, wigs, dance shoes, make-up and a huge range of extras – give any costume that final flourish.

John and Heather have been involved with amateur theatrical groups for many years, many of them members of Cheltenham Arts Council, for example Promenade Productions, Cotswold Savoyards, and Cheltenham Operatic and Dramatic Society. Their involvement extends beyond the costumes, however, and into directing, choreography and acting. Their links with dance schools,

theatres, theatrical associations and local schools have helped strengthen their business. Over the years they have encouraged and advised many people on theatre and dance, some of whom now perform in West End shows.

The aim of Showcase has been to create a place where you can seek personal advice from trained dance teachers who have even taught some of the present-day leading local dance teachers. John and Heather believe passionately that you must actually try footwear and garments to ensure the correct fit and quality – so important in avoiding damage to your feet.

John and Heather would love to pass on Showcase to new proprietors who could develop the business for the 2020s. If you would like more information, visit www.showcaseonline.co.uk to get a visual idea of what Showcase offers, or call 01242 224144, or email info@showcaseonline.co.uk



SHOWCASE'S JOHN AND HEATHER PANNETT