



ISLE OF MAN *Symphony* ORCHESTRA



NEWSLETTER

June 2024

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Summer has arrived - or has it?!

Greetings to all Members and Friends. I hope you've enjoyed the TT break - just a pity about the disappointing weather. Rehearsals are well underway for our Summer Concert on Saturday, 13th July at QEII High School and Nigel is pleased with our progress. We've already heard Debbie Gooding's lovely solos in Ode to a Nightingale, but have to wait until the week of the concert to hear Clara Falkowska playing the Hummel! Read on for more details.

A Note from Nigel

Dear Players,

Our exciting Summer concert is approaching and I am very encouraged by our rehearsals to date.

For such a well-known symphony as the Brahms First, providing a refreshing new take upon it is a real challenge. It is not only very physically demanding for you and requiring of intense concentration, but a successful and memorable performance requires us to capture the attention of the audience and take them with us on what is an emotionally charged roller-coaster ride.

Your playing to date makes me feel certain we can do it. Keep practicing and building the stamina you'll need for the performance of a lifetime, which is just around the corner!

Cheers

Nigel



Andrew Cole

You will, I'm sure, have noticed that we are minus our 1st Oboe this term. You may not be aware that this is because Andrew is awaiting heart surgery.

We extend our best wishes to Andrew and hope that his treatment is completed as soon as possible. We need you!

Join the Committee ?

You may be aware that Chris Sullivan has stepped down from the Committee due to work pressures. We are grateful for his support and hope he may return sometime in the future.

In the meantime, we would welcome anyone willing to help run IOMSO to join our very friendly group of committee members. Meetings are once every couple of months, so it's not an enormous commitment. It would be lovely if one or two of our younger members would join us. Please let me know if you are interested. (jw-iomso@wm.im)

Concert Dates for your Diaries.

Saturday 13th July : Summer Concert
(Conductor Nigel Harrison)

QEII High School : 7.30pm

Sunday 24th November : Gala Concert
(Conductor Maurice Powell)

Villa Marina : 2.30pm

Sunday 6th April 2025: Concert with IOMCS : Villa Marina : 3pm

Saturday 17th May 2025: Concert with Slaithwaite Philharmonic :

Villa Marina : 7.30pm

(Rehearsal schedule p.2)



Rehearsal Schedule 2024

June 12th, 19th, 26th : St. Johns : 7.30

July 3rd, 10th : St. Johns : 7.30

July 12th (Friday) : QEII : 7.30

July 13th (CONCERT) : QEII : 7.30

**** SUMMER HOLIDAYS ****

Sept 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th : St. Johns : 7.30

Oct 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd : St. Johns : 7.30

*** October 30th : NO REHEARSAL ***

Nov 6th, 13th, 20th : St. Johns : 7.30

Nov 23rd (Sat) : St. Andrew's (t.b.c) : 2.30

Nov 24th (Sunday) : Villa Marina:
10am Rehearsal : 2.30 CONCERT

Nov 27th : St. Johns : 7.30 (AGM at 8.45)

Dec 4th, 11th & 18th : St. Johns : 7.30

*** Dec 25th & Jan 1st : NO REHEARSAL ***



Future Concerts

Exciting things are afoot for the 2024-25 concert season.

Maurice will be back at the helm in September, preparing for his final Gala concert in the Villa on 24th November. He is planning an all British programme : Walton's 'Spitfire Prelude and Fugue', Elgar's 'In the South', Vaughan Williams' 'Dives and Lazarus' and, star of the show, Elgar's Cello concerto with soloist Evva Mizerska. A veritable feast for the ears!

Then on 6th April we will join the IOM Choral Society, conducted by Mandy Griffin. Unusually we start with an orchestral item : Berlioz 'Roman Carnival' overture. The choral works will be Fauré's Requiem, Poulenc's Gloria and a couple of pieces from Carmen!

Our most ambitious concert is the collaboration with Slaithwaite Philharmonic on 17th May, including Britten's 'Young Person's Guide' and Mahler's Symphony no.1. A huge challenge for IOMSO and excitement for the audience.

Summer Concert, QEII High School, Saturday 13th July, 7.30pm. Meet the Soloists

Debbie Gooding : Soprano



Debbie has been singing since she was very young, firstly in the Girls aged 6 to 8 solo in the Manx Music Festival.

Some years later in 2023, she won the coveted Cleveland Medal.

Debbie has also enjoyed numerous appearances on the Gaiety stage in many musical productions with various local companies.

In March this year she was chosen to sing the soprano solos in the Brahms Requiem with the Isle of Man Choral Society.

She was delighted to be invited to sing the soprano solo in Hamilton Harty's 'Ode to a Nightingale' with IOMSO in our July concert.

Clara Falkowska : Trumpet



Clara studied violin from the age of 5 and by the time she was 10 had passed grade 8. She now holds ABRSM diplomas in violin and trumpet. She was a Junior Exhibitioner at

Guildhall School Music and Drama and a Major Music scholar at Westminster School. She has played numerous solos in Westminster Abbey. She played in the NYO for 3 years, playing 1st trumpet in NYO's BBC Proms concert. She also played with the National Youth Music Theatre.

She has worked with acclaimed conductors such as Sir Mark Elder and Edward Gardner.

She studied at Durham University where she performed the Arutiunian Trumpet Concerto. She has performed concertos with various orchestras since then.

She now works as consultant in a Big4 Firm in London, whilst studying to become a lawyer.