



A large and appreciative audience warmly welcomed Stephen Bingham on his return to Banbury School to perform as a soloist with Banbury Symphony Orchestra last week at its first concert of the season.

Having been leader and soloist with the BSO it was appropriate Mr Bingham should perform his first fully-fledged solo engagement since leaving Banbury with his old orchestra.

Mr Bingham left Banbury in the summer to seek his fame and fortune in London as a professional violinist. Having spent the summer at an international summer school in Italy he is now a

## Banbury Symphony Orchestra

full-time student of the violin at the Royal Academy of Music where his professor is the international performer and teacher Emmanuel Hurwitz.

The programme started with a performance of

Beethoven's overture Fidelio in which there was some particularly fine playing from the woodwind and horn sections.

Sibelius' violin concerto presents many technical problems but the orchestra manfully tackled the challenge. Stephen Bingham delivered a sound performance. After some initial hesitation the overall effect was one of confidence and the orchestra and conductor Philip Shaw should be congratulated on their ambitious choice of work and soloist.

● Stephen Bingham is pictured here rehearsing with BSO.