





**Welcome** to the inaugural concert of the Hitchin Chamber Orchestra! We are very pleased that you have been able to come and share this occasion with us.

The formation of a new venture like HCO takes a good deal of hard work and expertise to bring everything seamlessly together; profound thanks then to the steering committee for making it happen and of course to all the players who have rehearsed tonight's programme over a number of weeks, practised their parts and even acquired the colourful clothing you see this evening so that each section of the orchestra can be visually differentiated. (Compare with our colourful logo, for which grateful thanks to Charley Gaidoni, who also designed our eye-catching posters.)

So what is the motivation for all this effort? Principally the love of the music of which there is so much written for the String Orchestra genre and which string players all too rarely get the chance to perform as part of a large ensemble. Besides this there are undoubtedly other important motivators; the pride we share in our town, its community, architecture, gastronomy and great-place-to-live appeal; the friendship and common purpose that grows in and bonds a musical ensemble; the setting and accomplishment of personal goals and aspirations as musicians, to name just a few.

It is our sincere wish that you will truly enjoy tonight's musical offering but also that you will share this occasion with us on many levels, so much so that you will want to support us again in the near future as we seek to develop our contribution to the Hitchin musical scene.

## Mr H's Tea Shop

Inside Hawkins of Hitchin 6 Bucklersbury Hitchin Herts SG5 1BB

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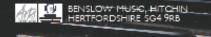
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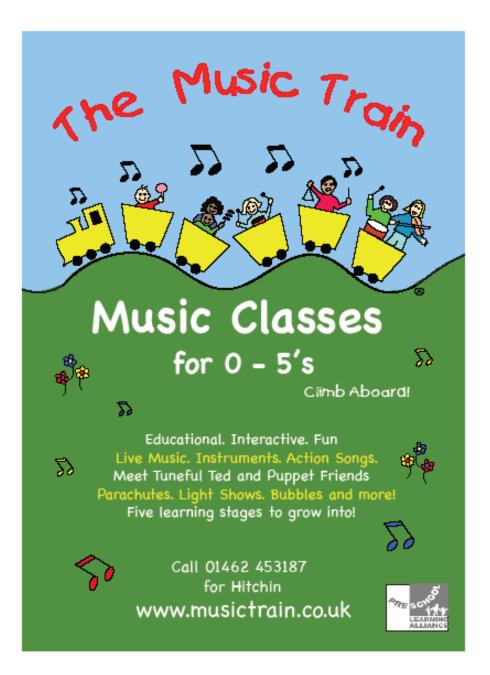
ROSE CONSORT OF VIOLS I SARAH LEONARD

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## Programme

Boyce

Symphony No. 4

Warlock

Capriol Suite

Vivaldi

Autumn - Four Seasons Soloist - Nick Evans-Pughe

Interval

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**Elgar**Serenade for Strings

Grieg

Elegiac Melodies

**Grainger** *Molly on the Shore* 

Follow us:





Hitchin Chamber Orchestra



## Musicians

1st Violin Nick Evans-Pughe, Karenza Nutley, Harriet Hallas, Janine Burns Hannah Whiffen, Helen Lord, Claire Humphries, Jo Hughes

2nd Violin Ros Boswell, Tom Ayres, Ros Woodin, Amanda Freshwater
Ting Kuei, Sally Wall

Viola Vanessa Gaidoni, Naomi Morris, Emily Clark, Paul Reynard

'Cello Jane Stott, Molly Parsons-Gurr, Isobel Smith, Catriona Bevan

Double Bass Janet Tothill



**Nick Evans-Pughe** (LRAM; PGDip) was a scholar student of violin at the Royal Academy of Music, studying with Howard Davis, Diana Cummings, Sidney Griller and members of the Amadeus Quartet.

His freelance orchestral and chamber music career (previously Glyndebourne Opera; English Sinfonia, String and Symphony Orchestras; London Festival Orchestra; Live Music Now! and many others) takes him to venues throughout the UK and Europe.

Nick performs locally with the Pegari Trio and with his accompanist Nigel Yandell and now also with the newly formed Hitchin Chamber Orchestra.

He has a flourishing private teaching practice (<u>www.violinstudio.org</u>) as well as providing tuition and ensemble direction in local education authority and private schools.

Nick plays a violin made in the early  $19^{th}$  century by Thomas Dodd, a fine example of his work. It is loaned to him by a benefactor whose generosity is gratefully acknowledged.

Our Next Concert - March 12th 2016

Check on our website for details: http://www.hitchinchamberorchestra.org

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Symphony no.4 by William Boyce Boyce, a contemporary of Handel, had a set of eight symphonies published in 1760, together representing the composer's best known works. It was originally cast as the Overture to the pastoral opera The Shepherd's Lottery which opened at Drury Lane Theatre in 1751. Its three movements are scored for strings, bassoons and horns, however a pair of intrepid cellists will be taking care of the wind parts tonight!

Capriol Suite by Peter Warlock This is Warlock's most celebrated work, which he arranged for string orchestra in 1926, it having started out as a piano duet. It is based on French Renaissance dance melodies and there are six movements: Basse Danse, Pavane, Tordion, Bransles, Pieds en L'air (not a melody as such but an instruction for dancers to 'move their feet so gently that they hardly touch the floor'!) and Mattachins (a Sword Dance).

'Autumn' from The Seasons by Antonio Vivaldi In three movements: Allegro - Peasant Dance and Song; Adagio Molto - Sleeping Drunkards!; Allegro - The Hunt. This well-known early example of "programme music" closely and wittily follows the story of a poem probably written by Vivaldi himself:

Allegro	Adagio Molto	Allegro
The peasant celebrates with song and dance the harvest safely gathered in.  The cup of Bacchus flows freely, and many find their relief in deep slumber.	The singing and the dancing die away as cooling breezes fan the pleasant air, inviting all to sleep without a care.	The hunters emerge at dawn,
		ready for the chase,
		with horns and dogs and cries.
		Their quarry flees while they give chase.
		Terrified and wounded, the prey struggles on,
		but, harried, dies.
		(Translation from baroquemusic.org)

Serenade for Strings op.20 by Edward Elgar Elgar's earliest work to have become well known, it received its first public performance in 1892. There are three movements containing much that can be identified as the composer's mature style.

**Two Elegiac Melodies op.34 by Edvard Grieg** *The Norwegian composer's first string orchestra work, transcriptions of two of his own songs set to poems by Aasmund Vinje, 'Heart-wounds' and 'Last Spring'. They were written just a few years before Elgar's Serenade.* 

Molly on the Shore by Percy Grainger Written in 1907, this intriguing music, based on two Irish Reels woven together - Molly on the Shore and Temple Hill - reflects Grainger's interest in the folk music genre and his quest for musical freedom in his composition.