

## DIDN'T WE DO WELL?



Two years in the planning, and as the climax of the Norwich Phil's 175th Anniversary celebrations, our mega performance of **Mahler's epic 8th Symphony** at the Norfolk Showground Arena as part of the Norfolk & Norwich Festival was a total triumph. A vast agricultural shed was transformed into a concert hall for over 2,200 with a stage specially built for 450 performers - a huge orchestra, massed choirs and 8 soloists, not to mention 4 keyboards, mandolins and off-stage brass. It was a mammoth undertaking and pretty stressful at times but the reward was having a standing ovation from almost 2,000 people at the end. Their rapturous applause said it all. Well done everyone and in particular our esteemed Maestro Matt Andrews! So many people helped to make this astonishing event happen, too many to list here (but thank you all), but one person in particular deserves special mention. Without the tireless efforts of Mike Nutt, this concert simply wouldn't have happened: grant applications, venue arrangements, staging, seating and AV, instrument hire, workshops, publicity, liaising with the N&N Festival, and bringing the whole chaotic jigsaw together was an amazing achievement. Thank you Mike!

### Congratulations!

After the concert we received many messages of congratulations. Here are just a few:

*What an achievement! Congratulations.*

William Galinsky, Norfolk & Norwich Festival

*It was quite stunning last night. A major musical achievement, and something that will ever live in the memory of those who were there. It was a terrific organisational feat as well, and looked so smooth!* Peter Lawson, Chairman, Making Music

*What a great night! I hope that you did manage to enjoy it, after the supreme effort that you and the team put in to making it happen.* Greg Smith, CEO, RNAA

*Many, many congratulations on the stupendous arrangements and Mahler performance last night - a truly memorable occasion in every way and very fitting celebration of the Phil's 175th.* Roger Rowe, Norwich & Norfolk Chamber Music

*Dear Team, Just a quick one to say how much I salute your vision and guts to take on and magnificently deliver tonight's challenge! I think everyone involved will want to say 'I was there!' after such a memorable evening. Hugely well done and what a fantastic way to end the 175th celebrations - thank you! What shall we do next - invade Scotland??*

David Dunnett, Conductor N Phil Chorus

### Comments from the Performers

*The whole thing was incredible and an experience that I won't forget.* Anna Hopkins, NPO

*I think we all realised at that Friday rehearsal when it all came together that we would be part of something amazing and we certainly were!* Fiona Ross, KLFC

*I think the standing ovation said it all.... it was truly life-enhancing.* Mike Bishop, NPC

*Mahler 8 has long been a bucket list piece for me. Thank-you for turning a dream into a reality.* Andrew Cane, AST

*It will be an experience I shall treasure for the rest of my life.* Susanna Manrique, NPO

### Norwich Phil AGM

**Wednesday 22nd June, Assembly Rooms, 7.30pm**

A bar for refreshments will be open from 7pm.

Following the main business there will be a performance by the extremely talented

**Norfolk Centre for Young Musicians Jazz band and Saxophone Ensemble**

**Please come along and support your Society!**



## Choir News



A fantastic 175 season, enjoyed by all, culminating with the **Birthday concert** which literally went with a bang.

The 175th season also saw the introduction

of **pashminas** for the ladies. Love them or not they certainly bring a splash of colour to the stage. Many members also took part in the Mozart requiem **Come and Sing** at the cathedral in October, to raise money for Pricilla Bacon Lodge and their counterpart in Ethiopia. David Dunnett took us through our paces and we had a terrific performance in the evening to a very appreciative audience.

Finally, **Mahler**, hours of rehearsal, a fantastic workshop with John, Debbie and the wonderful Norbert, welcoming other choirs... the performance. All in all an absolute blast!

Thanks to Librarian Chris, our checkout/check in girl! And to our juice ladies, Alison and Caroline who keep us hydrated week after week.

Tim 'fingers' Patient you are a legend behind the piano! And to David, the ultimate CHOIR MASTER. Thank you. Well done to all members and thank you for your total commitment to the Phil!



Choir Mahler Workshop



Pashminas



## SUBS ARE GOING UP

After careful consideration, the Phil Committee has decided to increase the annual member subscription of the Society by £2 to £67 per year.

## Social News

It was a busy season socialising. The **Annual Quiz** in January was the largest yet. Thanks as ever to Paul and Steph for their challenging questions that certainly get the brain cells working.

The **175th Lunch** at the Assembly House was a sell out. 40 guests were treated to delicious food and drink, and the event was rounded off with Roger Rowe speaking to us about the history of the Phil in Norwich.

The glittering **Ball** in the music room at the Assembly House was a great success, even with lower than expected ticket sales. Members dined on 5-star food washed down by excellent wines. They danced the night away to the terrific band, The Fuzz, who said we were the best sing-along audience they had ever had!!!



175th Anniversary Lunch



Cheery smiles from the 175th Anniversary Ball



## Congratulations to the Orchestra team

John Halliday, Patrick Furniss, Judy Tryggvason, Andrew Ansell, Andy Newman, Carmella Furniss, Vivien Rose and Becky Newman, who won the Phil's Quiz and Chips 2016.

## Programme for next season

Our 2016-17 Season promises to be another corker:

- 5 November **Sibelius** En Saga  
**Vaughan Williams** A Sea Symphony
- 10 December **Smetana** Sárka (from Ma Vlast)  
**Korngold** Violin Concerto  
(Zoe Beyers, Violin)  
**Dvorak** Symphony No 5
- 20 December **Family Christmas Concert**
- 4 February **Rachmaninov** Caprice Bohemien  
**Copland** Clarinet Concerto  
(Matt Hunt, clarinet)  
**Shostakovich** Symphony No. 12  
'The Year 1917'
- 18 March **Haydn** The Seasons  
(with a second performance in Koblenz)

## MAHLER DVD

With a camera in place to relay images to TV monitors at the rear of the hall, we were fortunate to have our epic performance of Mahler 8 at the Showground Arena recorded. This will be available on a special souvenir DVD only for those who took part in the performance. Copies are on a strictly 'one copy per person' basis (they will be made available separately to our guest choirs and instrumentalists). Available at rehearsals next season.

## KEEP IN THE LOOP ONLINE

We have 2 Facebook pages:  
Our private group (ask to join)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/196375054156/>

Our public group  
<https://www.facebook.com/NorwichPhil/>

Follow us on Twitter  
@norwich\_phil  
[https://twitter.com/norwich\\_phil](https://twitter.com/norwich_phil)

And check the Phil website regularly for important updates  
<http://www.norwichphil.org.uk/>

## DON'T FORGET

Next Season first rehearsals are:

Choir: **Tuesday 6th September**

Orchestra: **Tuesday 20th September**

The first orchestra rehearsal is a Repertoire Night - this year *Korngold The Sea Hawk Suite* and *Copland Billy the Kid Suite* to get us in the mood for our two concertos this season.

## New Season Brochure



The brochure for the 2016-17 Season is due out this week. Get one at the AGM on 22 June, or at rehearsals starting in the Autumn.

Please help to promote our concerts in any way you can using the brochure and our leaflets; tell your friends, post images of the concert leaflets on Facebook and Twitter. Link to the brochure on the website so people can download it, put leaflets on notice boards at work. Publicising our concerts is essential.

The brochure is also available for download now at <http://www.norwichphil.org.uk/docs/NPSBrochure2016-17.pdf>

## Philharmonia recital a real treat

Following the Orchestra's Mahler workshops with the Philharmonia Orchestra, we were treated to an evening of chamber music delights performed by Philharmonia members at the United Reform Church in Princes Street. Where did they find the energy?

Nathaniel Anderson-Frank (violin), Karen Stephenson (cello), Jordan Black (clarinet). Katy Woolley (horn) and Helen Crayford (piano) performed music by Milhaud, Lars-Erik Larsson, Rachmaninov, Stravinsky, Elgar, Saint-Saens and Beethoven. They played exquisitely, and we are extremely grateful for all their efforts.





## MAHLER MEMORIES

A few photos from the Mahler 8 concert and related events



David Dunnett and the Norwich Cathedral Children's Choir



Strings at the Philharmonia Workshops

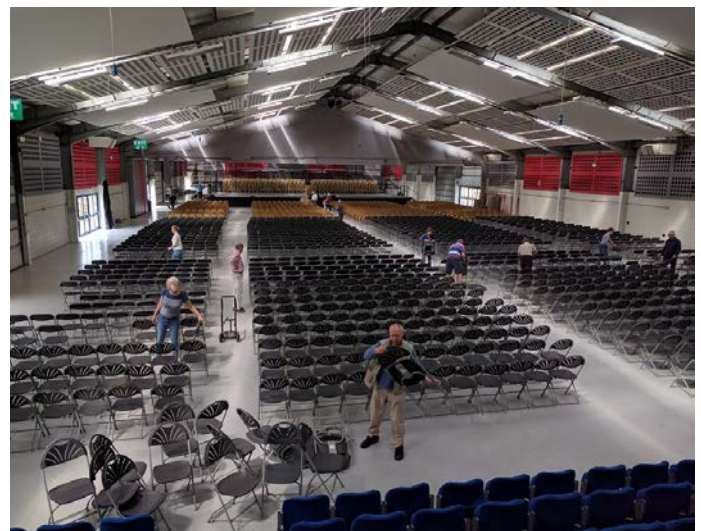


Brass Workshop with the Philharmonia

## NCYO

### Mahler Workshop with the Norwich Phil

In January, the Norfolk County Youth Orchestra Workshop on **Mahler's First Symphony** was a great success and gave around 60 youngsters a rare opportunity to play a large scale Mahler work. Led by the Phil's Orchestral Conductor, Matthew Andrews, and joined by many members of the Phil who played alongside the young players it proved to be an amazing and stimulating occasion. Well done to all who took part.



'That' Hall, with enthusiastic volunteers at work



Choir waiting to go on