



# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

## *Press Release*

### **Vale Royal String Orchestra Feature Local soloist for Strings at St Peters**

**7.30 pm Saturday 10th June 2017**

The Vale Royal String Orchestra's summer concert will be held in the wonderful and intimate acoustic of St Peter's Church, Little Budworth as the last event of their concert season. It will be directed by Richard Adamson. The concert includes a diverse selection of music from Mozart to John Rutter.



Catriona Scott, who grew up in Little Budworth, will be the soloist in Gerald Finzi's Bagatelles. The Bagatelles comprise 5 pieces that are the very essence of English Music. They were first performed as clarinet and piano at the National Gallery in January 1943 in the midst of war torn London.

Catriona studied music at St Hilda's College, Oxford and won several prizes and scholarships while studying for her Masters (with Distinction) and the PPRNCM at the Royal Northern College of Music.

Catriona will also play a further piece by Baermann who was virtuoso clarinetist at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Baermann influenced Weber to write his two Clarinet concertos which are still major works of the clarinet repertoire today.



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Speaking about the concert, Catriona said, 'I am greatly looking forward to performing again with Vale Royal Strings in the lovely church of St Peter's, Little Budworth. The beautifully melodic Adagio is perfectly written for the instrument by clarinettist composer Heinrich Baermann. The delightful Five Bagatelles are essentially Finzi's 'songs without words' (the virtuosic fifth Bagatelle was added after the first performance), and even though Finzi said of them, "they *are* only trifles", they are a mainstay of the clarinet repertoire, loved by performers, student clarinettists and audiences alike.'

The programme includes John Rutter's Suite for Strings which is a tuneful four movement piece based familiar English Folk Melodies.

Mozart is represented with his popular divertimento K136 followed by Grieg's Elegiac melodies. These are transcriptions of two moving songs, 'The Wounded Heart' and 'The Last Spring' which are characteristic of Scandinavia.

The concert concludes with Douglas Lilburn's Diversions for Strings, was written in 1947. Lilburn is one of New Zealand's foremost composers. He studied at the Royal College, London under Vaughan Williams. The work has five short movements which are direct in style and form, with alternating moods that the composer describes respectively as "light, nostalgic, satirical, sentimental, and tossed-off."

The VRSO was founded in 1993 by Margaret Parks-Smith and David Whalley. It's members are primarily dedicated amateurs who love music and love entertaining the audience. The Orchestra rehearses at Appleton Thorne Village Hall. Profits will be donated to St Peter's Church.

Full details of the Orchestra and excerpts from numerous previous concerts are on the Orchestra's web site, [www.valeroyalstringorchestra.co.uk](http://www.valeroyalstringorchestra.co.uk)

Tickets are £12 (School age children £6) and are available from John and Rosemary Scott, 01829 760604 or Andrew Ball, 01606 593260 ([martonsands@gmail.com](mailto:martonsands@gmail.com)) and at the door. Cheques payable to Little Budworth PCC.



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## Detailed notes for the editor

See below for the publicity flyer- photos attached as part of the email.



VALE ROYAL STRING  
ORCHESTRA

## Strings at St Peter's



SUITE FOR STRINGS  
RUTTER

ADAGIO FOR CLARINET  
BAERMANN

BAGATELLES FOR  
CLARINET  
FINZI  
Soloist **Catriona Scott**

DIVERTIMENTO K136  
MOZART

ELEGIAC MELODIES  
GRIEG

DIVERSIONS  
LILBURN

**Richard Adamson** Conductor

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017**  
**7.30pm**

**St Peter's Church,**  
Little Budworth, CW6 9BY



Tickets: £12 (School Age Children £6) :

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# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

CATRIONA SCOTT *Clarinet*

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Described by the *Daily Telegraph* as ‘the excellent soloist’, Catriona is a busy soloist and chamber musician. She has played live on BBC Radio 3, and her many festival engagements have included Aldeburgh, Cheltenham, and Presteigne (where she has performed as a featured artist several times). She has performed concerti by James Francis Brown (written especially for her in 2008), Crusell, Finzi (with Vale Royal String Orchestra), Goldschmidt, Hoddinott, Mozart, Joseph Phibbs and Weber.

An advocate of contemporary music, she has premièred and recorded many works written especially for her by composers including Cheryl Frances-Hoad, Cecilia McDowall and David Matthews. Catriona read Music at St Hilda’s College, Oxford, and won several prizes and scholarships whilst studying for a Masters (with Distinction) at the Royal Northern College of Music. Her teachers included Thea King, John Bradbury and Chris Swann.

In addition to her performances, Catriona teaches at the University of Bristol and schools in Oxfordshire, and delivers education workshops for the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building. In her spare time she is a keen runner and has completed seven marathons in various European cities.



# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

Richard Adamson - **Conductor**,



Born in 1985 in St. Asaph, North Wales, Richard learned piano from an early age and was Head Chorister at St. Asaph Cathedral where he sang regularly for sixteen years. It was here that he first conducted at the age of 14, filling in for the organist before a permanent appointment was made. After singing in a performance of Fauré's Requiem at the age of 16, he decided play the viola and began studying the instrument which he still plays in orchestras around the country. In the sixth form, his music teacher suggested that he conduct an instrumental ensemble, and he has been conducting ever since.

In 2003 he went to Downing College, Cambridge to read music. He sang in Trinity College Chapel Choir under Richard Marlow's direction and began to study conducting. After graduating, he gained a Masters Degree in Composition from the Royal Northern College of Music in 2009 where he combined his principal studies with further lessons in conducting, singing and viola.

He has worked as a peripatetic violin and viola teacher, conducted Wrexham Symphony Orchestra, was Principal Conductor of Oswestry Sinfonia, and continues to conduct several instrumental and vocal ensembles. He is conductor of the annual performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion in Tremeirchion, which celebrated its fifty-first performance in March 2015 and regularly conducts Crosby Symphony and Chester Philharmonic Orchestras.



# *VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA*

Richard lives in Lancaster, where he continues to compose, and is always keen to introduce people to classical music. He is now a qualified yoga teacher, teaching classes in and around Lancaster, maths teacher, lecturing for the University of Cumbria, and a care worker at a local school. He believes that music is still as relevant to people's lives today as any art, from any period of history.

## **Vale Royal String Orchestra**

The Vale Royal String Orchestra was founded in 1993 by Margaret Parks-Smith and David Whalley with Robert Hull as our resident conductor, Bob chose to hang up his baton in 2003. and we subsequently enjoyed playing under the direction of Richard Howarth for the following 6 years. Again, we were sad to lose an excellent conductor but Richard could no longer include our infrequent rehearsals in his increasingly busy conducting schedule. Tim Crooks held the baton until the 2010-2011 season.

Our season is divided into two 8 rehearsal periods. Louise Latham conducts the first period and this year Daniel Parkinson will conduct the second which will feature the Malcolm Arnold flute concerto with a further soloist from the RNCM.

Membership of the Orchestra is by Subscription to cover general costs with concert profits, after direct costs, to charities. Sponsorship is very welcome.