The East Anglian Branch of the Elgar Society meets approximately eight times per year on Saturday afternoons, for illustrated talks on Elgar-related subjects by musicians, writers and Elgarian experts. The usual venue is the Lecture Room at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in the centre of Bury St Edmunds. Entrance is free and all are welcome, Elgar Society members and visiting music-lovers alike.

The Elgar Society, a registered charity, was founded in 1951 to honour the memory of Sir Edward Elgar and promote interest in his life and music. It is the largest society devoted to a British composer, with more than 1300 members worldwide: musicians and music-lovers alike. Three times a year they receive the Society’s Journal, containing the latest Elgar research, and the more general Elgar Society News.

As well as supporting the Elgar Birthplace Museum at Broadheath, near Worcester (to which members have the benefit of free entry) and its important collection of manuscripts and documents, the Elgar Society works with educational establishments to broaden knowledge of Elgar’s music, and it encourages academic research. The Society gives financial and practical support to encourage performances of those Elgar works which are unjustly neglected or costly to perform. It also funds recordings, with the aim that every work should be professionally recorded. It has set up a charitable company to bring to fruition The Elgar Society Edition, a complete scholarly collection of the composer’s music.

In 1971 a London Branch was established, followed by further regional and international branches. They enable Elgar Society members, who might not otherwise meet, to learn more about Elgar and share their enthusiasm for his music with each other and the wider public, via talks and social events. After a gap of some years the East Anglian Branch was re-established in 2011 and is now thriving. New members are always welcome; if you like the music of Elgar why not pay us a visit?
Saturday 2 March 2013, 2.30 p.m. Leslie Olive
*Conducting Elgar's oratorios*
The founder and principal conductor of Reigate Summer Music Festival and Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra brings the insight of one who has trained choirs in, and conducted, Elgar’s three greatest religious works for over twenty years.

Saturday 6 April 2013, 2.30 p.m. Stuart Freed
*Composers' Choice*
The Vice-Chairman of the Elgar Society presents the results of a survey of some of today’s British composers, requesting their personal choice of Elgar’s music with a selection from their own catalogue.

Saturday 4 May 2013, 2.30 p.m. Paul Bassett
*W. H. (‘Billy’) Reed*
The Chairman of the Scottish Branch of the Elgar Society explores the career of the violinist and composer who was one of Elgar’s closest friends and confidants in the musical profession.

Saturday 1 June 2013, 2.30 p.m. Christopher Moore
*Elgar and the organ*
Following a talk about Elgar’s organ music, the Assistant Director of Music at the civic church of Ipswich, St Mary-le-Tower, performs Elgar’s great Organ Sonata on the new Harrison & Harrison organ (2010) in St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

Saturday 6 July 2013, 2.30 p.m. Prof. Julian Rushton
*Elgar’s Caractacus*
The former editor of the *Elgar Society Journal* and Emeritus Professor of Music at the University of Leeds discusses Elgar’s cantata on the subject of a notable East Anglian, Caractacus, King of the Catuvellauni.