THE ELGAR SOCIETY

Founded 1951
President: Sir Mark Elder, C.H., C.B.E.
Registered Charity No. 258962

THE Elgar Society was founded to honour the memory of Sir Edward Elgar and promote interest in his life and music. The largest society devoted to a British composer, it has more than one thousand members worldwide, musicians and music lovers. Three times a year members receive the Society’s Journal, containing the latest research on Elgar’s life and music, and the Elgar Society News. Other benefits are free admission to The Firs, Elgar birthplace near Worcester, and membership of the Society’s branches.

Subscriptions and members’ legacies fund the Society’s activities. It supports academic research and works with schools and colleges to broaden knowledge of Elgar’s music. Via its ‘Elgar in Performance’ scheme it gives financial and practical aid to encourage performances of those Elgar works which are unjustly neglected or costly to perform, and to foster interest abroad in his music. It aims to ensure that all Elgar’s compositions be professionally recorded. The Society has set up a charitable company to bring to fruition the Elgar Complete Edition, a scholarly collection of all the composer’s music in forty-three volumes. It also makes scores and orchestral sets available for sale and for hire.

THE ELGAR SOCIETY

East Anglian Branch

The East Anglian Branch of the Elgar Society meets on Saturday afternoons seven or eight times each year for illustrated talks by visiting writers, musicians and Elgarian experts on subjects related to the life and music of Elgar, his associates and musical contemporaries. There is no charge for admission, but donations are welcomed towards the running costs of the branch. Visitors and potential new members are always welcome; if you like the music of Elgar why not pay us a visit?

Unless otherwise stated, meetings are held in the Edmund Room at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds, centrally located within East Anglia and with good transport links. From the entrance on Angel Hill go down the steps, along the cloister and through the doorway on the right to find the staircase and lift up to the Edmund Room.

For more information please contact the Branch Secretary, Dr Christopher Wiltshire. telephone: 01473 254 940; e-mail: east.anglia@elgar.org

First year’s membership free

To welcome those joining the Society they may enjoy free membership for up to twelve months, depending when in the year they join. Further details, and an application form, are available from the East Anglian Branch Secretary and also from the Society’s website:

www.elgar.org

THE ELGAR SOCIETY

East Anglian Branch

2019–2020 Programme
The East Anglian Elgar Society

PROGRAMME 2019–2020
All meetings are held in the Edmund Room (Lecture Room), St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Saturday 14 September 2019, 2.30 p.m.
JULIAN RUSHTON
The Black Knight
ELGAR'S FIRST SYMPHONY

ALTHOUGH described as a cantata by its publisher, Novello, Elgar regarded The Black Knight as a symphony for chorus and orchestra. It is an early work but contains much that is unmistakably Elgarian. We are fortunate to have as our guide Julian Rushton, a distinguished musicologist who has also contributed a good deal to Elgar research and performance. He is Emeritus West Riding Professor of Music at the University of Leeds and the former editor of the Elgar Society Journal.

Saturday 19 October 2019, 2.30 p.m.
CHRISTOPHER WILTSHIRE
Elgar as we knew him
PART III

THIS is the final compilation of recorded voices of those people who knew or were acquainted with the composer, collected by Christopher Wiltshire, secretary of the East Anglian branch. It is a remarkable experience to listen to the voices of Elgar’s contemporaries.

Saturday 8 February 2020, 2.30 p.m.
RICHARD EDGAR-WILSON
‘Use well the interval’
PERFORMING GERONTIUS
PRECEDED BY THE BRANCH A.G.M. AT 1.00

RICHARD Edgar-Wilson is a local man, born and living in Ipswich. He has become an internationally known tenor soloist with an impressive list of performances and recordings. He regularly undertakes the role of Gerontius. It will be fascinating to learn about the rewards and challenges for the soloist in performance.

Saturday 21 March 2020, 2.30 p.m.
MARTIN PASSANDE
‘That sweet borderland’
ELGAR AND HEREFORD

ELGAR lived in Hereford for eight years but had close connections with the city for most of his life. The title of this talk is that which adorns Martin Passande’s booklet on the subject. He has lived in Hereford and is a long-standing member of the Elgar Society. He served as chairman of the London branch and his service has been recognized by the award of honorary membership.

Saturday 18 July 2020, 2.30 p.m.
PHILIP REED
Elgar & Benjamin Britten

ON the face of it, Elgar and Britten would appear to have little in common. Indeed Britten’s early diaries suggest no affinity. Relative!

Paul Spicer is a leading choral conductor and scholar. He has written and published extensively about British twentieth-century music and made many highly regarded recordings with a range of choral groups, including the Finzi Singers.

Saturday 20 June 2020, 2.30 p.m.
P AUL SPICER
Gerald Finzi

FINZI is one of those sometimes underrated British composers who have gradually become better known and more often performed. He was a remarkable polymath and interesting character who died too young.

Paul Spicer is a leading choral conductor and scholar. He has written and published extensively about British twentieth-century music and made many highly regarded recordings with a range of choral groups, including the Finzi Singers.