



*Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year
from the Eynsford Concert Band*

Dates for your diary

Sunday 18th April 2010
Mick Jagger Centre

Friday 27th August 2010
1812 Night at Swanley Park

5th December 2010
Christmas Celebration
St Nicholas Church Sevenoaks

Sunday 12th December 2010
Christmas Concerts
Mick Jagger Centre

Wow, what a year! For Eynsford Concert Band, 2009 has been a year of new music, new friends and a new CD.

To say that we have had a busy year would be an understatement. We embarked upon the year knowing that we would have a new piece written for us by Nigel Clarke and a CD to record in October. Little did we know of the new milestones of achievement that the band would attain on the way.

2010 looks to be just as exciting. January will see our new CD 'hit the streets' and the date for our spring concert at the Mick Jagger Centre is already in the diary. In addition, we are currently finalising our plans for a trip to Brussels in October to meet-up with our new friends and perform our new music...

New Music

Heritage Suite (What Hope Saw) has been written for and is dedicated to John Hutchins and the members of Eynsford Concert Band by Dr. Nigel Clarke, one of the UK's leading composers.

New Friends

The band is very fortunate to have as a good friend, Dr. Nigel Clarke. Nigel is one of this country's leading composers, having won many awards and accolades. He has recently been appointed resident composer to HM Grenadier Guards. Nigel has also produced many film scores.

Martin Westlake is currently Secretary General of the European Economic and Social Committee and a good friend of Nigel's. Martin is also a budding poet and we were delighted that he undertook the commission to write a poem to accompany Nigel's new Suite. He is now helping us arrange our trip to Brussels next year.

We are extremely grateful to Nigel and Martin for all of their hard work and guidance during our project together.



This new and exciting suite for symphonic wind band celebrates the colourful history of West Malling based on the statue of "Hope" which was recently erected in the town centre.

The statue is of a running woman with the rich tapestry of West Malling's past depicted on her cloak as it billows out behind her.

Heritage Suite is a six-movement work that focuses on the eight detailed images sculpted by Sarah Cunnington.

To give the Suite a sense of unity, musical ideas from

previous movements reappear in unexpected places implying that history often repeats itself! - it also hints at a number of familiar pieces from England's rich musical heritage.

To accompany this new piece, a specially commissioned poem, written by Martin Westlake, delves further into the history of West Malling and emphasises just how privileged we are to be associated with the launch of a new Suite that will be performed by symphonic wind bands around the world.



Every year the Band selects a charity to support through donations from concerts and social events. This year I am very pleased that the band has been able to help a charity close to my heart - Spadework.

Spadework is an independent charity which provides tuition for adults with learning difficulties.

This year has been a busy and challenging year for us and we are proud to have raised over £3,500 for local charities. We raised over £700 at our charity concert in July. Following this, our world Premiere performance of Heritage Suite (What Hope Saw) at the Pilsdon community, West Malling, raised £2,000 which was shared equally between the Pilsdon community and Spadework.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in helping raise these much needed funds, the charity work we undertake has become a major part of the band's work.

On behalf of the Charities, thank you all so much for your generous support and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Brian Bennett.



World Premiere Performance

The World Premiere of Heritage Suite (What Hope Saw) was, rather aptly, in West Malling. The Tithe Barn is a magnificent 500 year old structure which used to be part of the nunnery that was founded nearly a thousand years ago - a fantastic venue to tell a musical story of this beautiful Kentish town.

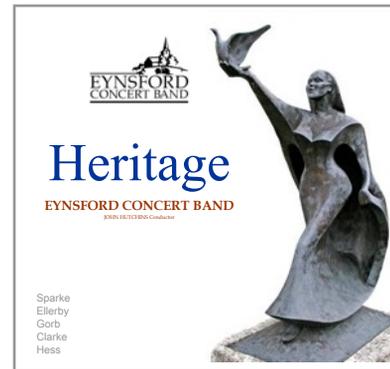
Adding to the sense of occasion, it was wonderful to see the ladies of the band in long evening dresses. The hall was full and the lighting man had done an excellent job to bathe the stone walls in multi-coloured light.

We were honoured that both Nigel Clarke and Martin Westlake joined us for the concert. Martin read his poem to set the scene and Nigel followed with a short introduction to his Suite. We then did our best to justify the many, many hours of hard work that Nigel had put into the writing and editing of his new work or art.

If we were to judge by the audience's reception and of Nigel's reaction, then the performance was a great success.

New CD

In October the band finalised its fourth recording – a CD entitled 'Heritage'. The CD features five works by living British composers, including the world's first recording of our specially commissioned piece by Nigel Clarke. The other works featured are 'Albion Heritage' by Philip Sparke; 'Paris Sketches' by Martin Ellerby; 'Thames Journey' by Nigel Hess and 'Yiddish Dances' by Adam Gorb.



For your event

The excitement and beauty of our music can transform your event into a very memorable occasion.

We are happy to play anything from Bach to Big Band, with music that will appeal to young and old alike.

If you would like a spectacular finale to your evening, then few things go down as well as a fireworks display!

If you would like further information, then please contact Paul Gould on 07506 679015 or by email at

enquiry@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk

For three intensive days the band gathered in the Mick Jagger Centre in Dartford to complete the recording, supported by the skills of Tom and Will from Prozone Music. The recording is in final production and will be ready for sale in January. We are very excited about it and very much hope you like it!



The CD will cost £10 (plus £1.50 P&P). To pre-order your copy, please send an email enquiry@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk

Players needed

We are very pleased that the Band is close to having a full complement of players. However, we continue to have vacancies in the French Horn, Percussion and String Bass sections.

If you know anyone who would like to join us, then please ask them to contact Paul Gould on 07506 679015 or by email at enquiry@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk

Become a Friend

Get regular updates via email, including advance notice of performances, charity events and social occasions plus first choice of tickets before they go on sale to the general public.

If you would like to become a Friend, then let us know by contacting Clare Evans on 07799 641906 or by email at friends@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk