

THE
BAND
OF THE
GRENADIER GUARDS
AND
EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

“BOND OF FRIENDSHIP”

A TRIBUTE TO OUR ARMED FORCES

7.00PM SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2013

IN SUPPORT OF SSAFA,
THE SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN AND
FAMILIES ASSOCIATION

PAMOJA HALL
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KENT



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The Band of the Grenadier Guards



King Charles II restored not only Monarchy to England but patronage of the arts, not least by laying the foundations of the Grenadier Guards Band when he commissioned 12 hautbois (early oboe) players to the First Regiment of Foot Guards in 1685. The Regiment was to become known as the Grenadier Guards after their victory on the battle field at Waterloo.

The Grenadier Guards Band has been filling the streets of London with music and colour for over three centuries, a truly historic sound and sight. It is symbolic and emblematic of London and our nation's history. The Band has served 15 monarchs over 325 years with dedication and pride. It has been present at all the major royal occasions: births, coronations, weddings and funerals.

The band has been a witness to all London's key historic events both tragic and joyful. It raised morale during the darkest hours of the Second World War and its uplifting music ushered in a new beginning at the Coronation of our present Queen.

Throughout its long history the band has travelled abroad frequently. The first recorded visit was in 1701 when William III took three hautbois from the regiment with him on his visit to the Netherlands. Subsequent visits included Paris in 1815 after the Battle of Waterloo, Boston in 1872 and more recently Australia, the United States of America and Canada. There have also been performances in most countries in Western Europe.

The British Grenadiers march is one of the most recognizable and memorable tunes in the world, part of our musical heritage. One of the band's admirers during the 18th century was George Fredrick Handel. He demonstrated his admiration by presenting the march from *Scipio* to the regiment before he included it in his opera of that name when it was first performed in 1726.

Throughout Britain's history the music of the Grenadier Guards has been the backdrop to our national life and identity. It represents our constancy, dignity and artistry.

The Eynsford Concert Band

is a symphonic wind ensemble that has been based in the small Kentish village of Eynsford since 1972. The band has around 50 musicians, attracting players from all over the South East of England and retains a core of long-standing members. The band is firmly rooted in its community and every year raises substantial amounts for local charities.

ECB has gained an international reputation having toured Austria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ireland, Netherlands, Malta, Spain, the Fjords of Norway and Belgium as well as an extremely successful cruise of the Mediterranean. The band has recorded 3 CDs, proudly releasing *Heritage* in January 2010, featuring a Suite by Nigel Clarke written especially for the band. The band celebrated its 40th Anniversary in 2012.

Over the past couple of years, ECB has been supporting The Malling School in Kent with instrumental workshops encouraging pupils to take up music. The band successfully raised over £3000 to fund the appointment of a brass tutor at the school. This programme continues to be one of the band's priorities, providing an opportunity for us to help develop the next generation of musicians and to give something back to the community.

This is not our first visit to this fine concert hall, having performed here last year with the Maidstone Winds Symphony. For the last 3 years we have been pleased to give our support to the Armed Forces Day with a concert at the Community Centre in Sevenoaks. At Remembrance Sunday in November, the band is honoured to be a part of an important occasion playing at the service at the Vine war memorial. The band performs several concerts locally throughout the year. If you would like to find out more, please visit our website www.eynsfordconcertband.co.uk

Welcome to tonight's concert. Thank you for showing your support for our armed forces and their families. The armed forces charity SSAFA does an amazing job of giving help to our troops and their families in times of need – you will hear more about the great work they do later in the evening. Eynsford Concert Band has a long tradition of doing charitable work both at a local level and, like tonight, at a national level. To date, we have raised almost £40,000 for good causes.

It is a great honour for the ECB to be sharing the stage with the Grenadier Guards Band. For eleven members of ECB (including myself) it will be a trip down memory lane: we have served in many of the top forces bands with a combined service in excess of 300 years. For us, it will be very nostalgic night.

I would like to thank Captain Mike Smith and Major Kevin Davies for all their support and hard work in helping arrange tonight's concert. It is also a pleasure to welcome, in the audience tonight, the band's patrons: the composer Nigel Clarke, Conductor Laureate John Hutchins and Councillor Trudy Dean.

My sincerest thanks to Neil Crabtree from SSAFA. I approached Neil (quite aptly) at the cenotaph service with the idea of tonight's concert and, luckily, he took me seriously! Ever since, he has worked incredibly hard to help organize tonight's concert.

Tonight's concert would not have been possible if it were not for the generosity of BAe Systems Electronic Systems, Rochester, so a big thank you to them.

Here's to a memorable evening.

Brian Bennett
Chairman Eynsford Concert Band

Music Programme

EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

Fanfare	National Anthem	<i>arr Jacob</i>
Concert Opener	Great and Glorious	<i>Statham</i>
Original Wind Band Work	A Festive Overture	<i>Reed</i>
Selection	West Side Story	<i>arr Iwai</i>

Welcome by Neil Crabtree Divisional Secretary SSAFA Sevenoaks

GRENADIER GUARDS BAND

March	Militaire Françoise <i>(from Suite Algerienne)</i>	<i>Saint-Saens</i>
Descriptive	Firepower	<i>Fraser</i>
Solo	Concertino <i>(Soloist Dawid Venter)</i>	<i>Chaminade</i>
Descriptive	Las Castanuelas	<i>Binge</i>

Interval (20 minutes)

GRENADIER GUARDS & EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

Royal Salute	HRH Duke of Cambridge March	Arnold
Symphonic	Intrada <i>(from Fanfare & celebrations)</i>	Nigel Clarke
Reflective	Hymn to the Fallen	Williams
Selection	Irving Berlin showstoppers	Higgins
Trombone Feature	Blades of Toledo	Sharpe
Dance	Cossack Fire Dance	Graham
Finale	Crown Imperial	Walton
Farewell from Col Jo Gunnell OBE DL Chairman SSAFA Kent		
Marches	Service Marches	Various
	British Grenadiers	Trad

Our Conductors:

Captain Mike Smith is a Director of Music in the Army and has recently taken on a role as a Staff Officer at the Royal Military School of Music. Born in Warwickshire, Mike joined the Army as a clarinettist and served in England, Northern Ireland and Cyprus before being selected to attend the three year Bandmaster Course at The Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. He graduated in 1996, winning the Commandant's Prize and the coveted Worshipful Company of Musicians Medal for best all-round Student Bandmaster of the Year, and was also one of the first students to gain a Bachelor of Arts Degree through his studies at Kneller Hall.

After a period serving as Bandmaster with various bands, during which time he undertook many overseas tours and participated in major State and ceremonial duties, he then returned to the Royal Military School of Music in the appointment of Training Design Warrant Officer. His role included the design and maintenance of the Bandmaster course and the selection of future student Bandmasters.

In April 2008 he was selected for a commission into the Corps of Army Music, and subsequently served as Director of Music of The Band of The Royal Irish Regiment and The Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers, before being asked to take up the much coveted appointment of Director of Music of The Band of the Grenadier Guards between June 2011 and July 2013.

Outside the Army, Mike has enjoyed conducting a number of civilian music ensembles, including brass bands, a symphonic flute ensemble, and now, Eynsford Concert Band. Mike's appointment takes our band into a new and exciting era. Having the opportunity to work with such an accomplished musician is a real privilege for the band.

MAJOR KEVIN DAVIES LRSM ALCM CAMUS enlisted into the Army in September 1983. He joined the Staff Band of the Royal Corps of Transport, Aldershot as a clarinettist in January 1984. His nine years service with this band saw him tour widely where as principal clarinettist he visited countries such as Cyprus, Hong Kong, Germany, France, Italy and the Queen's official State Visit to Jordan in 1984.

He was selected to attend the Student Bandmaster's course in 1992 where upon graduating won the Principal Director's Music Prize for conducting in 1994. He was appointed as Bandmaster of the Royal Corps of Signals Band in January 1996 where he spent three years touring countries such as United States of America, Cyprus, Sweden, Germany and Northern Ireland.

He was then appointed as Bandmaster Irish Guards in January 1999. As well as performing at the many high profile and prestigious events undertaken by this band he was deployed on operational duties in Kosovo in July 1999.

He was commissioned in January 2005 and was appointed Director of Music, The Band of The Brigade of Gurkhas. He was then appointed Director of Music, The Band of The Life Guards in July 2008 following successful completion of his 5 month equitation course. He spent 3 years undertaking many State and high profile events including directing the two mounted bands on the Queen's Birthday Parade. He spent the next two years as SO2 Manning & Recruiting at the Headquarters Corps of Army Music a position which was responsible for the Manning and Policy issues of the Corps and the recruitment of potential musicians into the army. He was appointed as the Director of Music of the Band of the Grenadier Guards in July 2013

SSAFA (The Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Families Association)

As the Second Expeditionary Force set sail for Egypt in 1885, Major James Gildea wrote a letter to The Times appealing for funds and volunteers to look after Service families left behind, who had little or no financial support. Within three months, the charity was born and the then Princess of Wales (the future Queen Alexandra) was appointed President. In 1899 at the time of The Boer war there were 2000 SSAFA volunteers throughout Great Britain. And so it continues to this day. Last year in Kent alone SSAFA caseworkers provided assistance to 600 cases, made 1000 visits and provided £391,000 in financial assistance. SSAFA help anyone who has served at least one day in any rank in the Armed Forces including National Service and Reserve Forces and also members of the Merchant Navy who have served in support of conflicts. Assistance is available to spouses/partners, widows/widowers and dependant children. SSAFA also undertake casework on behalf of the Merchant Navy Welfare Board. In Service committees are centred in Army/Naval and RAF Bases, where the serving community resides and each county in the UK has a SSAFA Branch. The range of services provided is vast Adoption, Support Groups, Social Work Services, Housing, Norton and Fisher Homes which provide free short term accommodation for families of servicemen undergoing treatment. We hope Major Gildea would approve, I somehow think he would be proud of us.



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BAE Systems' U.K. Electronic Systems facility in Rochester proudly sponsors the event and would like to pass on their thanks to the SSAFA organisation for inviting them to be a part of such a prestigious occasion.





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Gary Williamson for his
generous support for the
production of this concert
programme and support for
our service and ex service
community



Thank you to all at Specsavers
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