



EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

PRESENTS

Festivity

DIRECTED BY

MIKE SMITH

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

**THE CANTERBURY FOR UKRAINE
LADIES' CHOIR**

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2025

THE SPACE, SEVENOAKS, KENT



A FESTIVE WELCOME

Season's greetings and a very warm welcome to 'Festivity' - Eynsford Concert Band's Christmas Concert 2025.

This evening's seasonal musical offerings include many new arrangements of familiar Christmas tunes which we hope will help raise your festive mood in preparation for the coming Yuletide season.

We are delighted to be featuring on stage our special guests The Canterbury 4 Ukraine Ladies' Choir (C4ULC) under their music director Joanna Chapman. The band first worked with the choir at the 2024 Festival of Remembrance in Rochester Cathedral where their poignant performance was the highlight of the concert for many of the audience. Joanna is also the principal oboist in ECB so will be in high demand this evening.

2025 has once again been a fulfilling and rewarding year for the band. In March we continued our commitment to support and nurture the future generation of musicians by holding an 'Academy Workshop' which saw 21 young instrumentalists join us for an afternoon rehearsal of challenging repertoire, both old and new.

In April, our spring concert 'Feel the Heat' featured music of intensity, fire and passion. The programme included *The Speed of Heat* by Julie Giroux, an exciting piece depicting the adventures of a fighter-plane pilot; *Malagueña*, our fiery finale showpiece; and *The Lair of the Alchemist*, the premiere performance of David Hackbridge-Johnson's second work written for the band - a descriptive piece with bubbling cauldrons a-plenty in this musical portrayal of transforming base metal into gold. If you missed this concert, recordings of these and other pieces are available to see and hear on the band's website:
EynsfordConcertBand.co.uk.

Into the summer months the focus turned to preparations for the band's cruise to the Fjords of Norway aboard Fred.Olsen's *Borealis*. In late July 50 band members, accompanied by over 100 'family and friends' set sail on a 5-night cruise which saw the band give two indoor and one outdoor concert to some very enthusiastic and patriotic audiences. A great trip away was had by all and helped further enhance the band's growing international reputation.

In August, the band was invited to perform alongside the C4ULC at an event in the East of England to mark Ukraine Independence Day. An article on this engagement can be seen on Page 5.

The annual fireworks concert at Swanley Park on August Bank Holiday Friday saw what for many of the band members was the largest audience for many a year, if not ever. A mix of good weather and the holiday vibe saw thousands enjoy music from all eras including Swanley favourites YMCA and *Sweet Caroline* before the traditional firework finale set to Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture* and a bit of *Land of Hope and Glory*. If you've never been to this concert, join us next year on Friday 28th August.

Saturday 1st November saw a much anticipated and welcome return to Rochester Cathedral for our 'Festival of Remembrance'. In association with the Royal British Legion and Army Benevolent Fund, this year's concert commemorated the 80th Anniversary of the end of World War II and the 85th Anniversaries of Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain. We were again ably supported by the West Malling Community Choir and the Brompton & Invicta Military Wives Choir, and our special guests the Pipers of the The Royal Gurkha Rifles.

On Remembrance Sunday the band once again provided outstanding musical support to the service at the War Memorial in Sevenoaks and then commenced preparations for our Christmas performances at St. Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks, for their annual 'Christmas Celebration', and our final performance of the year here at The SPACE.

Preparations for our 2026 diary events are advancing well with a number of performances in the pipe-line commencing with our spring concert '**A World of Fantasy**' on Sunday 19th April. Tickets are now available, so we hope you are able to join us for another 'fantastical' evening's entertainment.

On behalf of all members of Eynsford Concert Band, I would like to wish you a very merry Christmas, a healthy and peaceful New Year, and to please sit back and enjoy this evening's festive concert.

THE CANTERBURY FOR UKRAINE LADIES' CHOIR

THE CANTERBURY FOR UKRAINE LADIES' CHOIR was founded in the Spring of 2022 by Olena Nizalova and has been directed by Joanna and David Chapman since the Summer of that year.

The choir forms part of the C4U (Canterbury for Ukraine) Charity, which has helped to support many Ukrainian families arriving in East Kent. We are grateful that they are supporting our concert this evening, so please give generously to this very worthwhile cause.

The choir continues to provide comfort and hope through music, and it gives Ukrainians a chance to meet and support each other during very difficult times.

Members of the choir are very keen to share their rich musical and cultural heritage, and have performed many concerts at different venues, including both Rochester and Canterbury Cathedrals. The choir is also privileged to have sung 3 concerts for Ukrainian troops being trained in this country.

Choir Director: **Joanna Chapman**

Piano: **David Chapman**

Accordion: **Andrew Hedges**

More details at: www.canterbury4ukraine.org



In August this year, Eynsford Concert Band were proud to perform alongside the Canterbury for Ukraine Charity Ladies choir to help mark Ukraine Independence Day at a military camp in the East of England.



The concert was to over 1,400 Ukrainian troops being trained under operation INTERFLEX, which proved to be an incredibly moving event, knowing that many of those present would soon be deployed to the front line to fight for their country's independence.

The choir and band performed magnificently, and the concert prompted genuine emotions from all those attending, including rapturous applause, a standing ovation and some wonderful personal feedback. Many recorded the performance on their phones, and some could not hold back tears during soulful songs sung in their native language. Some soldiers stood up and shone their phone torches, creating an atmosphere of unity and support.

The concert also attracted the attention of numerous journalists and representatives from various British media outlets, including BBC News, Sky News and ITV News, whilst Ukrainian media also showed keen interest.

Thank you to all who are able



to support us.



PROGRAMME

EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

FESTIVITY

B BALMAGES

CAROL FANTASIA

J FOX

THE HOLLY & THE IVY

ARR. T WALLACE

REJOICE AND BE MERRY

J RUTTER

CANTERBURY FOR UKRAINE LADIES' CHOIR

UKRAINE

T.PETRYNENKO

CHOVEN
(THE BOAT)

S.VAKARCHUK
O ELZY

HEY SOKOLY
(THE FALCONS)

TRAD.

EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

OVERTURE ON FRENCH CAROLS

P LANE

INTERVAL

EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

ARR. P ROZELL

A SYMPHONIC CELEBRATION

R SHELTON

WASSAIL DANCES: 'SOMERSET'

P LANE

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NEW YEARS EVE?

F LOESSER

VOCALIST: SUE RIVERS

CANTERBURY FOR UKRAINE LADIES' CHOIR

OY YAK PRILITALY TAY DVA SOKOLONKY

TRAD.

(TWO FALCONS ARE FLYING)

SHCHEDRYK

M. LEONTOVYCH

(BOUNTIFUL EVENING)

OY SMEREKO

TRAD.

(THE PINE TREE)

EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

SLEIGH RIDE

L ANDERSON

DECK THE HALLS

ARR J BOWEN

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

ARR R SWIFT

EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

Presents

A World of Fantasy

Music to fuel the imagination

7pm, Sunday 19th April 2026

The SPACE, Sevenoaks, Kent

Tickets £15

Under 16s Free

Includes Complementary Programme

tickets@eynsfordconcertband.co.uk



Tickets



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

“A WORLD OF FANTASY”

AN EXCITING PROGRAMME OF MUSIC FOR THE BAND'S SPRING CONCERT

THE SPACE – SEVENOAKS PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

7:00PM, SUNDAY 19TH APRIL 2026

TICKETS: TICKETS@EYNSFORDCONCERTBAND.CO.UK

“1812” FIREWORKS CONCERT

SWANLEY PARK

FROM 6:00PM, FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST 2026

FREE ENTRY

ROBIN O'CONNELL MEMORIAL CONCERT

A GARDEN CONCERT AT LULLINGSTONE CASTLE MARKING WHAT WOULD
HAVE BEEN THE FOUNDER OF THE BAND'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

LULLINGSTONE CASTLE & WORLD GARDEN

2:00PM, SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2026

TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON



The Eynsford Concert Band Young Musicians' Academy is designed to provide young musicians with a safe and encouraging environment within which they can build their experience of playing in a large ensemble.

Rehearsing on a Tuesday evening in Eynsford Village, the academy is open to students who are in full time education and who have achieved a minimum grade 6 or equivalent. The programme's objective is that academy “graduates” become fully fledged, long-term members of the band.

Our Young Musicians' Academy currently has vacancies for Oboe, Bassoon, French Horn and Tuba.

ALL ABOARD!

This summer Eynsford Concert Band swapped rehearsal rooms for the scenic Fjords of Norway. 50+ playing members joined over 100 friends and family aboard Fred.Olsen's *Borealis* for a 5-night cruise and great fun was had by all!..



EYNSFORD CONCERT BAND

MUSIC DIRECTOR - MIKE SMITH

PICCOLO & FLUTE

Carole Eastwood
Tanya Basse

FLUTE

Clare Evans
Anna Casling
Alice Bowman
Jane Wright
Sue Ringrose

OBOE

Joanna Chapman
Jenny Harris

OBOE & COR ANGLAIS

Helen Fidler

BASSOON

Sian Miller
Peta White

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Marie Chalkley-Bowman
Luke Bowman

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Graham Bell
Zoë Marksford

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Ian Page

CLARINET

Neil Anderson
Sandra Lane
Gemma Norford
Bryan Edwards
Rupert Dartnell
Emma Foster
Mags Shackleton
Joanna Page
Vivienne Astall
Billy White
Alex Scott
Jessica Curtis
Jessica Powell
Andy Mattison
Wendy Eaton

EB CLARINET & CLARINET

Christine Till

BASS CLARINET

Brian Evans
Alison Herring

HORN

Carol Maher
David Chapman
Martin Grainger
Danielle Flarty

STRING BASS & PIANO

Pete Ringrose

TRUMPET

David Walker
Paul Boyd
Sheila King
Zoe Mackenzie
Rob Walker
David Simmonds
Ray Lester
James Boyd

TROMBONE

Paul Gould
Will Evans

TROMBONE & PIANO

Liz Smallwood
Will Foster

BASS TROMBONE

Steve Aitken

EUPHONIUM

Geoff Batty

TUBA

Steve Bennett
Brian Bennett
Graeme Cutler

PERCUSSION

Dave Hunt
Tim Evans
Stuart Marsh
Dan Johnstone



WWW.EYNSFORDCONCERTBAND.CO.UK
ENQUIRY@EYNSFORDCONCERTBAND.CO.UK