



# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

## *Press Release*

# Strings at the Abbey

**A concert in the Great Hall, Vale Royal Abbey**

**7.45 pm Sunday 17th February 2019**

Once again, the Vale Royal String Orchestra are presenting a concert of popular string music from Bach to Britten in the Great Hall of Vale Royal Abbey.

Our new conductor Adam Kornas will be one of the soloists in Bach's concerto for two violins, Robert Anderson, the orchestra's leader will be the other soloist.

Adam studied at Chetham's School of Music and then went onto Royal College of Music in London where he studied composition and graduated with a first class honours degree. His compositions have been performed at the Salzburg Chamber Music Festival and with the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra. Last June Chester Philharmonic Orchestra gave the world premiere of *Celestial City*. Adam has now graduated from the Royal Northern School of Music with a master's degree in conducting.

Adam said that he is looking forward to his first concert with the orchestra in baronial atmosphere of the Great Hall at the Abbey.

Robert Anderson is the leader of the Vale Royal String Orchestra, Chester Philharmonic and a keen chamber musician.

The concert includes Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No 3, a Nocturne by Dvořák, Grieg's Holberg Suite, and the Sarabande from Britten's Simple Symphony. The concert ends with Josef Suk's tuneful Serenade.



# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

The VRSO was founded in 1993 by Margaret Parks-Smith and David Whalley. It's members are primarily dedicated amateurs who love music and love entertaining the audience. The Orchestra rehearses at Appleton Thorne Village Hall. Profits will be donated to St Mary's Church Whitegate.

Tickets are £12 (School age children £6) and are available Andrew Ball, 01606 593260 ([andrewball@martonsands.co.uk](mailto:andrewball@martonsands.co.uk)) and at the door. Cheques payable to Whitegate PCC.

## Detailed notes for the editor

See below for the publicity flyer- photos attached as part of the email.

VALE ROYAL STRING  
ORCHESTRA

**Strings at the Abbey**  
at the Great Hall,  
Vale Royal Abbey, Whitegate, CW8 2BA  
Sunday 17th February 2019, 7.45 pm

For St Mary's Church, Whitegate



CONCERTO FOR TWO VIOLINS IN D MINOR  
BACH

SOLOISTS: ROBERT ANDERSON AND ADAM KORNAS

NOCTURNE  
DVOŘÁK

HOLBERG SUITE  
GREIG

BRANDENBURG CONCERTO NO 3  
BACH

SARABANDE  
FROM BRITTEN'S SIMPLE SYMPHONY

SERENADE  
JOSEF SUK

Adam Kornas Conductor

Tickets: £12 (School Age Children £6)  
Andrew Ball, 07398 295239 and on the door  
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Cheques payable to Whitegate PCC

[www.valeroyalstringorchestra.co.uk](http://www.valeroyalstringorchestra.co.uk)

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# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

## Adam Kornas

"The best way to learn conducting is to conduct, the second best way is to watch other conductors conduct." On meeting Esa-Pekka Salonen at the Royal College of Music, those words were followed by a kind invitation to observe his rehearsals at the Philharmonia. Adam has also attended the rehearsals of Vladimir Ashkenazy, Valery Gergiev, Sir Simon Rattle and Sir Mark Elder.



At the early age of 24, Adam graduated from his Masters degree in conducting at the Royal Northern College of Music with a distinction and the Robert Newwitt prize for conducting. Whilst there he studied under Clark Rundell and Mark Heron, as well as receiving masterclasses from Sir Mark Elder, Vasily Petrenko and Juanjo Mena.

Adam is gaining experience and recognition as a conductor of a wide range of repertoire. He has assisted conductors Juanjo Mena, Gianandrea Noseda and John Storgards at the BBC Philharmonic and Vasily Petrenko at the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. Adam has also directed the Northern Baroque Orchestra, Manchester Camerata and Stockport Symphony Orchestra in concert. Adam made his Wigmore Hall debut conducting musicians from the Royal Northern College of Music in a performance of 'Upon All The Notes,' with composer Sir Harrison Birtwistle present.

Recent performances include Adam conducting his own new orchestral work *Celestial City* with the Chester Philharmonic as well as concerts with the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra and Crosby Symphony Orchestra.



# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

## Robert Anderson

Robert has enjoyed being involved with amateur music making for many years. He took up the violin almost by accident at Manchester Grammar School where he was taught by Frank Horner, a player in what was then the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra. During his time at secondary school he had the opportunity to play under the baton of both Malcolm Williamson and Maurice Handford in venues including the Free Trade Hall.



Robert continued playing whilst studying civil engineering at Bristol University and then during a short period working in London. Here he played in orchestras ranging from the London Repertoire Orchestra under Ruth Gipps and Malcolm Arnold to regular Friday evening music hall sessions in Battersea Town Hall playing music from the shows.

Robert returned to the North West to work for ICI as a civil engineer and subsequently in computing, latterly with Atos. He has enjoyed playing in many local orchestras especially Chester Philharmonic and Vale Royal Strings, both of which he now leads. Robert is also interested in folk music and is a keen player of chamber music with friends and sometimes with other members of his musical family. Away from music he enjoys cycling, walking, reading and growing his own vegetables.



# *VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA*

## Vale Royal String Orchestra



VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA

The Vale Royal String Orchestra was founded in 1993 by Margaret Parks-Smith and David Whalley and rehearses in Appleton Village Hall. Its membership is made up of experienced non professional string players under the direction of a professional conductor. The Orchestra has two rehearsal sessions a season finishing with a concert.

Membership of the Orchestra is by Subscription to cover general costs with concert profits, after direct costs, to charities. Sponsorship is very welcome.



# VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA



VALE ROYAL STRING ORCHESTRA AT VALE ROYAL ABBEY

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