

**proms**  
at st jude's

**PUBLIC  
BOOKING  
OPENS 6 APRIL**

# Music & Literary Festival 2026

**27 June - 5 July**



**In and around Central Square,  
Hampstead Garden Suburb NW11 7AG**

**RAISING FUNDS FOR NORTH LONDON HOSPICE, TOYNBEE HALL  
AND EDUCATION OUTREACH**

# Programme

27 – 28 JUNE

SATURDAY 27 JUNE 19.30

SUNDAY 28 JUNE 19.30

27 JUNE – 5 JULY

MONDAY 29 JUNE 12.00

19.30

TUESDAY 30 JUNE

10.15 & 11.30

12.00

18.30

19.30

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY

12.00

19.30

THURSDAY 2 JULY

12.30

19.30

FRIDAY 3 JULY

12.00

18.30

19.30

SATURDAY 4 JULY

18.00

19.30

22.00

SUNDAY 5 JULY

From 13.00

19.30

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# Chair's Greeting



Welcome to the 34th Proms at St Jude's Music and Literary Festival, running from Saturday 27 June to Sunday 5 July 2026. Join us in Hampstead Garden Suburb for

a packed schedule including LitFest weekend, Fantasia Orchestra's opening performance and a diverse selection of orchestral, chamber, jazz and choral music. Highlights include the Van Morrison Alumni Band, *Wolf Hall in Concert* with actor Anton Lesser and our ever-popular Last Night.

Enjoy free lunchtime concerts, conversations with top authors, nine days of evening concerts, including an early-evening soul and bluegrass concert, and our exciting

Family Festival on Central Square. Explore Heritage Walks to discover local history and architecture. Book early as tickets go fast. This year we are introducing season tickets for the £15 seats for £40 (£20 for under 25s).

Supporting charities is central to Proms; last year we donated £65,000 and have raised over £1.3 million since 1993.

In addition to Proms Patrons Sir Rodric Braithwaite GCMG, Dame Emma Kirkby and John Lill CBE, we are delighted to welcome Hugh Pym and Simon Lewis OBE.

Thank you to sponsors, friends, volunteers, performers, advertisers and our audience for making this festival possible. We hope to see you there!

*Kate Webster*

**Kate Webster**  
Chair, Proms at St Jude's



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**Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust**

# Evening Concerts

*EVENING CONCERTS TAKE PLACE AT ST JUDE-ON-THE-HILL, CENTRAL SQUARE NW11 7AH*

**SATURDAY 27 JUNE • 19.30**

## Junyan Chen and Fantasia Orchestra

**Tom Fetherstonhaugh conductor • Junyan Chen piano**

- **Mozart Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro***
- **Beethoven Piano Concerto No 1 in C major**
- **Beethoven Symphony No 7 in A major**

According to Classic FM, 'Mozart considered opera to be the supreme musical language, where everything was perfectly possible and, with a genius such as Mozart's, possibly perfect'. The overture to *The Marriage of Figaro* is one of the world's most recognisable pieces of western classical music, an exhilarating opening to this year's festival. This is followed by Beethoven's first piano concerto, which blends classical structure with revolutionary ideas, featuring a strong, symphonic first movement, a lyrical slow movement and a witty, energetic finale. His seventh symphony features driving rhythmic energy, bold harmonic movement, and an overall sense of propulsion. It was encored at its première and has remained popular ever since.

**Junyan Chen** won second prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition in 2024, as well as the chamber music prize and award for the outstanding performance of a work by a woman composer. A Proms' favourite, Fantasia Orchestra is conducted by its founder **Tom Fetherstonhaugh**.

**Supported by Proms Principal Sponsor Riverstone Living**



Tom Fetherstonhaugh



Junyan Chen



Fantasia Orchestra

SUNDAY 28 JUNE • 19.30

# Wolf Hall in Concert

**Debbie Wiseman** conductor • **Anton Lesser** actor • **Grace Davidson** soprano  
Locrian Ensemble

Dame Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* trilogy, which conjured up the power and intrigue of Henry VIII's court in the 16th century, is vividly brought to life in this compelling blend of music, narration and imagery. **Debbie Wiseman**, one of Britain's leading TV and film composers conducts members of the Locrian Ensemble of London in her evocative score for the acclaimed BBC series. BAFTA-nominated actor **Anton Lesser**, unforgettable as Thomas More, reads from Mantel's text and **Grace Davidson**, a British soprano who specialises in the performance and recording of Baroque music and who grew up in Hampstead Garden Suburb lends her voice to the evening's vibrant yet austere musical landscape.

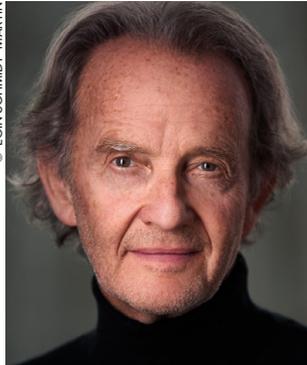
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© MICHAEL LECKIE



Debbie Wiseman

© EGIN SCHMIDT-MARTIN



Anton Lesser

© SUSAN PORTER THOMAS



Grace Davidson

## Picnic Tables

If you would like to entertain friends and family you can book a table in a dedicated marquee. It will be reserved solely for concertgoers with table reservations. You can enjoy your picnic before the concert and during the interval, knowing that whatever the weather you will be under cover.

Tables of six will cost £30. You can book your picnic table at the same time as buying your tickets. Friends get priority booking. Tables will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

There are some FAQs on our website with further information [promsatstjudes.org.uk](http://promsatstjudes.org.uk)





The Scott Brothers

**MONDAY 29 JUNE • 19.30**

# Classical Blockbusters

## The Scott Brothers Duo

**Jonathan Scott organ • Tom Scott piano**

- Mozart Overture to *The Magic Flute*
- Grieg *Peer Gynt Suite No 1*
- Debussy *Clair de Lune*
- Liszt *Hungarian Rhapsody No 2*
- Handel *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*
- Pietro Yon *Finale from Concerto Gregoriano*
- Tom Scott *Timepiece*
- Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*

Brothers **Jonathan** and **Tom Scott** are keyboard artists who perform their own high-energy arrangements of popular orchestral works. At St Jude's, Jonathan will play on the magnificent 1899 Father Willis organ, and Tom the Steinway grand piano. Their programme features transcriptions of several blockbusters of the classical tradition including Edvard Grieg *Peer Gynt Suite*, a piece that Henrik Ibsen asked his friend and compatriot to compose for a production of his verse play. The church acoustic will reverberate to favourites by Mozart, Liszt, Handel and other composers, including Tom Scott himself. The evening ends with the quintessential fusion of jazz and classical music, George Gershwin's thrilling *Rhapsody in Blue*.

TUESDAY 30 JUNE • 18.30

# Summer Busking by Adel, Tar and Setar Player

18.30  
FREE

TUESDAY 30 JUNE • 19.30

## Fidelio Trio

Darragh Morgan *violin* • Tim Gill *cello* • Mary Dullea *piano*

- Mendelssohn Piano Trio No 1 in D minor
- Ravel Piano Trio in A minor
- Beethoven Piano Trio 'Archduke' in B flat major

Robert Schumann pronounced Mendelssohn's first piano trio 'the master trio of the age'. Notable for its craftsmanship, form and unforgettable melodies, performers and audiences have made it a firm favourite. Ravel's piano trio showcases both its traditional structure and Ravel's innovative style, dazzling with rhythmic invention, colour and emotional richness. Beethoven's monumental *Archduke* is considered one of the greatest piano trios in the repertoire, characterised by its nobility, spaciousness and the elevation of the violin and cello to an equal standing with the piano, crowning the programme with chamber music at its most profound.

The virtuosic **Fidelio Trio** broadcasts regularly on BBC Radio 3, RTÉ and Lyric FM, and was recently the focus of a Sky Arts documentary. This will be an evening of sublime chamber music performed by some of the leading interpreters of the genre.

*Supported by George Meyer*

© CHRISTOPHER BAINES



*Fidelio Trio*

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY • 19.30

# Choir of The Queen's College Oxford

A Cappella Treasures from 16th to 21st Centuries

Owen Rees conductor

Hailed by *BBC Music Magazine* as 'an undoubted jewel in Britain's choral scene' and by *Classic FM* as 'one of the world's most renowned choirs', the **Choir of The Queen's College Oxford** offers an evening of radiant choral music. Under the visionary direction of **Owen Rees**, the choir performs a selection of a cappella works by composers from the 16th to the 21st centuries, including Britten, Holst, Stanford, Parry, Chilcott, Whitacre and Rutter.

Highlights include former Suburb resident Harold Darke *Blessed is the man that endureth temptation*, Holst *Ave Maria*, Whitacre *Lux Aurumque*, Stanford's piercingly beautiful *The Blue Bird*, and a selection of traditional folk arrangements. The concert also includes popular favourites such as *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* and *Moon River*.

Expect the choir to make creative use of St Jude's acoustic by positioning singers in varying configurations around the building.



© JOHN CAIRNS



© JOHN CAIRNS

Choir of The Queen's College Oxford; Inset: Owen Rees



The Academy of St Mary-le-Bow; Insets: Timothy Ridout; Alex Fryer

**THURSDAY 2 JULY • 19.30**

## Per Amore Dell'Italia

**Timothy Ridout and the Academy of St Mary-le-Bow**

**Alex Fryer conductor • Timothy Ridout viola**

- **Rossini Overture to *The Barber of Seville***
- **Hummel *Potpourri***
- **Respighi *Fountains of Rome***
- **Mendelssohn Symphony No 4 '*The Italian*' in A major**

International viola star **Timothy Ridout** joins the **Academy of St Mary-le-Bow** for a vibrant, Italian-themed programme. Winner of the First Prize at both the Lionel Tertis and Cecil Aronowitz International Viola competitions, a former BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist, a recipient of the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship and the Royal Philharmonic Society 2023 Young Artist Award, Ridout is a highly sought-after soloist. In 2025, he won the Opus Klassik award in the 'Young Instrumentalist of the Year' category for his first solo viola album featuring works by Telemann, Bach, Britten and Shaw.

*The Barber of Seville* is one of Rossini's greatest and most popular works. Written for a different opera entirely, the quirky overture sets the scene as a stand-alone concert piece. It is followed by Hummel's stylish *Potpourri*, played by Ridout. This musical fantasy employs several popular operatic melodies by Mozart and Rossini, interspersed with complex writing by Hummel himself. It is a charming and highly virtuosic piece. Respighi's radiant *Fountains of Rome* conjures light and movement, while Mendelssohn's joyous *Italian* symphony, bursting with colour and culminating in a thrilling dance-inspired finale, brings the evening to a close.

**Supported by Alan and Ruth Judes**

FRIDAY 3 JULY • 18.30

# Summer Busking by TV, Film and Cabaret Star Debbie Chazen

18.30  
FREE

FRIDAY 3 JULY • 19.30

# The Van Morrison Alumni Band

Matt Holland *trumpet* • Alec Dankworth *bass* • Robin Aspland *piano*  
Ralph Salmains *drums* • Geoff Dunn *drums* • Leo Green *host/saxophone*

Van Morrison hits, including

*Brown Eyed Girl; Gloria; Moondance; Baby, Please Don't Go; Sweet Thing*

The Van Morrison Alumni Band is a company of musicians and singers who Van Morrison hand-picked to perform and record with him. They have formed a repertory company unlike any other, in order to perform the hugely loved songs that make up one of the greatest song catalogues of all time. They performed thousands of concerts all over the world with Van Morrison, as well as collectively appearing on a staggering 845 Van Morrison recording credits. The show features songs performed faithfully and respectfully, as they appear on recordings or live performances. This will be a fabulous

evening celebrating the music of the legendary singer-songwriter. Please note: Van Morrison will be with us in spirit but not in person!

Supported by *Repaircare London Ltd*

SATURDAY 4 JULY • 18.00

# Lunch Special

Country, Soul, Bluegrass, Americana

Neala Hickey *guitar/vocal* • Vivian Li *mandolin/violin/vocal*  
Luca Serino *guitar*

18.00  
FREE  
EVENT IN  
THE TENT

Having started out as a bluegrass string band, **Lunch Special** has been captivating audiences with its mind-blowing vocals, close-knit harmonies and rambunctious energy since 2017. The trio takes inspiration from their diverse musical and cultural backgrounds to create a soulful, raucous sound of its own kind through off-kilter originals and bluegrass, country and gospel classics. Lunch Special has performed at various major UK festivals.



*The Van Morrison Alumni Band*

SATURDAY 4 JULY • 19.30

# A Jazz Celebration of The American Songbook

Lizzie Ball, James Pearson and Friends

**This evening features music by Gershwin, Bernstein, Ellington and more. The show was a sell out at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club.**

Classically trained **Lizzie Ball** is a prolific performer who has been on the international stage for two decades. She has always been passionate about performing all styles of music and her residency at Ronnie Scott's, Upstairs at Ronnie's, has included everything from string quartets to beatboxing flute players and East End female rappers.

**James Pearson** is a British jazz pianist, composer, bandleader and Musical Director of Ronnie Scott's. Acclaimed for virtuosity and swing, he leads his own groups, collaborates internationally, and champions contemporary jazz through performance, recording, and education, broadcasting, mentorship and club programming worldwide. Tonight, they and their fellow musicians perform American music in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the declaration of American independence.

**Supported by Godfrey & Barr**



© LEZLIE ROSE

Lizzie Ball



James Pearson

SATURDAY 4 JULY • 22.00

IN THE REFRESHMENT MARQUEE

# Late Night Stand-Up Comedy

MC David Lewis • Paul Thorne • Eleanor Tiernan

**Come and join us for an hour of laughs, with a fully licensed bar.**

**David** is a regular act and MC on the London comedy circuit, bringing laughter and light-hearted entertainment to top-tier comedy clubs. He has made guest appearances on popular podcasts, radio and online comedy shows. **Paul** regularly headlines the UK's best comedy clubs. His well-crafted material, spontaneous wit and surreal comedy songs have earned him a reputation as a quality performer at home and abroad. **Eleanor's** style is described as 'deceptively sharp' and filled with acerbic wit. She's appeared on TV and radio and was a panellist on BBC Radio 4's *News Quiz*, *Where's the F In News?*





Paul Hoskins



Helen Charlston



The Purcell School Orchestra

**SUNDAY 5 JULY • 19.30**

# Last Night: Helen Charlston with The Purcell School Orchestra

**Paul Hoskins** conductor • **Helen Charlston** mezzo soprano

- **Walton** *Spitfire Prelude and Fugue*
- **Elgar** *Sea Pictures*
- **Carwithen** *Overture to Men of Sherwood Forest*
- **Prokofiev** *Symphony No 1 'Classical' in D major*
- **Handel** *Rinaldo: Lascia ch'io pianga*
- **Mozart** *Così fan tutte: Ah, scostati! ... Smanie implacabili*
- **Rodgers** *Carousel: You'll Never Walk Alone*
- **Parry** *Jerusalem*
- **Traditional** *Auld Lang Syne*

Join Proms on its traditional Last Night celebration, featuring a selection of music certain to inspire and entertain. Elgar's beautiful song cycle, *Sea Pictures* sets poems by different authors to explore the sea's power, romanticism and mystery. Set for contralto or mezzo soprano, it is performed at St Jude's by **Helen Charlston**, whose voice has been described by the *Evening Standard* as 'little short of miraculous'. Walton's patriotic, march-like fanfare and depiction of the construction of the iconic Spitfire aircraft, written for the film *The First of the Few* (1942) opens the programme and in the second half Prokofiev's first symphony playfully mimics the style of Haydn and Mozart while incorporating modern twists. The evening ends with popular arias and songs, with an invitation for the audience to sing along.

**Paul Hoskins** has been Director of Music at The Purcell School since 2018. **The Purcell School Symphony Orchestra** includes exceptionally talented musicians whose repertoire includes classical works as well as contemporary pieces by living composers.

**Supported by The Jacqueline and Michael Gee Charitable Trust**

FREE

# Lunchtime Concerts

CONCERTS ARE IN ST JUDE'S EXCEPT 3 JULY, WHICH IS IN THE FREE CHURCH NW11 7AG.

Refreshments will be available to purchase at the back of the church from 11.30.

All seating unreserved.

MONDAY 29 JUNE • 12.00

## Soloists from The Purcell School

Piano and Strings

**Khanui Erdenebat** *violin*  
**Lavender Saleyi** *piano*  
**Theo Kuan-Lin Liu** *violin*  
**Anna Avramidou** *piano*  
**Yeju Song** *cello*

The **Purcell School** is one of the world's finest schools for young musicians and the oldest music school in the UK. It provides a rounded education to around 195 talented students, most of whom go on to the top conservatoires and colleges for music. Purcell students share a common bond in their passion for music, with a community boasting creativity and mutual support. The programme the soloists have chosen is Rachmaninov *Trio élégiaque* No 1 in G minor and Franck *Sonata* in A major for violin and piano.

TUESDAY 30 JUNE • 12.00

## Jack Hancher

Spanish and French Guitar Masterpieces

*Gramophone Magazine* described **Jack Hancher** as a guitarist with 'youthful intensity tempered by sophisticated musical intelligence'. In 2022, he

won the prestigious Gold Medal of the Royal Over-Seas League Competition at Wigmore Hall, becoming just the third guitarist to win the award. This afternoon he plays Debussy *La fille au cheveux de lin*, *The Little Shepherd* and *Danse Bohémienne*, De Falla *Homenaje pour le tombeau de Claude Debussy*, Ravel *Pavane pour une infante défunte*, *À la manière de Borodine*, Mompou *Canción y Danza No 6*, Albéniz *Capricho Catalán*, Satie *Gymnopédie No 1* and José *Sonata for guitar*.



© EMMA WELLS SOWICZ

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY • 12.00

## Kasparas Mikužis Piano



© KLAUPO KLIKAS

**Kasparas Mikužis** is a Lithuanian-born pianist based in London. Named as one of Classic FM's 'Rising Stars' for 2025, he has taken the stages of prestigious venues and was one of the winners of the Young Classical Artists Trust international auditions. This afternoon he plays Bach's exuberant *Tocatta in F sharp minor* and Brahms *Klavierstücke*, dedicated to Clara Schumann, and one of his most well-known pieces. Beethoven's poetic and intense *Piano Sonata No 28 Op 101* and Godowsky *Java Suite Part 1* round out the performance.

Supported by **The Keyboard Charitable Trust**

**FRIDAY 3 JULY • 12.00****IN THE FREE CHURCH**

## Eleanor and Gus: Voice, Piano, Bass

### Songs of a Secret Garden



**Eleanor Grant** and **Gus McQuade** thrilled the audience at the Proms Launch Event in 2024. They formed their duo while undergraduates at the Royal Academy of Music, exploring multiple genres from the Renaissance to the present day and embracing folk and jazz influences. Eleanor and Gus have written arrangements for their own special and unusual combination of instruments. They made their debut at Wigmore Hall in 2023 and have since performed at various festivals and concert venues. Today they play songs that revel in the love of nature, including from their album *Seasons in Time*.

## Family Events

**TUESDAY 30 JUNE • 10.15 & 11.30****IN THE INSPIRE CENTRE**

### Teeny Prom

**Rachel Groves • Liz Menezes violin • Emilia Agajew harp**

Bring your children or grandchildren to Teeny Prom for a fun morning of singing, percussion, props and laughter. The sessions are led by experienced teacher and performer **Rachel Groves**.

**Supported by the DaCapo Music Foundation****THURSDAY 2 JULY • 12.30 • BY INVITATION ONLY**

## Schools' Prom: Planets, Moons and Stars

**Music by John Ashton Thomas, words by Tracey Mathias****Will Dollard • Alice Purton • Musicians from Fantasia Orchestra****Children from 10 local primary and secondary schools****Supported by the DaCapo Music Foundation**

# Family Festival

**SUNDAY 5 JULY • 13.00–16.30**

**IN AND AROUND CENTRAL SQUARE**

**Face Painting • Arts Activities • Pizza • Ice Cream  
Music • Storytelling • Kids Gardening ... and much more**

**Includes  
loads of free  
activities!**

**13:00 onwards**

## Music on The Square

Performances by young local musicians

**FREE**

**14.00–14.45 (ages 0–3) and  
15.00–15.45 (ages 3–5)**

**IN THE HENRIETTA BARNETT SCHOOL  
DRAMA ROOM**

## Teeny Prom Concerts

**All children must be accompanied by  
an adult.**

Singing, percussion, props and laughter – led by an experienced teacher/performer and other fantastic musicians. Places are limited – pre-booking is recommended.

**Supported by the DaCapo Music Foundation**

**14:00–14.50 (ages 4+)**

**IN THE HENRIETTA BARNETT  
SCHOOL HALL**

## STOMP Workshop

**Carl Smith**, an original cast member, co-founder and former artistic director of the hit show *STOMP*, delivers this high-energy stomp-style workshop. These sessions use body percussion, junk percussion and movement to teach teamwork, rhythm and creativity to children and their adults.



*Inset: Carl Smith*

**15.00 (ages 5+)**

**IN THE FREE CHURCH**

## Peter and the Wolf

**Performed by Campanella Ensemble  
Sam Scheer, director • James Mayhew, illustrator  
(who will give a talk and sign books after the concert)**

Sergei Prokofiev *Peter and the Wolf* is a renowned musical introduction to the orchestra for children. The story follows Peter who, with the help of his animal friends, outsmarts a wolf. A different instrument and musical theme represent each character: the bird is the flute; the duck is the oboe; the cat is the clarinet; the grandfather is the bassoon; and the wolf is the French horn.



*Inset: James Mayhew*

# Proms Heritage Walks

Tickets for guided walks must be booked in advance.

A reminder with final joining arrangements will be sent the day before each walk.

Please see our website [promsatstjudes.org.uk](http://promsatstjudes.org.uk) for more information.

**MONDAY 29 JUNE • 10.30**

## Hampstead South: Personalities and Plaques

Prize winning guide and author **Rachel Kolsky** returns to lead an exploration south of Hampstead tube, discovering through plaques and stunning homes a rich and eclectic mix of residents. Amongst architects and artists, poets and photographers, musicians and medics there is also found the 1930s Artists' Refugee Committee and the most famous frog in the world.

**MONDAY 29 JUNE • 14.00**

## Revolting London – 2000 Years of Rebellion and Retribution

**Ian Fagelson** (Top 10 guide on Tripadvisor) takes us from the Tower of London to the Mansion House. We will meet rebels from Boadicea, who burned down Roman London, to the Extinction Rebellion demonstrators who disrupted the Chancellor's Mansion House speech in 2019. In between, we will explore the streets and alleys of the City and meet a cast of extraordinary characters including beheaded Tudor queens, Irish bombers, a lynched Archbishop of Canterbury, a slave trader, a Scottish noble who literally laughed his head off in 1747 and many others.

**TUESDAY 30 JUNE • 10.30**

## Managing Central Square's Limes

**Frank Hawkins**, arboriculturist, horticulturalist and Hampstead Garden Suburb's Green Estate Manager follows up last year's walk with an in-depth look at Central Square's trees. A tree surgeon will be demonstrating management techniques, so why not bring a deck chair?

TALK NOT WALK

**TUESDAY 30 JUNE • 10.30**

## Tracks Through the Northern Heights

Hugely experienced London guide and Proms regular, **Marilyn Greene** leads on her local turf from East Finchley to Muswell Hill, along a woodland route taking in parts of Cherry Tree and Highgate Woods, as well as part of the old rail route along the Parkland walk. En route we will be exploring local history through buildings and architecture including art deco icons at either end.



© KATE WEBSTER

**TUESDAY 30 JUNE • 14.00****Constable and Geology**

Proms favourite, **Alison Barraclough** (President, Geology Association), returns with an exploration of parts of the western Heath. Looking at both art and geology we will see how geology influenced the landscapes painted by Constable and is still visible today, including the recently reinstated Branch Hill pond. This walk will include paths in the Heath, so sturdy footwear is recommended.

**WEDNESDAY 1 JULY • 10.30****The Babbling Brook in the Next Valley**

A one-way walk tracing the buried River Fleet from Highgate to Kentish Town City Farm in Gospel Oak. Led by **Lester Hillman**, lecturer and accredited guide, we will pass along hidden farm lanes, the remodelled Heath ponds and discover famous people and colourful dramas along the way.

**WEDNESDAY 1 JULY • 14.00****Brent Cross Town (BXT) Revisited**

Much has changed since our visit in 2022 when BXT was just beginning. The first residents have arrived, the station is open and the park is maturing. **Kate Webster** leads a return visit, which will look at key features of the emerging new town including the art trail and features relating to the wider story of the locality and even connections to the Suburb.



© KATE WEBSTER

**THURSDAY 2 JULY • 10.30****Managing Our Heath Trees**

**Tom Radusin**, Arborist with the Corporation of London's team that takes care of Hampstead Heath will lead us through three different environments, starting with new planting and veteran trees on the Heath Extension, before moving on to look at other trees on the Sandy Heath and in the Hill Garden.

**THURSDAY 2 JULY • 14.00****From North End to the Suburb: In the Steps of Henrietta Barnett and Raymond Unwin**

By the end of the 19th century, Victorian London had expanded as far north as Hampstead, beyond which lay the cottages, fields and wilds of Middlesex. It was here that from 1907 the Hampstead Garden Suburb was built around what was to become the Heath Extension. Join **Calum Orr**, Architectural Adviser to The Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, on a walk from the hamlet of North End to the Suburb, as we try to gather a picture of the still-visible landscape at this decisive moment.

**FRIDAY 3 JULY • 10.30**

### Building the Inter-War Suburb

**David Davidson**, Architectural Adviser at The Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, leads a new walk on less-trodden territory, looking at the how the area north and east of Central Square developed after the hiatus of World War I.

**FRIDAY 3 JULY • 14.00**

### Monks, Merchants, Modern Architecture and (Hilary) Mantel: In Search of Thomas Cromwell and Tudor London

Acclaimed Blue Badge Guide and author, **Mark King** will guide us in the footsteps of Thomas Cromwell in the City of London. Whilst Cromwell's palatial home no longer exists, an exploration of the medieval street pattern around Austin Friars will enable us to discover echoes of Thomas Cromwell, the merchant, lawyer and statesman in the area where he and key contacts lived as he rose to power. Stands alone but is also an ideal follow-up for fans of Wolf Hall.



© MARTIN WEBSTER

**SATURDAY 4 JULY • 10.30**

### Spitalfields and The East End

Blue Badge Guide, **Alison Seabrook Moore** will lead us through this area of contrast and change where the City's 'Square Mile' of skyscrapers and finance meets Spitalfields and the East End. Historically a 'melting pot' where successive waves of migrants have settled and left their mark, Alison will peel back the layers to share their history through buildings and stories, as well as showing change in progress in gentrification and street art of this vibrant area.

**SUNDAY 5 JULY • 10.30**

### Radicals, Rebels and Pioneers

Beginning in Golders Green and proceeding to the Heath Extension, **Kate Webster**, Chair of Proms and Trustee of HGS Virtual Museum will introduce a mix of characters from the early and later 20th centuries who lived in the area. Along the way, we will meet a Nobel Peace Prize winner, politicians, activists, suffragettes and others who changed society for the better.



© KATE WEBSTER

# LitFest • 27 – 28 June

The Festival takes place in The Henrietta Barnett School NW11 7BN

Tickets can be booked online, and books will be sold after each event by our bookselling partner West End Lane Books, an independent bookshop serving the local community for more than 20 years. LitFest Weekend is supported by the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association.



The  
Henrietta Barnett  
School  
FOUNDED IN 1911

WEST END LANE BOOKS



**SATURDAY 27 JUNE • 10.30**

## Anthony Seldon in conversation with Simon Lewis

*The Path of Light: Walking  
to Auschwitz*

**Sir Anthony Seldon** is an educator, historian and author, acclaimed for his biographies of British Prime Ministers since the 1990s. Between 2023 and 2025 Seldon walked a 1,300 km route to Auschwitz, hearing along the way stories of men and women who protected the vulnerable during the Second World War and who stood up to evil in the face of unimaginable brutality. In *The Path of Light*, he reflects on how we can draw on these uplifting accounts to build a more peaceful world for the future.



Anthony Seldon

**SATURDAY 27 JUNE • 12.15**

## Gyles Brandreth

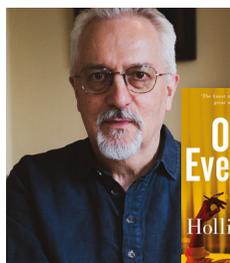
*Somewhere, a Boy and a Bear:  
The Remarkable Life of A.A. Milne  
and the Legacy of Winnie-the-Pooh*

It is 100 years since the publication of *Winnie-the-Pooh*, one of the best-loved children's books of all time. Best-selling biographer, broadcaster, podcaster and raconteur **Gyles Brandreth** knew the real Christopher Robin and his new book is an intimate and revealing biography of A.A. Milne. It is also a fascinating exploration of family dynamics and the nature of childhood itself.

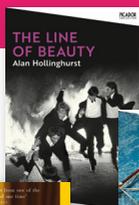
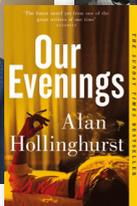
From his best-seller, *Elizabeth: An Intimate Portrait*, Gyles might also tell us why the late Queen had a special interest in the honey-loving bear.



Gyles Brandreth



Alan Hollinghurst

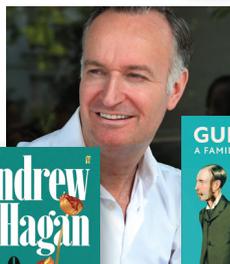


**SATURDAY 27 JUNE • 16.15**

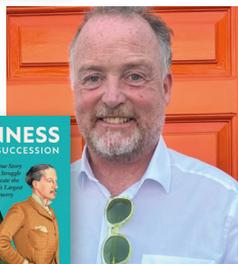
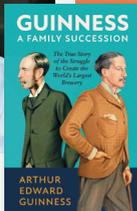
**Andrew O'Hagan  
in conversation with  
Georgina Godwin**

*On Friendship*

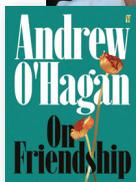
The best-selling author of *Mayflies* and *Caledonian Road* will discuss his latest non-fiction work: *On Friendship*. In a series of personal and uplifting essays **Andrew O'Hagan** explores friendship through music, poetry, memory and history. He reflects on the joy and importance of the friendships we develop throughout our lives – with people and animals, in childhood and adolescence, as adults and in the workplace. Some friendships span decades, others are fleeting. What they all have in common is that life would be unimaginable without them.



Andrew O'Hagan



Arthur Edward Guinness



**SATURDAY 27 JUNE • 14.30**

**The David Cohen  
Memorial Interview  
Alan Hollinghurst  
in conversation with  
Hermione Lee**

Last year **Sir Alan Hollinghurst** was awarded the prestigious David Cohen Prize for Literature, in recognition of his entire body of work. He is also the recipient of the Somerset Maugham Award, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for Fiction and the Booker Prize. Sir Alan's stylish prose, interwoven plots and evocation of different historical periods have made him one of our most highly regarded and respected authors. We are delighted that, in memory of our late Patron David Cohen, Sir Alan will join us to discuss his lifetime in literature with distinguished author and Chair of judges for the David Cohen Prize for Literature, **Dame Hermione Lee**.

**SUNDAY 28 JUNE • 11.00**

**Arthur Edward Guinness  
in conversation with  
Bridget Galton**

*Guinness: A Family  
Succession – The True Story  
of the Struggle to Create the  
World's Largest Brewery*

**Sir Arthur Edward Guinness**, 4th Earl of Iveagh, scion of the family that gifted nearby Kenwood House to the nation, tells of his family's rise from humble beginnings in rural Ireland to create the world's largest brewery and the iconic Guinness brand. Drawing on family archives, letters and photographs, this fascinating, personal account tells of the struggles and passions of earlier generations of the Guinness family, set within the context of Ireland's troubled history. This story encompasses family drama, business innovation and great philanthropy.

**SUNDAY 28 JUNE • 13.00**

## **Diana Henry in conversation with Sheila Dillon**

*Around the Table: 52 Essays  
on Food & Life*

Award-winning author, journalist and broadcaster **Diana Henry** writes for the *Daily Telegraph*, appears regularly on *BBC Radio 4* and has sold over one million books worldwide. Her evocative writing about places, people and food complements her delicious recipes perfectly. *Around the Table*, her gorgeous memoir-through-food, is a selection of her finest essays from more than 20 years of writing. Moving, funny and incisive, it explores food as history, geography and connection – bringing as much pleasure as her celebrated recipes.



Diana Henry

**SUNDAY 28 JUNE • 14.45**

## **Tracy Borman**

*The House of Boleyn*

**Tracy Borman OBE** is Chief Historian at the Historic Royal Palaces and appears regularly on historical television series and documentaries. Her latest novel, *The House of Boleyn* combines real history with richly imagined drama. It is the story of the Boleyn family's rise and fall, using their world at Hever Castle in Kent as the backdrop to a powerful and emotional story of family, fate and history. It is a tale of ambition, opulence, bloodlines and the deadly court of King Henry VIII.

**SUNDAY 28 JUNE • 16.30**

## **Hannah French in Conversation with Petroc Trelawny**

*The Rolling Years: Listening to  
the Seasons with Vivaldi*

On the 300th anniversary of Antonio Vivaldi's evergreen masterpiece *The Four Seasons*, *BBC Radio 3* presenter **Dr Hannah French** explores the rich imagery of each concerto and its poetry to reveal Vivaldi's personal and creative life as well as the beauty and brutality of the natural world. In conversation with fellow musicians and experts in health, nature, food, wine and science, she brings a new perspective to the music through our shared experiences of the joys and fears of the ever-evolving seasons.

© SOPHIA SPRING



Tracy Borman

Hannah French

# Friends and Supporters

Proms at St Jude's has been putting on this fantastic festival annually since 1993. We are a registered charity and have raised over £1.3 million for good causes. We can only achieve this through the incredible support we receive from audience members, our Friends, sponsors, donors, advertisers, volunteers and supporters. Thank you.

## Become a Friend of Proms at St Jude's

Now is a good time to sign up to become a Friend of Proms at St Jude's which brings with it a range of benefits, including priority booking, which is essential for those events when tickets sell really quickly. Visit [www.promsatstjudes.org.uk/join-as-a-friend](http://www.promsatstjudes.org.uk/join-as-a-friend)

As a charity we rely on the support of sponsors and Friends to help us put on the best festival possible. By becoming a Friend, you will be making a substantial contribution to the charities we support, North London Hospice and Toynbee Hall, and will help make the Festival more financially secure. Full details of the individual memberships are available on our website.

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**Subscriptions for 2026 are:**  
**Gold £300; Silver £175; Bronze £50.**  
*All membership categories are eligible for Gift Aid in whole or in part.*

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**So don't delay –  
become a friend today!**

### Become a Gold Friend



Book from 30 March. Your name will be in the programme should you wish. You'll be invited to special events and the Launch reception and will be able to come to the hospitality marquee before and after the concerts, where you can meet the performers, as well as in the interval. You'll also get a complimentary copy of the Festival programme.

### Become a Silver Friend



Book from 2 April. Your name will be in the programme should you wish. You'll be invited to special events and the Launch reception and will be able to come to the hospitality marquee before the concerts and during the interval.

### Become a Bronze Friend



Book from on 4 April. Your name will be in the programme should you wish.



Proms at St Jude's is the trading name of SJP Charity Trust Limited • Company No. 04482726  
Registered Office: 39 Norrice Lea, London N2 0RD • Registered Charity No. 1094719

*Information correct at time of going to press.*

*Proms at St Jude's reserves the right to make changes to the programme where circumstances require.*

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# Booking Information

There is detailed information on our website about event start times, ticket policy, the locations, accessibility and food and drink. Please go online at [promsatstjudes.org.uk](http://promsatstjudes.org.uk)

## How and when to book

Gold Friends can book from **30 March**, Silver from **2 April** and Bronze from **4 April**. Public booking opens on **6 April**. You can book online or by telephone.

You can leave a message for the Box Office from **30 March** on **020 3322 8123** and someone will get back to you. If still available, tickets can be bought on the day, but pre-booking is recommended.

## Car parking

Car Parking at the venue is strictly for blue badge holders and must be reserved via the Box Office. Spaces will be allocated on first come, first served basis.

## Ticket prices

### Concerts

**Lunchtime concerts are FREE.**

**In the evening, prices vary.** A and B seats are upholstered and reserved. C seats are wooden and have obstructed sight lines, with limited or in some cases no view of the stage, but live TV screens are in place. For comfort seat cushions will be available to rent or you can bring your own.

There are a limited number of wheelchair seats available. These must be booked via the Box Office.

Tier	Dates	A	B	C
Tier 1	27, 28 June • 3, 5 July	£45	£40	£15
Tier 2	30 June • 2, 4 July	£40	£35	£15
Tier 3	29 June • 1 July	£35	£30	£15

### ★ **New For 2026!**

C seat season tickets £40 (£20 for under 25s)

## Tuesday 30 June and Sunday 5 July

**Teeny Prom** – £5 per adult, children free

Pre-booking is advised as spaces are limited. If there is capacity, tickets will be sold on the door.

## Saturday 4 July

**Comedy** – £15

### ★ **Offer**

**Jazz Celebration and Comedy** – £5 off

## Sunday 5 July

**Music on the Square** – FREE

**STOMP** – £10 per adult, £5 per child

**Family Concert** – £10 per adult, £5 per child

**LitFest** – £16

All tickets are bookable online or available on the door on the day. Seats are unreserved.

**Walks** – £15

All tickets are bookable online; pre-booking is recommended.



To book, go online at [promsatstjudes.org.uk](http://promsatstjudes.org.uk) or scan the QR code

*In the unlikely event of cancellation by Proms at St Jude's, tickets will be refunded.*

BACK COVER IMAGE © MICHAEL ELEFTHERIADES



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Just visit our website and sign up.**



## **VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!**

Volunteers are what makes Proms at St Jude's a success. You could steward at concerts, help with catering or join one of our teams. We would be delighted to hear from you.

[www.promsatstjudes.org.uk/volunteering](https://www.promsatstjudes.org.uk/volunteering)

**proms**  
at st jude's

**Raising Funds for North London Hospice, Toynbee Hall  
and Education Outreach**