

COMMUNITY NEWS - Tuesday 12 November 2024

IPSWICH ARTS ASSOCIATION with CHRIS GREEN

Another Annual General Meeting, and a new session for Ipswich Arts Association. The Annual General Meeting held last Friday evening enabled long-time member groups and new entrants to review the work of the Association during the previous year and be reminded that 2025 marks the 25th anniversary of three major initiatives launched and managed by IAA- the Ipswich Charter Hangings, Ipswich Town Concerts and Lectures. Of course, the current series of lectures and concerts has not yet ended, and the next is on Thursday 14 November when the superorganism - the bee- is the topic of the talk by John Quinlan starting at 1pm at Museum Street Methodist Church, Blackhorse Lane, Ipswich. Admission is free with a retiring collection.

November is a month brimming over with events so if I have not got space to cover all those being held locally, forgive me, but remember the Ipswich Arts website is there to promote your event. Amongst those events is the final of four community-based concerts by Trianon Music Group on Saturday 16 November when members of the Wind and Brass sections repeat a programme that won much praise earlier this autumn. They perform at St Andrews Church in Felixstowe with a one-hour programme starting at 4pm. The programme is light and varied including 'Spring' from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, Elgar's *Morning Song* and a selection of Scott Joplin 'rags'. The concert will be raising money for Tearfund which partners with churches in more than 50 countries to support sustainable projects aimed at tackling poverty and inequality. Tickets cost £7, £4 for under-18s and students, and are available from The Card Centre, Hamilton Road, or on the door. Refreshments will be available after the concert.

Last week I mentioned that the Ipswich Jazz and Blues Club had joined IAA. And another welcome new member is the Trimley Arts Venue. Situated in the High Street it is managed by Suzanne Hawkes who has managed to provide an exciting programme in this intimate venue. November is a busy month and on Thursday evening you can hear IAA Trustee and poet Sue Wallace-Shaddad reading from her newly-published book- *Once There was Colour*. She will be joined by guest poets focusing on poetry on the theme of Conflict. The session starts at 7.30pm, whilst the following evening – again starting at 7.30pm the popular Lowestoft group the Testota Tones return with a night of doo-wop and the sounds of the '50s. Tickets can be reserved on 01394 279613 or bought online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/two-sisters-arts-centre



Testatones - doo-wopping, Credit" Testatones

Finally, back to Saturday 16 November when the Ipswich Chamber Choir presents a programme chosen by members reflecting the 40 years of the choir's existence. The contents provide a "must" list of anthems from Tallis to contemporary Eric Whitacre. Conducted by Benedict Collins Rice, the concert at St Mary-le-Tower church starts at 7pm with wine and soft drinks available from 6.30pm. Tickets cost £18 reserved in the nave, £16 unreserved in the side aisles, half price under 30 and free for 18 and under. These are available from choir members, ipswichchamberchoir@gmail.com and via WeGotTickets unreserved only, at www.ipswichchamberchoir.org.uk and from Music World, Ipswich and Woodbridge Violins.

I am in the throes of rehearsing for a concert at the end of the month which includes two pieces by Ennio Morricone – surely the master of heart-tugging tunes, and to sample his immense output for the cinema then I can recommend a double-CD album containing 30 tracks- some instrumental and others for orchestra (Warner 5101 12304-2). Favourites? They have to include *Gabriel's Oboe*, *Deborah's Song* and *Cinema Paradiso*. No wonder that you will be able to hear all of those in a concert in Essex on 30 November or Ipswich on 11 January next year.

If you have a story to share with other organisations, please email IAA chairperson, Professor Chris Green at: cjc.green@talktalk.net