

Free concerts at the Arts Festival

The free Arts Festival concerts are an important part of musical life in the area – with excellent music, a forum for meeting other supporters and an opportunity to purchase tickets for events later in the Festival. The pattern this year is as in previous years: six coffee concerts in St Laurence's Church followed by three organ recitals at various locations. There are no tickets for these, and we have never (yet) quite run out of space – so please just turn up and enjoy the music! There are retiring collections to cover costs.



CHURCH STRETTON ARTS FESTIVAL

25th July -
9th August



The coffee concert week ends on a lively note with **Wenlock Jazz Ensemble's** jazz standards, blues, contemporary tunes and vocals. On **Saturday 1st August**, this brings to a close the 20th year of Festival coffee concerts.

Coffee Concerts in St Laurence's Church, Church Stretton SY6 6DQ

Daily concerts from **Monday 27th July** to **Saturday 1st August** in a variety of styles to suit many tastes. They begin at 10.15am, ending at 11am, after which Stretton Parish kindly provides tea, coffee and homemade biscuits. Proceeds will help fund a servery in the church.

The week begins on **Monday 27th July** with a delightful concert of mixed chamber music presented by three generations of the Walker family, from the baroque period to Brahms, Strauss and Dvořák, including solos for flute, oboe, horn and cello.



On **Tuesday 28th July** we will put our excellent hired grand piano through its paces. Pianist **Julian Hellaby** has played all over the world, and we are delighted that he is able to give us one of his lovely programmes. There has been a change from the pianist announced in the brochure – but we will still have a wonderful recital!



Cellist **Corinne Frost** with pianist **Janine Parsons** have played for us before and are both first class. This year on **Wednesday 29th July** they bring you **Rhythms of Spain**: vibrant and colourful music with the spirit and flavour of Spain, including works by Villa-Lobos, Piazzolla, Granados, Cassado, Ravel and Bizet.



On **Thursday 30th July**, the piano is again featured, this time in a duet recital by **Gill Styles** and **Richard Walker**. They will play a splendid Mozart Sonata, written very much in his maturity, just a couple of months before he completed *Don Giovanni*. The recital ends with Mendelssohn's sparkling *Allegro Brillante*, which you will love!



We haven't featured brass groups in the coffee concert series recently and are delighted to welcome **Holborne Brass** to play to us on **Friday 31st July**. Holborne Brass is an excellent West Midlands-based group who have played to great acclaim elsewhere in the area and we are delighted to host their debut Church Stretton performance!



Organ recitals

Three organ recitals, on very different types of organ, will begin at noon and end around 12.45pm.

Monday 3rd August features the large electronic organ at All Saints' Church, Little Stretton SY6 6RD. **David Price**, Organist and Director of Music at Portsmouth Cathedral, has played for the Festival before, and we are delighted to welcome him back. His programme begins with the iconic *Toccata and Fugue in D minor* of J S Bach. The Green Dragon will be open for coffee from 11.15am and again after the concert for lunch (booking advised).



Every year we visit a village in the area for our second recital, and this year for the first time we are guests of St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford SY7 0PN. It has one of the best organs in the area, and **Allan Walker** will put it through its paces on **Wednesday 5th August**. There will be refreshments in the church from 11.15am. Directions:
If you are driving, you can park outside the church or in the village.
what3words for the church: ///tame.stow.pardon
what3words for the village car park: ///apples.dared.proves
For those who are unable to travel by other means, Ring & Ride can be arranged to this recital – please contact the R&R office on 01694 720025 for more information.



The final recital on **Saturday 8th August** is by **Richard Walker** at St Laurence's Church, Church Stretton. His varied programme will show off this remarkable historic instrument.



Art, Crafts & Photography Exhibition

Don't forget to visit our wonderful Exhibition at St Lawrence Primary School. It's open daily throughout the Festival and completely free this year. We showcase the work of local artists, photographers and craftspeople, both amateur and professional, and almost everything is for sale. There's no need to book for the opening reception on **Monday 27th July** at 7.30pm and your admission of £5 includes a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink. Exhibition open **Tuesday 28th July** to **Saturday 8th August** 10.30am-5pm.

Other Festival Events...

You'll find full details of all Festival Events, including a wide range of other musical events, on our website (see below), or use the QR Code.



strettonfestival.org.uk