

New Syllabus Given a Musical Launch

One Friday evening earlier this month saw the third concert by local musicians staged to launch the syllabus for next year's Music Festival and to raise much needed funds to help finance this very well established annual musical event. The evening opened with Grantham Preparatory School Jazz Band and I was delighted to be entertained again by the small blonde boy and his very large drum kit. Yes, he had grown but he was still dwarfed by his equipment! His sense of rhythm and the control of his instruments cannot fail to delight. It does beg the question, just how good will he be when he grows into his drum kit?

As in previous years the performers provided a well-balanced programme of the familiar and not so familiar and what struck me throughout the concert was the amount of enthusiasm and enjoyment from all the artists. It was particularly pleasing to hear Zadok the Priest performed by Long Bennington Academy Choir. This was one of the ten pieces for primary schools launched twelve months ago by BBC Radio 3 to encourage this age range to become more familiar with and to enjoy classical music.

The final piece, Beethoven's Sonata No 5 in F Major for violin, was played by Georgia Hannant, a previous festival prize winner, now studying at the Royal Academy of Music. She played with a great deal of expression and feeling providing a fitting end to a very enjoyable musical evening.

Next year's Music Festival will take place at ChristChurch, Finkin Street from 2nd – 9th March 2016, when the adjudicator will be Ian Hÿtch. The syllabus for this forthcoming event is now available and for further details go to the web site www.granthammusicfestival.co.uk

Gill Charles