

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

STANBRIDGE HALL BANBURY SCHOOL

Tuesday 3rd February, 1981

B A N B U R Y
S Y M P H O N Y O R C H E S T R A

Leader: Stephen Bingham

Conductor

PHILIP SHAW

The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this Society is affiliated, gives support towards the cost of this Concert with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain.

The Orchestra acknowledges Financial Assistance from the P.F. Charitable Trust, and General Foods Limited.

PROGRAMME: 10p

The National Anthem

ACADEMIC FESTIVAL OVERTURE

Brahms

"A jolly pot-pourri of student songs a la Suppe" was Brahms' own description of his "Academic Festival" Overture which was given its first performance in 1881 at a concert in celebration of the composer's receiving an honorary doctorate from the University of Breslau. In shape the Overture is perfectly orthodox, traditional (not to say academic) first-movement sonata-allegro with an imaginative introduction and a very grand coda and for material uses traditional German students' songs closing with Gaudeamus Igitur which has, on occasion, been sung as well as played.

Suite: The Faithful Shepherd

Handel
arr Beecham

Introduction and Fugue

Adagio	Minuet
Gavotte	Pastorale
Bourree	Finale

The Faithful Shepherd was the second opera composed by Handel after his arrival in England and was first performed at the Queen's Theatre in the Haymarket in 1712. The original version was exceedingly simpler; most of the accompaniment was evidently left to the discretion of the harpsichordist, except for violin melodies in unison with the voice and occasional counter melodies for a solo cello. It was revised and considerably enlarged by Handel in 1734 and more recently arranged in suite form by Sir Thomas Beecham.

I N T E R V A L

Symphony No 92 in G Minor "Oxford"

Haydn

Adagio-Allegro Spiritoso: Adagio: Minuet e trio-
Allegretto: Presto.

The "Oxford" symphony takes its name from its ceremonial performance at Oxford University on July 7th 1791 as an expression of Haydn's gratitude for the Doctor's degree honoris causa. To celebrate the conferring of the degree, three concerts, consisting chiefly of works of Handel and Haydn, were performed on July 6, 7 & 8 in the Sheldonian Theatre of Oxford. The first concert was to have included "a new m.s. overture by Haydn" ("overture" was the usual term at this time in England for a symphony). But as Haydn did not arrive at Oxford in time for a rehearsal an older symphony of his was substituted. Next morning there was time for rehearsal and thus it was possible to prepare, for the second concert, the "new" symphony Haydn had designed for the Oxford Celebrations, and which seems to have been new to England. Actually the symphony was two years old having been composed in 1789, one of a set of three (numbers 90, 91 and 92) commissioned by Count d'Ogny, a French aristocrat, but sold the very next year (1790) as new to the German Prince Oettingen-Wallerstein. The nick-name "Oxford" was not given to this twice-sold Symphony No. 92 until the early years of the nineteenth century.

Little Suite for Orchestra Op. 53
Prelude: Dance: March.

Malcolm Arnold

Malcolm Arnold was born at Northampton in 1921. After training at the Royal College of Music he worked as a professional orchestral trumpeter. He has since established himself as a leading twentieth century English composer with an output that already includes six symphonies and eight concertos. He is also known as a writer of "serious, popular music" and works in this vein include music for films (Bridge on the River Kwai etc), brass band pieces and "lighter" orchestral works such as the "Little Suite".

THE BANBURY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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There are vacancies in most departments of the orchestra. Enquiries may be made to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. L. Farbrother, 41 Longleat Close, Banbury. Telephone 61421 or to the Conductor, Banbury School, Telephone 51451.

Our next concert: Saturday 16th May 1981
Scheherazade: Rimsky-Korsakoff