

Sat. 16 Nov 2019 7.30 pm
Roding Valley High School
Alderton Hill, Loughton IG10 3JA



WOODFORD
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

PROGRAMME

Overture: Der Freischütz

Carl Maria von Weber

(1786 - 1826)

Conductor: Leone Quinton

Aria: Let the Bright Seraphim

Georg Friderich Händel

(1685 - 1759)

Trumpet: Max Weaver | Soprano: Enid Hardwick

Conductor: Leone Quinton

Waltz: The Blue Danube

Johann Strauss II

(1825 - 1899)

Conductor: Max Weaver

INTERVAL

Symphony No. 9 (New World)

Antonín Dvořák

(1841 - 1904)

Adagio - Allegro Molto | Largo | Molto Vivace | Allegro con fuoco

Conductor: Philip Norman

WOODFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

www.WSOchestra.org.uk

020 8924 9370

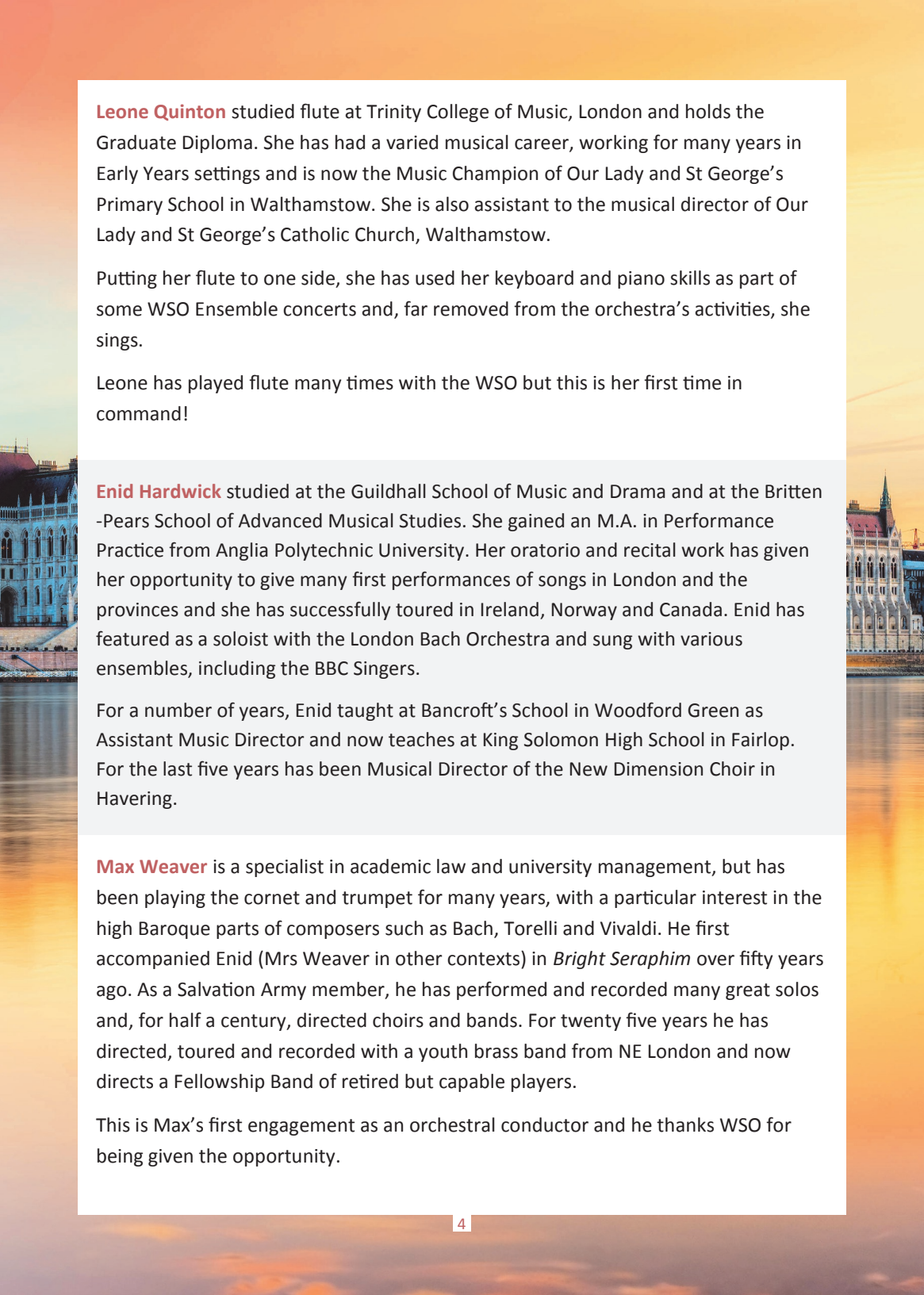
Woodford Symphony Orchestra is looking forward to a future of increasing optimism.

During the 2018 - 2019 season, apart from presenting two of its major concerts, WSO underpinned a project with the **All Saints Festival Chorus** from All Saint's, Woodford Wells, and singers from other choirs and choral societies, to perform Handel's Messiah in a version re-orchestrated by Mozart. In 2020, the orchestra is participating in two major orchestral/choral projects:

- On **Saturday 21 March at 8.00 pm**, we will be performing Mendelssohn's rare Symphony No. 2, co-operating with the 70 strong **Questors Choir** from West London and the professional choir from **All Saints', Margaret Street**. This will take place in All Saints' Church, Margaret St W1 (just round the corner from the BBC). [I know it's out of area, but you all *still have to come!*]. The symphony is described as "rare" because it demands a large orchestra and a large choir, so it is not often programmed.
- On **Saturday 6 June at 7.30 pm**, WSO will once again be working with **All Saints' Festival Chorus** from Woodford and other local singers to present the première symphonic version of Vivaldi's Gloria. This will be in All Saints', Woodford Wells. Why symphonic? Well, Vivaldi's orchestra consisted of a small group of strings, one trumpet and one oboe, and he probably only had a handful of singers. For this performance, the whole thing is being re-orchestrated for a full symphony orchestra and large choir. Musicological purists will hold up their hands in horror at this - but it will be a grand, uplifting sound.

The recently formed **WSO Ensemble** presents less formal concerts in a variety of locations. Last Christmas, the Ensemble worked with **The Harlow Singers** to present a mince-pie rich concert of favourite carols and Christmas music. A similar concert will be held on **Sunday 8th December, 4.00pm** St Mary's, Harlow. You can find out more about this on the WSO website.

Also, in recent years, a number of **String Workshops** have been organised. The next will be on **Saturday 25 January from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm** in Seven Kings United Free Church in Meads Lane. This will be chance for you to dust off your violin and take the first steps towards becoming a member of this enterprising orchestra.



Leone Quinton studied flute at Trinity College of Music, London and holds the Graduate Diploma. She has had a varied musical career, working for many years in Early Years settings and is now the Music Champion of Our Lady and St George's Primary School in Walthamstow. She is also assistant to the musical director of Our Lady and St George's Catholic Church, Walthamstow.

Putting her flute to one side, she has used her keyboard and piano skills as part of some WSO Ensemble concerts and, far removed from the orchestra's activities, she sings.

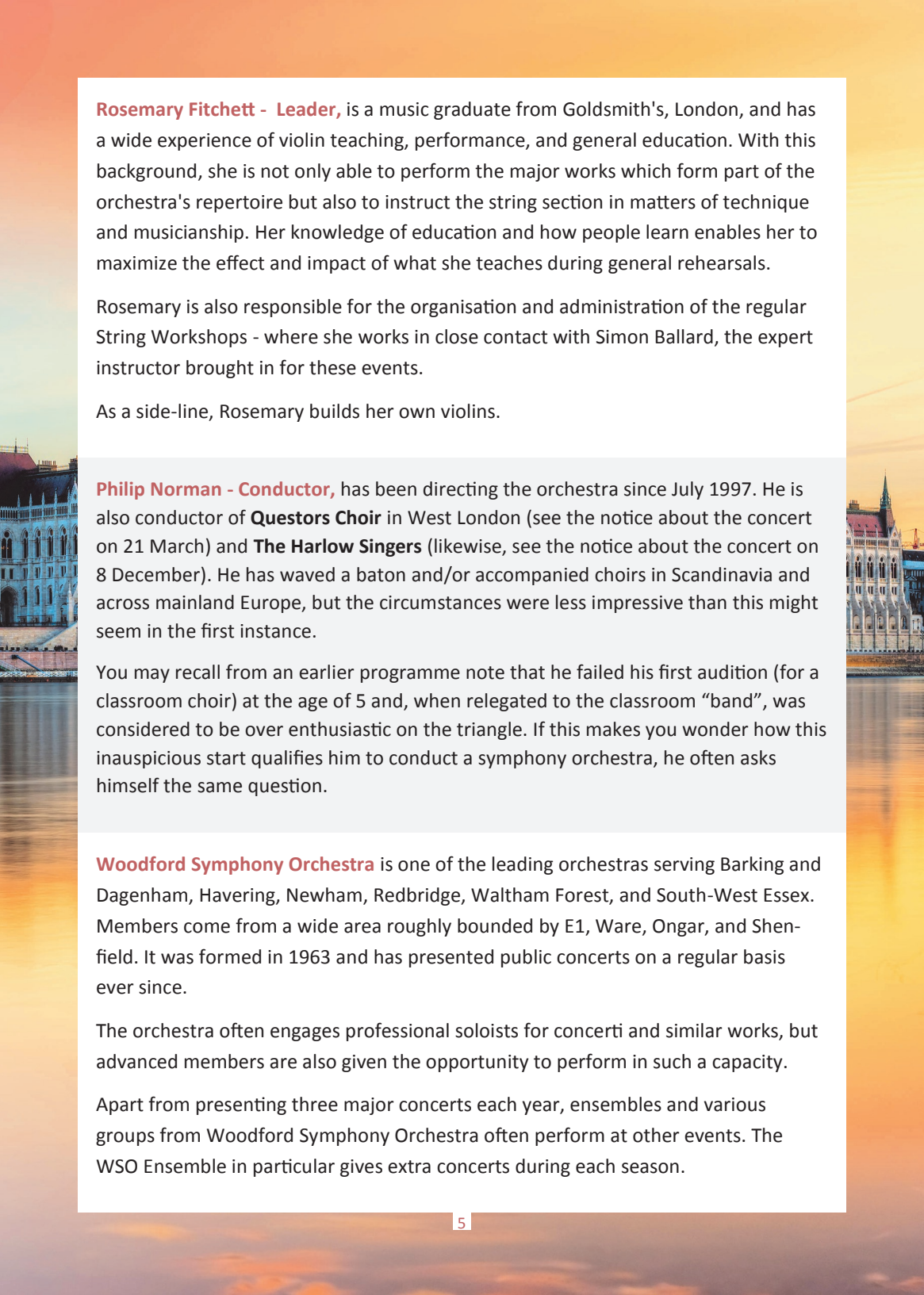
Leone has played flute many times with the WSO but this is her first time in command!

Enid Hardwick studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and at the Britten-Pears School of Advanced Musical Studies. She gained an M.A. in Performance Practice from Anglia Polytechnic University. Her oratorio and recital work has given her opportunity to give many first performances of songs in London and the provinces and she has successfully toured in Ireland, Norway and Canada. Enid has featured as a soloist with the London Bach Orchestra and sung with various ensembles, including the BBC Singers.

For a number of years, Enid taught at Bancroft's School in Woodford Green as Assistant Music Director and now teaches at King Solomon High School in Fairlop. For the last five years has been Musical Director of the New Dimension Choir in Havering.

Max Weaver is a specialist in academic law and university management, but has been playing the cornet and trumpet for many years, with a particular interest in the high Baroque parts of composers such as Bach, Torelli and Vivaldi. He first accompanied Enid (Mrs Weaver in other contexts) in *Bright Seraphim* over fifty years ago. As a Salvation Army member, he has performed and recorded many great solos and, for half a century, directed choirs and bands. For twenty five years he has directed, toured and recorded with a youth brass band from NE London and now directs a Fellowship Band of retired but capable players.

This is Max's first engagement as an orchestral conductor and he thanks WSO for being given the opportunity.



Rosemary Fitchett - Leader, is a music graduate from Goldsmith's, London, and has a wide experience of violin teaching, performance, and general education. With this background, she is not only able to perform the major works which form part of the orchestra's repertoire but also to instruct the string section in matters of technique and musicianship. Her knowledge of education and how people learn enables her to maximize the effect and impact of what she teaches during general rehearsals.

Rosemary is also responsible for the organisation and administration of the regular String Workshops - where she works in close contact with Simon Ballard, the expert instructor brought in for these events.

As a side-line, Rosemary builds her own violins.

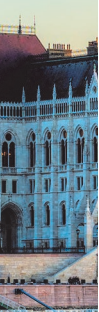
Philip Norman - Conductor, has been directing the orchestra since July 1997. He is also conductor of **Questors Choir** in West London (see the notice about the concert on 21 March) and **The Harlow Singers** (likewise, see the notice about the concert on 8 December). He has waved a baton and/or accompanied choirs in Scandinavia and across mainland Europe, but the circumstances were less impressive than this might seem in the first instance.

You may recall from an earlier programme note that he failed his first audition (for a classroom choir) at the age of 5 and, when relegated to the classroom "band", was considered to be over enthusiastic on the triangle. If this makes you wonder how this inauspicious start qualifies him to conduct a symphony orchestra, he often asks himself the same question.

Woodford Symphony Orchestra is one of the leading orchestras serving Barking and Dagenham, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Waltham Forest, and South-West Essex. Members come from a wide area roughly bounded by E1, Ware, Ongar, and Shenfield. It was formed in 1963 and has presented public concerts on a regular basis ever since.

The orchestra often engages professional soloists for concerti and similar works, but advanced members are also given the opportunity to perform in such a capacity.

Apart from presenting three major concerts each year, ensembles and various groups from Woodford Symphony Orchestra often perform at other events. The WSO Ensemble in particular gives extra concerts during each season.



Weber: Freischütz Overture At its premiere, and immediately afterwards, Weber's 1821 opera *Der Freischütz* was an immediate international success. However, History has taken a different viewpoint and the cast, characters, plot, and most of the music are now pretty well forgotten. As for the overture itself, most of it is good, well crafted music. But the opening, haunting Adagio redefined the French Horn. With these opening bars, its sad, recent history of being nothing more than a parping noise machine was swept away; from now on, it would epitomize the dark, mountainous forest land of Germany. It had become THE Romantic brass instrument.

Händel: Let the Bright Seraphim Taken from the 1741 oratorio *Samson*, this aria is almost a popular amongst Händel's works as *I Know that My Redeemer Liveth* from *Messiah*. Its special feature is the rapid-fire duetting between the virtuoso trumpet soloist and the virtuoso soprano soloist. You don't need to know the plot of the oratorio but the work is a testimony to Händel's work capacity. Famously, he completed *Messiah* in just three weeks on 14 September 1721. Less one week later, 20 September, the first hour of *Samson* had been composed. The whole thing was done and dusted by 29 October.

Strauss II: Blue Danube Waltz The Strauss family (Johann I, Johann II, Eduard, Josef) defined the Viennese waltz and dance music and were, collectively, probably more popular than Brahms, Liszt, Wagner et al put together. Typically, Johann I forbade his sons to take up music, and hoped that they would have more worthy careers such as banking, the military, and diplomacy. Like so many parental plans for their children, they all came to nothing. They became a wealthy family - but missed so much additional wealth by not being around for Stanley Kubrick's *2001*.

Dvořák: Symphony No. 9 (From a New World) Apart from any celebrity they may gather during their composer's lifetime and afterwards, some works achieve a wider, almost cultural *warp and weft* existence. We all know that the famous cor anglais tune of movement 2 (played by our Catherine this time) cries out to us, "Hovis", but listen to the arching horn melodies and the driving strings, and let your mind float free. From murky, cerebral depths, do the words *John Wayne* or *Bonanza* begin to slip into focus? Has this symphony laid the foundation for many a Western film score? It must be something to do with the title. Had Dvořák taken a break in Britain rather than the USA, it's hard to imagine that a symphony entitled, for instance, *From Cleethorpes* or *Wet Macclesfield* would have captured the imagination.

WOODFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conductor:	Philip Norman
First Violins:	Rosemary Fitchett (Leader), Lindsay Hamley, Patrick Kilbride, Imogen Lawler, Jessa Lee, Craig Tranfield, Maneka Batheja, Zanna Wing-Davis
Second Violins:	Ann Smith, Michael Lessiter, Peter Beresford, David Hulbert, Claire Halls, Ruth Shellard, Reuben Branson, Livio de Angelis
Violas:	Lynette D'Souza, Joe Watling, Joan Faria, Charlotte Beck, Joe Lucas
Cellos:	Jenny Collins, Francesca Fenn, Alison Welham, David Maxwell, Sue Lucas, Maud Hodson
Double Basses:	Rob Furber, Tony Scholl
Flutes:	Arie Niewerf, Joy Park (+Piccolo)
Oboes:	Catherine Farndon (+Cor Anglais), Margaret Sinfield
Clarinets:	Cath Bagley, Paul Haydon
Bassoons:	Jane Chivers, Mark Flanders
Horns:	Jonathan West, Denis Haskew, Jeremy Lewin, Andy Combe
Trumpets:	Max Weaver, Mark Roberts
Trombones:	Paul Cutler, Sam Quilter, Sam Clough
Tuba:	Robert Whitelegg
Timpani:	Stuart Delve

Front of House Manager:

David Maxwell



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Woodford Symphony Orchestra & WSO Ensemble: Coming Events



WSO Ensemble & The Harlow Singers

Sunday 8 December 2019 4.00pm

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St Mary's Church, Churchgate St, Harlow CM17 0JT

Woodford Symphony Orchestra

Saturday 25 January 2020 10.00 am - 5.00pm

String Workshop

Seven Kings United Free Church, Meads Lane IG3 8NU



Woodford SO & Questors Choir

Saturday 21 March 2020 8.00pm

Mendelssohn Symphony 2

All Saints Church, Margaret Street, London W1W 8JG

Woodford SO & All Saints Festival Chorus

Saturday 6 June 7.30pm

Vivaldi Gloria

All Saints Church, Inmans Row, Woodford IG8 0HN



WSO Ensemble

Saturday 27 June 2020 7.30pm

SUMMER CONCERT

Venue to be decided.

WSOrchestra.org.uk or 020 8924 9370 for details