

‘FAR FROM HOME’

Music and readings reflecting on the impact of war throughout the ages



St Nicolas Church, Sunday 13 November, 6pm

*Retiring collection in aid of
the Royal British Legion and
DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal*



PROGRAMME NOTE

This evening's concert is an emotional journey through various aspects of war, with music and readings to signpost us along the way, and a few 'resting places' where we take time out to sing a community song.

Our first two concerts at St Nicolas, in 2018 and 2019, were about the effect of two world wars on our own small village community. The title we have adopted for the concerts was conceived in memory of the men from Forest Hill and Shotover who fought and, so often, died 'far from home' and also of the civilians who ended up in our village in wartime, many of whom had lost everything, including their homes.

In 2021, following the global pandemic and a general focus on world events, our concert took on a broader scope in both time and space. Even so, none of us had any inkling that in only a few months we would be witnessing the start of Russia's 'Special Military Operation' against its neighbour, Ukraine.

Tonight's programme is in three sections. The first section examines the root cause of war and starts on a celebratory note with a Medieval victory song. The middle section takes us to Ukraine with new poetry from three Ukrainian poets, interspersed with songs to take our minds off the brutal realities of war. In the final section we return to poetry from the First World War, ending with a poignant little lament by Maurice Ravel. At the end of each section, we will pause to sing a popular wartime song.

The performers in this concert are residents of Forest Hill and have all given their services free of charge.

At the end of the concert, there will be an opportunity to make a donation, either by cash or card (Peter Stutfield will have a card reader available). You can also donate with a mobile phone via our website at any time – instructions for doing this are on the back page of this programme.

All funds received will be shared between the Royal British Legion and the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Please give generously!

PROGRAMME

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PERFORMERS
Poem	William Blake – <i>A Poison Tree</i>	Wendy Walker
Song	Anon - <i>Agincourt Carol</i>	Naomi Hinks, Julia Stutfield, Peter Stutfield
Poem	Alfred Lichtenstein - <i>Leaving for the Front</i>	Will Blyth
Community Song	Ivor Novello - <i>Keep the home fires burning</i>	Julie Osborne - <i>piano</i>
Poem	Yuri Izdryk - <i>Darkness Invisible</i>	Marie Bradley
Song	Cole Porter – <i>Every Time we Say Goodbye</i>	Julie Osborne
Poem	Borys Humenyuk - <i>When you clean your weapon</i>	Pauline Bowerbank
Song	Betty Roe - <i>To His Sweet Saviour</i>	Naomi Hinks, Joe Burgess
Poem	Anastasia Afanasieva - <untitled>	Julia Stutfield and Prue Leeding
Community Song	<i>Bluebirds over the white cliffs of Dover</i>	Joseph Burgess <i>piano</i>
Poem	Dare Sorby - <i>Poem written in Arras Caves</i>	Hugh Lee, Jane Walker, and Peter Stutfield
Music	William Walton - <i>Elegy</i>	Peter Stutfield
Poem	Wilfred Owen – <i>Futility</i>	Rainer Buhler
Music	Ravel – <i>Trois Beaux Oiseaux du Paradis</i>	Naomi Hinks, Julia Stutfield, Peter Stutfield
Prayer	Prayers for Peace	Anthea Beresford
Community Song	<i>We'll meet again (1939)</i>	Joseph Burgess <i>piano</i>

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this event:

- To Phoebe Latham-Mollart for creating the illustration on the front cover
- To all our wonderful performers
- To Anthea Beresford and the Churchwardens at St Nicolas for their unfailing support
- To everyone who has lent equipment and contributed ideas and suggestions
- To the audience, without whom all our efforts would be in vain!

We hope you enjoy the concert!

St Nicolas Church, Forest Hill with Shotover

DONATING TO ST NICOLAS

St Nicolas, like all Church of England churches, relies on a combination of donations from the regular congregation and income from fundraising events in the community. In addition to regular expenses such as heat and light, insurance, and routine maintenance, the Church of England requires every church to pay an annual levy known as the 'Parish Share', which is used to support the provision of mission and ministry. For St Nicolas this is around £12,000.

If you would like to make a donation to St Nicolas, please scan the QR Code on the right, or go to www.stnicolasforesthill.org/donate.



Any donations made this evening will be shared between Royal British Legion and the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.