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KING'S LYNN Festival 1951 **75** 2026



12-25
JULY

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King's Lynn Festival is Registered Charity No. 1066819

Welcome to our 75th King's Lynn Festival, something to celebrate in itself while we are also delighted to have been voted EAFN's 2025 Norfolk Festival of the Year.

This festival has something for nearly everyone with a diverse programme including jazz, folk, drama, classical concerts, and an exhibition entitled Taste. Alongside internationally renowned artists performing in the town we are delighted to be showcasing local talent and prize-winning young musicians in our coffee concerts and again taking music outside the town to Dersingham. An overall apt celebration of 75 years of excellence.

A big thank you to our generous individual and business sponsors, and especially for the invaluable support of the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, and Norfolk County Council. We are immensely grateful to our hard working and dedicated staff and our wonderful volunteers. We also welcome our new Festival Manager, Ben Horden.

Adrian Parker
Chair

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Welcome to the 75th King's Lynn Festival



On behalf of the whole festival team, it is a privilege to introduce the 75th King's Lynn Festival and invite you to enjoy this two-week celebration of music and the arts.

In 2026 we celebrate 75 years of extraordinarily rich history. Achieving this milestone is testament to our early artistic visionaries and the extraordinary artists and dedicated community who have shaped King's Lynn into a cultural beacon over the last seven decades.

We are thrilled to present an exciting and diverse programme of arts in wonderful historic venues across our festival town. We welcome both established international artists and emerging talent across a broad spectrum of genres.

At this important juncture we look to a bold future, characterised not only by pushing boundaries in programming, but by a renewed dedication to developing community engagement and nurturing arts education, fostering the next generation of creative talent.

Our aim remains to deliver a cultural offering as dynamic and inclusive as the community we serve. In combining rich traditions and strong history with a dedication to future development, we don't just celebrate 75 years of King's Lynn Festival – we lay foundations for the next 75!

Whether we're welcoming you back as a regular supporter or for the first time, we can't wait to see you!

Ben Horden
Festival Manager

Ambrose Miller
Artistic Director

SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

King's Lynn Festival is enormously grateful to all those who are kindly supporting our concerts and events.

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FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

Taste

Curated by Dr Robert Anderson

In an intriguing exhibition, 'Taste' encourages you to make your own judgements about the good and bad qualities of material objects, paintings, buildings, clothes, writings, music, and ideas. It's likely we all have changing views of these over time: we will have been influenced by evolving views of society and what is deemed fashionable. We may not even realise the judgements we are making, so 'Taste' offers an opportunity to engage with how and why we are affected by the phenomenon.

The collection is considered historically from the 18th century to the present. Its *dramatis personæ* (characters) include figures who have influenced us in major, differing ways, such as David Hume, Hogarth, Pugin, Millais, Ruskin, Gerrit Rietveld, Tretchikoff, John Betjeman, and Jack Vettriano.

During the festival Patrick Hemmerlé, Sir Christopher Frayling, and Godfrey Evans all present talks on the subject. Details can be found in the listings pages.

Thursday 9–Saturday 25 July
11am–5pm
Chequer House Gallery
Free admission

This exhibition is kindly supported by The Guella Trust



CONCERT LISTINGS

Full details of all the 2026 King's Lynn Festival concert and events are listed here. For an at-a-glance calendar please see the inside back cover.

Book your tickets online, on the phone, or in person from Thursday 16 April. See page 28 for further information.

Our popular **coffee concerts** form a mini-series within the festival and begin on Monday 20 July (page 19).

Family Concert Club

Where you see this sticker,  £5 tickets are available for music students under 18 in full-time education. For full details see page 28.

Programme changes

Concert and event details were correct at the time of going to print. King's Lynn Festival reserves the right to alter artists or programmes as necessary.

Sunday 12 July

11.45am • The Minster Festival Service

Join us at King's Lynn Minster for a special Festival Service.

4pm • St Nicholas' Chapel Festival Peal

The bells of St Nicholas' Chapel ring out in celebration.

Sunday 12 July

3pm–c.5pm • Corn Exchange

£28.50

£18 Under 25s



Brighouse and Rastrick Brass Band

Programme includes

Elgar Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1

Coates Dambusters March

Wood Fantasy on British Sea Songs

Berlioz Carnaval Romain

The Brighouse and Rastrick Brass Band
David Thornton Conductor

It's bells up for the opening concert of the festival and who better to herald its beginning than The Brighouse and Rastrick brass band? Amongst the very best brass bands in the world, their programme showcases arrangements of some of the most popular and well-loved classical music.

This concert is kindly supported by Adrian Flux Insurance Services

Sunday 12 July

8pm–c.9pm • Town Hall

£35 (£30 Friends and Patrons)

£20 Under 25s



Cabaret 75: An anniversary celebration

Bowjangles

With drinks and canapés, cocktail seating, and an evening of glittering cabaret, this promises to be a true celebration of 75 years!

Bowjangles is a string quartet with a difference! They will turn your preconceptions of classical musicians upside down with their spectacular mix of upbeat classical music, comedy songs, well-known film, pop and rock tunes, and foot-stomping gypsy and Celtic bangers; all presented with humour, charisma, and impressive physicality.

Wine (or non-alcoholic alternative) and canapés are included in your ticket price, served from 7.30pm.

Monday 13 July

11am–c.1pm

£12

£10 Under 25s



Festival walking tour: Burneys of Georgian Lynn

with guide **Paul Richards**

2026 marks the tercentenary of the birth of organist, composer, and prominent music historian, Dr Charles Burney. Burney was a principal figure in the cultural life of Georgian England and spent his formative years in King's Lynn. Arriving in Lynn in 1751 as organist at St Margaret's, he soon established celebrity status in the town and county. His daughter, Fanny, was born in Chapel Street in 1752. She achieved fame as England's first bestselling female novelist and her diaries provide unique insights into upper crust life in Georgian Lynn. The tour treads the Burney family path, ending at The Minster.

The tour begins from St Nicholas' Chapel.

Monday 13 July

6pm–c.7pm • Town Hall

£15

£9 Under 25s



Photo James Bellorini

Exploring the music of Mark-Anthony Turnage

Programme includes

Turnage Cortège for Chris

Stravinsky Suite Italienne

Turnage Leap

Copland Four Piano Blues

Turnage Vocalise

Bernstein Sonata for clarinet and piano

Contemporary Consort

Mark-Anthony Turnage is an internationally renowned British composer whose music blends jazz and classical styles. Don't miss this opportunity to hear the composer in conversation with Ambrose Miller, and meet him afterwards.

Wine (or non-alcoholic alternative) is included in your ticket price, served following the concert.

This concert is kindly supported by Merxin Ltd

Tuesday 14 July

1pm–c.5.45pm

£25

£15 Under 25s



Festival tour of country churches

with guide **Adrian Ling**

A guided coach tour of the three fine churches at Harpley, Great Massingham, and Rougham, each containing particular features of interest. Led by Canon Adrian Ling and accompanied by the organ playing of Peter Godden.

The coach departs from Tuesday Market Place.

Tea, coffee, and cake are included in your ticket price, served at the conclusion of the tour.

This event is kindly supported by King's Lynn Civic Society

Tuesday 14 July

7.30pm–c.9.15pm • The Minster

£23

£14 Under 25s



Associate Ensemble, Wigmore Hall: Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective

Schubert String Trio in B flat, D. 471

Coleridge-Taylor Clarinet Quintet in F sharp minor, Op. 10

Brahms Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op. 115

Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective (Associate Ensemble, Wigmore Hall)

The clarinet quintet of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and Brahms' late autumnal masterpiece for the same instruments are at their best in the hands of this dynamic quintet, both works offering an utterly compelling musical texture. The Wigmore Hall's artists in residence open the programme with Schubert's charming single movement string trio.

This concert is kindly supported by Barbara and Ken Vincent, Trevor Smith, and Kate and Adrian Parker

Wednesday 15 July

3pm–c.4pm • Town Hall

£15

£10 Under 25s



Musical taste

Patrick Hemmerlé

In this lecture, Patrick Hemmerlé will shed light on aspects of taste in music, a concept that has been much discussed by composers, performers, and music critics from the Baroque to the present. The talk, illustrated by recordings, as well as by examples played live, will show how each generation sets its own taste criteria. What seems desirable to one artistic movement can be considered outmoded, or even vulgar by the next generation. The important distinction between taste and fashion will also be considered. Musical examples will include works by Bach arranged by composers such as Gounod, Stokowski, or Busoni, as well as music by Mozart, Chopin, Liszt, and Mahler.

This event is kindly supported by Dr Robert Anderson

Wednesday 15 July

6pm–c.7pm • All Saints' Church

£17.50

10.50 Under 25s



Choral reflections

Programme includes

Purcell If music be the food of love

des Prez Mille regrets

Lasso Matona mia cara

Mantjyarvi Double, double toil and trouble

Lindberg Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

Whitacre Seal lullaby

Shearing Who is Sylvia

McConnel Like a bell

The Guildhall Singers

James McConnel Piano

Andrés Hernández-Salazar Conductor

The Guildhall Singers reflect on the heritage of King's Lynn through music by Purcell, Josquin des Prez, Moeran, and Whitacre. The programme also includes the first performance of a new piece celebrating festival joy by Norfolk-based composer James McConnel.

This concert is kindly supported by Kate and Adrian Parker

Wednesday 15 July

7.30pm–c.9pm • Corn Exchange

£25–£27

£16 Under 25s



Fiesta flamenca: Music and dancers

Nuria Garcia Dancer

Prepare to be swept away as flamenco star Nuria Garcia and her colourful troupe of dancers and musicians bring the fiery and flamboyant music of the Moors in Andalucia to the stage of the Corn Exchange. Garcia leads her dancers through a breathtaking dialogue of rhythmic precision and emotional intensity, where every sharp heel-click and fluid gesture tells a story of passion, sorrow, and triumph. Book early to get catwalk-side seats – the best in the house – and embrace the full 'stomp'!

This event is kindly supported by Bill and Lesley Watson

Thursday 16 July

3pm–c.4pm • Corn Exchange Cinema

£15

£10 Under 25s



Design taste and origins of the V&A

Christopher Frayling

The inaugural exhibition at the Museum of Manufactures – the precursor of today's V&A – opened in 1852 with an attempt to demonstrate "correct" design and good taste by displaying examples of "utterly indefensible" design. This brainchild of Henry Cole, the Museum's first Director was affectionately referred to as "the chamber of horrors". The intended audiences were students of design, commentators, and shoppers who needed to be protected from selecting vulgar products. Although many were lost, all remaining exhibits have been assembled for this talk, which takes us round the "chamber of horrors" and revisits this doomed attempt to define good and bad taste...

This event is kindly supported by Neil Adams, and Judy Collingham

Thursday 16 July

7.30pm–c.9pm • Corn Exchange

£32–£35

£32 Under 25s

An evening with the Kanneh-Masons

Mendelssohn Cello Sonata No. 1 in B flat
Nadia Boulanger Three Pieces for cello and piano
Schumann Five pieces in Folk Style
Clarke Viola Sonata

Sheku Kanneh-Mason Cello
Isata Kanneh-Mason Piano

Experience a masterclass in musical synergy as these world-renowned siblings take the stage. Known for an intuitive rapport that only a lifetime of shared music-making can foster, the duo brings a breathtaking depth to the chamber music repertoire. Their performances are celebrated not just for technical brilliance, but for a profound, conversational intimacy that makes even the grandest concert hall feel like a private salon. From lyrical explorations to dazzling displays of virtuosity, this is a rare opportunity to witness two of classical music's most vibrant stars.

This concert is kindly supported by John and Meta Braymer, a legacy from Christine Huggins, and Kenneth Bush Solicitors

Photo: Mahameela

Friday 17 July

6pm–c.7.15pm • All Saints' Church

£17.50

£10.50 Under 25s



Leipzig to Hamburg 1725

J S Bach Trio sonata in G, BWV 1027/1039
J S Bach Trio sonata in B minor, BWV 1030
Telemann Fantasy for viola da gamba
Telemann Concerto in D
Telemann Trio Sonata in B minor

Anne Heemskerck Flute
Kate Bennett Wadsworth Cello
David Wright Harpsichord

A snapshot of artistry and friendship across Europe by two musical giants of 1725. While contrapuntal interplay finds its crystallised styling in Bach, Telemann – active in the Hamburg's Hanseatic port – heralds the lighter gallant style, so undeniably characteristic of his music.

This concert is kindly supported by Heather Bolt

FESTIVAL HUBS

Corn Exchange Foyer

Come and find us in the foyer of the Corn Exchange. You'll be able to grab a drink, explore what else is happening, and maybe even catch a free pop-up concert.

Monday–Saturday, 10am–5pm
Sunday, closed

Duke's Head Hotel Lounge

Relax in the lounge of the Duke's Head Hotel. Celebrate or unwind with a coffee or drink from the bar and keep an eye out for our free pop-up concerts.

Sunday–Thursday, 9.30am–11pm
Friday–Saturday, 9.30am–12am



Friday 17 July
2pm • Corn Exchange
Cinema
Film: **The Choral**
£5

This event is promoted by King's Lynn Community Cinema Club

As World War I rages, Dr Henry Guthrie takes over a British choral society that's lost most of its men to the army. The community soon discovers that the best response to the chaos of war is to make beautiful music together.

Friday 17 July

7.30pm–c.9.30pm • Corn Exchange

£23

£14 Under 25s



A Love Supreme: Music from a jazz deity

Denys Baptiste Saxophone

Gary Crosby Double Bass

Andrew McCormack Piano

Rod Youngs Drums

Bassist, band leader, and co-founder of Tomorrow's Warriors, Gary Crosby teams up with Mercury Prize nominee and MOBO award winning saxophonist Denys Baptiste to lead an all-star quartet for this celebration of what is widely regarded as the greatest jazz album of all time, John Coltrane's *A Love Supreme*. Immerse yourself in this rare opportunity to hear music from a jazz deity!

*This concert is kindly supported by
Barsby Produce Ltd*

Saturday 18 July

12noon–c.1pm • St Nicholas' Chapel

£12.50

£7.50 Under 25s



The organist entertains

Mendelssohn Sonata No. 2 in
C minor

J S Bach Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele,
BWV 654

Schumann Two Fugues on BACH

Lindberg Gammal fäbodpsalm från
Dalarna

Olsson Prelude and Fugue in D sharp
minor

Byrd Ut, re, mi, fa, sol, la

Pott Toccata on 'King's Lynn'

Francesca Massey Organ

A masterfully curated journey through the expressive breadth of the organ and a dialogue between the towering legacies of the Baroque and Romantic eras. Appropriately, the programme ends with a thrilling toccata on the celebrated hymn tune 'King's Lynn'.

Saturday 18 July

3.15pm • Corn Exchange Foyer

Free admission



Try a viol!

Jacqui Robertson-Wade Viol

Try your hand playing this extraordinary 15th century instrument! Suitable for anyone aged seven upwards and with no experience needed there's nothing to stop you having a go. Play or simply listen and observe. Come and find out more!

**FREE
POP-UP
CONCERT**

2.30pm • Corn Exchange
Foyer

Jacqui Robertson-Wade Viol
Peter Wendland Viol

Saturday 18 July

7.30pm–c.9pm • St Nicholas' Chapel

£26

£15.50 Under 25s



Academy of Ancient Music: The art of the Italian concerto

Mossi Concerto in G minor for four violins
Locatelli Concerto grosso No. 11 in C minor
Vivaldi Violin Concerto No. 12 in E
Vivaldi Concerto No. 11 in D minor for two violins
Valentini Concerto in A minor for four violins
Corelli Concerto grosso No. 4 in D

Academy of Ancient Music Bojan Čičić Director

Vivid virtuosity meets the Mediterranean warmth of the Italian peninsula in this concerto tour de force. The festival has enjoyed a long association with the Academy of Ancient Music and is delighted to welcome them back in our 75th year.

This concert is kindly supported anonymously and by Bow Brand International Ltd

Saturday 18 July

9.30pm–c.10pm • St Nicholas' Chapel

£10

£6 Under 25s



Before the guillotine

Couperin Les Goûts réunis
Sainte-Colombe Cinquième Sonata
Couperin Le dodo, ou L'amour au berceau
Sainte-Colombe Le Retour

Jacqui Robertson-Wade Viol
Peter Wendland Viol

A rare opportunity to hear sumptuous pre-revolutionary French music and the voluptuous sounds of treble, tenor, and bass viols, played by leading virtuosos, Jacqui Robertson-Wade and Peter Wendland, in the perfect setting of St Nicholas' Chapel.

Sunday 19 July

2.30pm–c.3.30pm • St Nicholas' Church, Dersingham

£20

£12 Under 25s



BBC New Generation Artists: Novo Quartet

Haydn String Quartet, Op. 33, No. 5
Mendelssohn String Quartet, Op. 44, No. 1

Novo Quartet (BBC New Generation Artists)

This programme pairs the "Father of the String Quartet" with one of the genre's most brilliant prodigies. Haydn's String Quartet showcases the wit and structural elegance that defined the Classical era; a masterclass in conversational intimacy between four instruments. In striking contrast, Mendelssohn captures fiery Romanticism and melodic lyricism. The acclaimed Novo Quartet are BBC New Generation Artists and promise a vivid journey through the evolution of the string quartet, from refined origins to passionate expansion.

This concert is kindly supported by The Coach and Horses Dersingham, and Roythorne and Son Ltd

Sunday 19 July

4.30pm–c.6pm • St Nicholas' Chapel

£23

Free Under 18s



Photo: Theo Williams

Town and county: Sacred and secular choral music of the British Isles

Vaughan Williams, arr. Drayton The Lark Ascending

Vaughan Williams Five Mystical Songs

Elgar Scenes from the Bavarian Highlands

King's Lynn Festival Chorus

Charlie Lovell-Jones Violin

Ella O'Neill Piano

Roderick Williams Baritone

Ben Horden Conductor

The Festival Chorus is joined by internationally acclaimed soloists for a journey through the heart of English romanticism, combining pastoral beauty with profound spiritual and folk-inspired energy. With the serenity of *The Lark Ascending*, the musical retelling of George Herbert's visionary poetry, and the vivid postcards from Elgar's own alpine holidays, this is a true celebration of lyrical storytelling and choral grandeur.

Sunday 19 July

8pm–c.9.30pm • Methodist Church

£18

£11 Under 25s



Photo: Tom Turner

Three chords and the truth

Magpie Lane

Magpie Lane brings to the festival joyous traditional English song and dance music in vivacious, inventive arrangements. From vigorous dance tunes to haunting ballads of the British Isles, they offer a captivating exploration of the "living history" that has inspired composers for centuries. *"...quite the best offering of English traditional songs and dance tunes that has come this way in many a day... a well chosen and balanced programme, full of change of pace and variety."* (Sussex Folk Diary)

Monday 20 July

11am–c.12noon • Town Hall

£17.50

£10.50 Under 25s



Photo: Maya Matsuura

Coffee concert I

Nielsen String Quartet No. 3 in E flat
Mozart String Quintet in G minor

Novo Quartet (BBC New Generation Artists)

Toby Cook Viola

Mozart's celebrated G minor string quintet is one of his late great works with the second viola as prominent as the first. The work has dramatic overtones similar to those in the Symphony No. 40 in G minor. Nielsen's quartet is less familiar to English audiences and an example of rich, late Scandinavian romanticism. A treat to hear it in the hands of this leading Danish quartet.

Tea, coffee, and cake are included in your ticket price, served from 10.30am.

This concert is kindly supported by Michael and Diana Brindle, and Frances Yorke

Monday 20 July

7.30pm-c.9pm • Corn Exchange

£18

£11 Under 25s



Are there more of you?

Alison Skilbeck Actor

Alison Skilbeck has appeared on television in *Soldier Soldier*, *Head over Heels* and *The Beiderbecke Affair* as well as a brief spell in *The Archers* as Polly Perks. Her one-woman show of a tale of four women, living utterly different lives, linked, it seems, only by a postcode. "Brilliantly observed, richly comic characters, all played to painful perfection, a wonderful evening." (Alan Ayckbourn)

**FREE
POP-UP
CONCERT**

10am • True's Yard

Magpie Lane

Tuesday 21 July

11am-c.12noon • Town Hall

£17.50

£10.50 Under 25s



Coffee concert II

Mozart Violin Sonata No. 18 in G
Brahms Violin Sonata No. 2 in A
Ravel Tzigane

Joel Munday Violin
Julian Trevelyan Piano

Mozart's spirited Violin Sonata in G is followed by Brahms' lyrical A major sonata, each work sharing its material equally between the instruments. Ravel's celebrated *Tzigane* is a virtuoso gypsy show-piece for the violin. Joel and Julian are both rising stars of their art and distinguished soloists in their own right.

Tea, coffee, and cake are included in your ticket price, served from 10.30am.

This concert is kindly supported anonymously, and by Congham Hall Hotel

Tuesday 21 July

3pm-c.4pm • Corn Exchange Cinema

£15

£10 Under 25s



Taste: Consensual or personal

Godfrey Evans

Beginning with the acquisition by kings and aristocrats of Classical Roman sculptures and Italian Renaissance paintings from 1500 onwards, this richly illustrated talk explores the collecting of Egyptian artefacts and the production of Egyptian-style silver after 1790. It then shifts focus to a growing desire to own items relating to the Emperor Napoleon, topical sporting paintings, and things associated with Great Exhibitions.

**FREE
POP-UP
CONCERT**

2pm • The Duke's Head
Hotel Lounge

Joel Munday Violin

PRELUDE CONCERTS

Our Prelude Concerts celebrate and encourage some of King's Lynn's most promising young talent. Before our professional artists take to the stage, we welcome to the concert platform musicians across a range of ages and instruments from local schools and colleges.

Tuesday 21 July
7pm-c.7.15pm • The Minster

Amelie Hayward Piano

Thursday 23 July
7pm-c.7.15pm • The Minster

Zoë Burton Violin



Tuesday 21 July

7.30pm–c.9.30pm • The Minster

£25

£15 Under 25s

Ruth, Lady Fermoy Memorial Concert

J S Bach, arr. Busoni Chaconne in D minor

Liszt Sonata in B minor

Rachmaninov Preludes Nos. 1, 2 5, 8, 6, 7

Ravel Gaspard de la nuit

Boris Giltburg Piano

In Busoni's transcription of Bach's celebrated Chaconne and Liszt's Sonata in B minor we find two titanic works of the piano repertoire. Rachmaninov's Preludes bring Russian-style virtuosity to the programme and Ravel's French impressionism adds colourful imagination to the landscape. In the 2025/26 season Boris Giltburg appears as soloist with major orchestras across Europe and is resident artist for the Dresdner Philharmonie.

*This concert is kindly supported by
The Sybil Trust, and The Festival Patrons*



Photo Sasha Gusov



Wednesday 22 July

11am–c.12noon • Town Hall

£17.50

£10.50 Under 25s



Coffee concert III

Schubert Sonata in A, D. 959

Chopin Andante spianato and Grande Polonaise

Rose McLachlan Piano

Of Schubert's last piano sonatas Robert Schumann wrote "the music ripples along songfully from page to page." It is an apt description of this late luxuriant sonata. The gentle *Andante Spianato* of Chopin contrasts sharply with nationalistic fervour of the *Grand Polonaise*. Rose McLachlan is establishing herself as an accomplished soloist with recent appearances at Bridgewater Hall and with the BBC Concert and Fort Worth Symphony Orchestras.

Tea, coffee, and cake are included in your ticket price, served from 10.30am.

*This concert is kindly supported by
Sylvia Cliffe*

Wednesday 22 July

7.30pm–c.8.30pm • Town Hall

£22

£13 Under 25s



Craig Ogden: Fantasy to flamenco

Torroba Allegretto (Sonatina for guitar)

Torroba Madroños

arr. Llobet Three Catalan folk songs

Koshkin The usher waltz

Piazzolla Invierno porteño

Dyens Fuoco (Libre sonatina)

Vivaldi, arr. Williams Concerto No. 9

Rameau Les tendres plaintes

J S Bach Sarabande (Lute Suite No. 2)

Reinhardt, arr. Dyens Nuages

Rodrigo Tres piezas españolas

Craig Ogden Guitar

Hear one of the greatest classical guitarists of our time, whose incredible career over three decades has included a stream of best-selling albums, appearances with the world's finest orchestras, and a constant presence on Classic FM, a favourite artist with the station's listeners.

*This concert is kindly supported by
Julie Carter*

Thursday 23 July

11am–c.12noon • Town Hall

£17.50

£10.50 Under 25s



Coffee concert IV

Spohr Sonata Concertante
Debussy Syrinx
Debussy Clair de Lune
Reade Suite (Victorian Kitchen Garden)
Doppler/Zamara Fantasia su temi dell'opera "Casilda"

Sirius Chau Flute
Gwenllian Llyr Harp

Originally written for violin and harp for the composer to perform with his wife, Spohr's Sonata is transformed in this unusual pairing. Alongside the impressionistic Debussy is the strikingly virtuosic "Casilda" Fantasy based on an obscure 1851 opera. Sirius Chau is a City Music Foundation artist and Gwenllian Llyr a prize winner in the USA International Harp Competition.

Tea, coffee, and cake are included in your ticket price, served from 10.30am.

This concert is kindly supported by Bryan Howling, and Tony Wright

Thursday 23 July

7.30pm–c.9.30pm • The Minster

£23

£15 Under 25s



The Forest of Dean to the Appalachians

Boyle The water mill
Gurney Black stichel
Ireland Blow out, you bugles
Gurney Lights Out
Hugh-Jones Ad ream
Howells A Girl's Song
Head A vagabond's song
Weiland Six songs
Payne Adlestrop
Vaughan Williams Nocturne
Holst Darest thou now, O soul
Vaughan Williams Clear midnight
Stanford Joy, shipmate, joy
Bliss Gone, gone again is summer
Bliss Little elegy
Bliss Siege
Samuel Of swans, snails and geese
Samuel The memory of swans
Samuel Eine kleine snailmusik
Samuel Franz, a goose
Vaughan Williams Songs from the southern Appalachian Mountains

Roderick Williams Baritone
Iain Burnside Piano

Character and storytelling abound in this quintessentially English songbook from celebrated baritone Roderick Williams and duo partner pianist Iain Burnside. Traversing landscapes of memory, war, and nature this meticulously curated programme centres on the "Dymock Poets" and their contemporaries, featuring cherished works by Vaughan

Williams, Gurney, and Howells alongside the pastoral wit of Rhian Samuel's animal sketches. From the haunting bugle calls of wartime to Whitman's transcendental verse, this recital captures the emotional vocabulary of a golden era in British composition.

This concert is kindly supported anonymously, and by Gaynor and Mark Scrivenger

Friday 24 July

11am–c.12noon • Town Hall

£17.50

£10.50 Under 25s



Coffee concert V

Haydn Piano Trio in A
Beethoven Piano Trio in B flat "Archduke"

The Paddington Trio

Haydn was as much the father of the piano trio as of the symphony and this joyous trio is a typical example. Without this forerunner, Beethoven's monumental "Archduke" trio might never have existed. The Paddington Trio makes a welcome return to the festival following recent tours to Mexico, the Netherlands, Germany, and Canada, as well as appearances at Snape Maltings.

Tea, coffee, and cake are included in your ticket price, served from 10.30am.

This concert is kindly supported by Donald and Jacqui Woodgate

Photo: Theo Williams

Friday 24 July

6pm–c.7.15pm • All Saints' Church

£17.50

£10.50 Under 25s



Silly bees and nightly cares: Dowland songs

Dowland's Foundry

2026 marks the 400th anniversary of the death of John Dowland, Elizabethan England's greatest lute-songster. In his lifetime, Dowland enjoyed widespread fame, aided by his four books of songs, published over twenty years to spectacular success.

Dowland's Foundry presents this music in the technicolour for which it was imagined: as songs for four voices, so written for "all of the parts, or either of them severally, to be sung to the lute." Unlike the more common singer-and-accompanist combo, this realisation bears more affinity to a family argument, or to a headful of unquiet thoughts: a perfect vehicle for the mintings of Dowland's wry, loving, and irreverent genius.

Friday 24 July

7.30pm–c.9.30pm • Corn Exchange

£25

£15 Under 25s



For one night only

The Pasadena Roof Orchestra

For one night only, take a step back into the glamorous era of The Great Gatsby, The Cotton Club, flappers, and speakeasies, for a unique concert celebrating the music of the roaring twenties... and thirties! Showcasing a sparkling collection of music and lovingly recreated orchestrations of classics from the likes of George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Duke Ellington, and Irving Berlin, the concert includes the very finest hot rhythms and sweet melodies of this iconic era. Experience an evening of superlative live music that inspired the most celebrated of decades, alongside more than just a dash of wit and humour!

This concert is kindly supported by Palm Paper, Bill and Aruna Irwin, Sanjukta Mitra, and King's Lynn Rotary Club

Saturday 25 July

7.30pm–c.9.45pm • Corn Exchange

£33–£36

£33 Under 25s



The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Mendelssohn The Hebrides Overture "Fingal's Cave"
Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto in D
Beethoven Symphony No. 3 in E flat "Eroica"

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Hana Chang Violin
Adam Hickox Conductor

Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony concludes the 2026 King's Lynn Festival just as it did the first festival in 1951. The programme opens with Mendelssohn's evocative "Fingal's Cave" and Tchaikovsky's great romantic Violin Concerto takes pride of place. Hana Chang is a BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist and distinguished soloist appearing with many of the major European orchestras.

This concert is kindly supported by The Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Photo Ben Wright

TICKETS & ATTENDING

General booking opens on Thursday 16 April

Tickets for all events are available from King's Lynn Corn Exchange Box Office. You can book online, on the phone, or in person.

Online

kingslynnfestival.org.uk

By phone

01553 764864
Monday–Saturday,
9am–5pm

In person

Monday–Saturday,
10am–5pm

There's an event for everyone whether you're a seasoned concertgoer or it's your first time giving it a try! For an at-a-glance calendar please see the inside back cover.

If you cannot use your ticket

We regret that tickets cannot be refunded or exchanged after purchase. Returned tickets can only be offered for resale when an event has sold out and at a handling charge of £1 per ticket. If a concert or event is cancelled you will be offered an exchange or full refund.

Online booking

Tickets purchased online are subject to a £2 transaction fee. Tickets delivered by post are subject to a £2 postage fee.

Theatre levy

All ticket prices include a theatre levy. For concerts and events at the Corn Exchange a levy of £2 is included in your ticket price. For concerts and events at other venues a theatre levy of £1 is included in your ticket price.

Family Concert Club

Where you see this sticker, £5 tickets are available for music students under 18 in full-time education. An accompanying adult receives a complimentary ticket. Register by [30 June](#) by scanning the QR code below and completing and submitting the form.



Concerts pass

Where you see this sticker, discounted tickets are available for attending associated concerts. Please refer to the online Box Office for more information.



Dress code

Come as you wish! There is no dress code at the festival.

Access

All venues offer suitable access for wheelchair-users. There are wheelchair spaces available at all our concerts and events. For those who require assistance companion seats are available at 50% of the full ticket price. Wheelchair spaces and companion seats are only available to book by phone or in person. If you have any access requirements please inform the Box Office at the time of booking for further advice on access, seating, and toilets, which vary between venues. Guide and assistance dogs are welcome at all concerts and events. If not booking tickets by phone or in person, please advise the Box Office after booking so your needs can be best accommodated.

Doors

Unless stated otherwise, doors open 30 minutes before any concert or event.

Latecomers

Latecomers will only be admitted if and when there is a suitable opportunity in the performance. We reserve the right to refuse admission at our discretion.

Mobile phones

Photography, audio and video recording are strictly prohibited during any concert or event. Please ensure devices are silenced for the duration.

Children under five

Out of consideration for audience and artists, we recommend that children attending are aged five and over.

Security

Please do not bring large bags to our venues. Visitors and bags may be subject to security checks.

OUR VENUES

All Saints' Church

Hillington Square, Church Lane
King's Lynn PE30 5HF

Chequer House Gallery

12 King Street
King's Lynn PE30 1ES

Corn Exchange

Tuesday Market Place
King's Lynn PE30 1JW

Duke's Head Hotel

Tuesday Market Place
King's Lynn PE30 1JS

Methodist Church

20 County Court Road
King's Lynn PE30 5EJ

The Minster

Saturday Market Place
King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

St Nicholas' Chapel

St Ann's Street
King's Lynn PE30 1LT

St Nicholas' Church, Dersingham

Church Lane, Dersingham
King's Lynn PE31 6GZ

Tourist Information Centre

Stories of Lynn, Saturday Market Place
King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

Town Hall

Saturday Market Place
King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

FESTIVAL BEYOND

Samphire Quilters Annual Exhibition

10–11 July, 10.30am–4pm
12 July, 10.30am–3.30pm
St Nicholas' Chapel
Admission £3

Wighton26: undercurrent

1 July–3 August, 10am–5pm
All Saints' Church, Wighton
Admission free

Small wonders: Masterworks by Alfred Cohen

1 July–3 August, 10am–5pm
Alfred Cohen Museum, Wighton
Admission free

Dersingham Pottery and Gallery 54th Summer Exhibition

11 July–6 September, 11am–4pm
Dersingham Pottery and Gallery
Admission free

Big Heart and Soul Choir 30th anniversary concert

19 July, 3.30pm
St James the Great Church, Castle Acre
Admission £15

Organ recital: David Hill

22 July, 4pm
St Mary's Church, South Wootton
Admission £12.50

The DixieMix Jazz Band

26 July, 12noon–3pm
Westacre Theatre
Admission £14 (Under 10s free)

Events at King's Lynn Minster

Organ recital: Adrian Richards

14 July, 12.30pm
Admission free

Organ recital: Loreto Aramendi

21 July, 12.30pm
Admission free

Come and sing Festival Evensong

26 July, 5pm (Rehearsal from 2pm)
Admission free

Events from King's Lynn Town Guides

Town walls in the Civil War

14 July, 10.30am
The walk begins at True's Yard
Admission £5
Please note this event is not suitable for wheelchair users.

The River Walk

16 July, 10.30am
The walk begins at Custom House
Admission £5 (Plus £2 ferry crossing)

A walk in the park

21 July 2026, 10.30am
The walk begins in Tower Gardens
Admission £5

Secrets of the High Street

22 July, 10.30am
The walk begins at Tourist Information
Admission £5

For full information on Festival Beyond events including how to book tickets, please visit kingslynnfestival.org.uk.

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

Sun 12 July	3pm	The Brighthouse and Rastrick Brass Band	Corn Exchange
Sun 12 July	8pm	Cabaret 75: An anniversary celebration	Town Hall
Mon 13 July	11am	Festival walking tour	St Nicholas' Chapel
Mon 13 July	6pm	Contemporary Consort: Mark-Anthony Turnage	Town Hall
Tue 14 July	1pm	Festival tour of country churches	Tuesday Market Place
Tue 14 July	7.30pm	Kaleidoscope Chamber Collective	The Minster
Wed 15 July	3pm	Talk: Musical taste	Town Hall
Wed 15 July	6pm	The Guildhall Singers	All Saints' Church
Wed 15 July	7.30pm	Fiesta flamenco: Nuria Garcia	Corn Exchange
Thu 16 July	3pm	Talk: Design taste	Corn Exchange Cinema
Thu 16 July	7.30pm	Sheku (Cello) and Isata (Piano) Kanneh-Mason	Corn Exchange
Fri 17 July	6pm	Leipzig to Hamburg: Bach and Telemann	All Saints' Church
Fri 17 July	7.30pm	Denys Baptiste and The Crosby Quartet	Corn Exchange
Sat 18 July	12noon	Organ recital: Francesca Massey	St Nicholas' Chapel
Sat 18 July	3.15pm	Try a viol!	Corn Exchange
Sat 18 July	7.30pm	Academy of Ancient Music	St Nicholas' Chapel
Sat 18 July	9.30pm	Heartstrings viol duo	St Nicholas' Chapel
Sun 19 July	2.30pm	Novo Quartet	Dersingham Church
Sun 19 July	4.30pm	King's Lynn Festival Chorus	St Nicholas' Chapel
Sun 19 July	8pm	Magpie Lane Folk Group	Methodist Church
Mon 20 July	11am	Novo Quartet	Town Hall
Mon 20 July	7.30pm	Alison Skilbeck: Are there more of you?	Corn Exchange
Tue 21 July	11am	Joel Munday (Violin), Julian Trevelyan (Piano)	Town Hall
Tue 21 July	3pm	Talk: Taste in collections	Corn Exchange Cinema
Tue 21 July	7.30pm	Boris Giltburg (Piano)	The Minster
Wed 22 July	11am	Rose McLachlan (Piano)	Town Hall
Wed 22 July	7.30pm	Craig Ogden (Guitar)	Town Hall
Thu 23 July	11am	Sirius Chau (Flute), Gwenellian Llyr (Harp)	Town Hall
Thu 23 July	7.30pm	Roderick Williams (Baritone), Iain Burnside (Piano)	The Minster
Fri 24 July	11am	The Paddington Trio	Town Hall
Fri 24 July	6pm	Dowland's Foundry: A Dowland Songbook	All Saints' Church
Fri 24 July	7.30pm	Pasadena Roof Orchestra	Corn Exchange
Sat 25 July	7.30pm	Royal Philharmonic Orchestra	Corn Exchange

