



The Noah's Ark Wind Ensemble

May Jones

The entertaining lunch-time concert in St. Mary's Church on Wednesday, 27th May, was given by the Noah's Ark Wind Ensemble, with readings by Richard Bruce. Imaginatively rendered musical compositions with an animal theme, such as Christopher Le Fleming's 'Homage to Beatrix Potter', Saint-Saens', 'The Elephant' and Elgar's 'Farmyard' were interspersed with dramatic readings of Hilaire Belloc's 'The Frog', Kenneth Graham's 'The Duck's Ditty' and other animal poems.

The final item consisted of excerpts from Isaak Walton's 'The Complete Angler' to accompany Carey Blyton's 'A Catch', illustrating fish of different types, characters and movements.

This was a light-hearted, but polished performance appealing to a number of tastes – and not just children – suitably reflected in the final applause and with an opportunity afterwards for informal discussion with the artists – a very pleasant festival experience.

Sounding Retreat

B. J. Lilley

The Peninsular Band of the Third Battalion Royal Greenjackets gave a concert at Dover Town Hall on Friday, 22nd May, as part of the Dover Festival. The Peninsular Band has been at Connaught Barracks, Dover for the last three years, previously serving in Germany and travelling extensively for engagements in Europe and North America.

An enthusiastic audience of about 150 enjoyed a varied programme to suit all musical tastes, moving, in the first half, from Williams and Offenbach to Artie Shaw's Concerto for Clarinet and to Harry James's Trumpet Blues and Cantabile and concluding with an arrangement from Les Miserables. The second half of the programme opened with Reed's March of the Vikings, included a Gershwin arrangement, solos for Bugle and Tuba and ended with the Finale from Tchaikovsky's 4th Symphony.

A splendid evening.

