**MIDDLESEX YEOMANRY**

**(DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE’S HUSSARS)**

**CONCERT BAND**

**PROGRAMME Sunday, 16th March 2025**

**THE THUNDERER J.P.Sousa (1854-1932)**

John Philip Sousa composed the Thunderer in March 1889. The origin of the name is not officially known, though it is speculated that the name is attributed to Myron M. Parker, a prominent DC politician and Freemason. It is also one of Sousa's most famous compositions.

**SECOND SUITE FOR MILITARY BAND Gustav Holst (1874-1934)**

Holst’s First Suite for Military Band was an initial foray into the field of band music by a classical composer and this encouraged other prominent composers that “serious” music could be written specifically for band and its success also encouraged him to write a second suite.

During his earlier years as a composer, he took interest in folk music, and he incorporated seven folk songs into this suite. The first movement is a march based on a Morris Dance entitled Glorishears, Swansea Town and Claudy Banks. The second movement is a ballad I’ll Love My Love (played on the cor anglais). The third movement is the Song of the Blacksmith and the last movement is a fantasia based on two Playford dance tunes Dargason and Greensleeves.

**WESTMINSTER WALTZ Robert Farnon (1917-2005)**

This gentle waltz, another piece written in 1956 by Robert Farnon, begins and ends with the sound of the chimes of Big Ben. It appears to have been composed without any particular purpose but was used by the BBC as a linking theme to its long running series In Town Tonight, more familiarly remembered by Coates’ theme tune, Knightsbridge.

**STAR TREK Gene Roddenberry (1921-1991)**

The science fiction Star Trek series followed the voyages of the starship Enterprise in its five-year mission to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilizations and to boldly go where no man has gone before. Since then it has spawned further television series, films, video games and much more. In creating Star Trek, Roddenberry was inspired by C.S.Forrester’s Hornblower series of novels, Jonathan Swift’s novel Gulliver’s Travels, the film Forbidden Planet and westerns such as Wagon Train.

**SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME George Gershwin (1898-1937)**

Initially, Someone to Watch Over Me was written for the musical Oh, Kay! as a "fast and jazzy" up-tempo rhythm tune marked scherzando (playful) in the sheet music. However, in the 1930s and 1940s it was recorded by singers, such as Frank Sinatra, in a slower ballad form which has become the standard.

**DIE FLEDERMAUS Johann Strauss II (1825-1899)**

The operetta Die Fledermaus  or The Bat, (sometimes called The Revenge of the Bat) is a lighthearted dig at infidelity and practical jokers but the guilty parties get away with their faux pas by blaming them on champagne!!

The overture is one of his most popular orchestral works. Not only does it comprise a selection of waltzes and polkas, but it also highlights Strauss’ incredible orchestration skills.

**INTERVAL**

**PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN Hans Zimmer/Klaus Badelt (b.1967)**

Pirates of the Caribbean was originally a Disney Theme Park ride since followed by a series of fantasy swashbuckling films and spin-off novels. The films star Johnny Depp as the pirate, Captain Jack Sparrow and have a fictional historical setting; a world ruled largely by alternative versions of the British Empire, the East India company and the Spanish Empire.

**DANCES WITH WOLVES John Barry (1933-2011)**

Dances with Wolves is a 1990 film adaptation of the book of the same name by Michael Blake and tells the story of a Union Army Lieutenant who travels to the American frontier to find a military post, and his dealings with a group of Lakota Sioux Indians. Dances with Wolves is the Sioux name given to Lt. John Dunbar.

**A WHITER SHADE OF PALE Procol Harem**

Whiter Shade of Pale (1967) was a hugely enigmatic song, with its mysterious lyrics and Bach-like opening. There is a scene in the movie based on Roddy Doyle’s novel, The Commitments, where one of the characters is discussing the Procol Harem song, A Whiter Shade of Pale, with a Roman Catholic priest. Getting to the bit in the lyrics where ‘sixteen vestal virgins are leaving for the coast’, both admit they have no idea what on earth that is supposed to mean. There are, as you would expect with such things, all sorts of theories, including that it was about being high on cocaine, waking up from a dream, an interpretation of a Chaucer poem, the end of a relationship, and so forth. The songwriters themselves have never said.

**HOAGY CARMICHAEL IN CONCERT arr. Warren Barker (1923-2006)**

"Hoagy" Carmichael (1899 – 1981) qualified as a lawyer but quickly recognised that his real talent lay in music. He was a composer, actor and author and one of the most successful Tin Pan Alley songwriters of the 1930s and 1940s. He was among the first singer-songwriters in the age of mass media to utilize new communication technologies such as old-time radio broadcasts, televison, microphones and sound recordings (musical records). This arrangement includes In The Cool, Cool, Cool Of The Evening, The Nearness Of You, Heart and Soul, Star Dust and Lazy River.

**HYMN TO THE FALLEN John Williams (b.1932)**

Hymn To the Fallen is the soundtrack album for the 1998 film Saving Private Ryan directed by Steven Spielberg. Following the Normandy invasion in 1944 and the withdrawal from Omaha beach of the US 2nd Range Battalion, Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is instructed to locate and bring home Private Ryan (Matt Damon), the last of 3 Ryan brothers.

**FANDANGO Frank Perkins (1908-1988)**

Frank S. Perkins was an American song composer best known for the song Stars Fell on Alabama (with lyrics by Mitchell Parish) and his band classic, Fandango.  The Fandango is a lively partner dance originating in Portugal and Spain, traditionally accompanied by guitars, castanets, tambourine or hand-clapping. This Fandango is arranged for band by Floyd E Werle.

**REGIMENTAL MARCH Doug Shewan**

Our Regimental March is a 1970s arrangement by former bandsman, Doug Shewan, of Sweet Lass of Richmond Hill with the addition of a trio section of his own.