

Concert by the Kent Concert Orchestra

13th March 1991

Members who were fortunate to have attended this concert, held in the hall of St. Edmund's School, would have understood at once why we are hoping to support this local orchestra, founded and conducted by Colonel Paul Neville, later in the year.

It was hard to believe that this 26-piece orchestra does not rehearse regularly together, so at ease with their parts and so disciplined together are they.

These are professionals and there are no passengers. Much of their success is owed to the firm, sympathetic lead given by their conductor, who visually interprets the music.

Appropriately in this celebratory bi-centenary year, four out of the six items were by Mozart. The orchestra combined great purity of tone in the Andante movements with accuracy, precision and elegance in the faster ones. (Special mention must be made of the talented young Richard Shackleton, a pupil at St. Edmund's, who played the first movement of the piano concerto K.414.) The String section was equally at home with the Adagio for Strings, composed for them by John Perkins. A most enjoyable evening was rounded off with one of Haydn's most spectacular and colourful symphonies: No. 44.

As already mentioned, provided the Primavera concert is as successful as last year, we plan to present and sponsor a concert by Col. Neville's Kent Concert Orchestra in the Town Hall on 28th September. He is proposing a very attractive programme.

LEO WRIGHT

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Having lived for 34 years within sight of the shelter at Elms Vale Junction, I can agree with Miss Wilkie, I think it is an excellent piece of "town furniture."

It is also very useful, because three bus stops and two phone boxes can be observed from its protection in bad weather. Before traffic was quite so thunderous, it was a pleasant resting place for elderly Dovorians out on a constitutional.

It has been repaired and refurbished at intervals over the years, but it seems to attract vandalism immediately. It has also been painted rather unsuitable colours, which have taken away some of its dignity.

Yes, I will gladly join a Preservation Group for the shelter, if it is soundly repaired, and allowed to continue its useful work on the corner. Unlike the Horse Trough, its *raison d'être* has not vanished – merely changed.

Yours sincerely,

EDNA M. LITTLEHALES