

THE
Suffolk Villages Festival



SPRING CONCERTS 2026

Sunday 19 April 2026 at 6pm, St James's Church, Nayland CO6 4JE

Steven Devine & Satoko Doi-Luck: Two Kirkman Harpsichords

Handel – Geminiani – J.C. Bach – Mozart – Clementi



Harpsichords by the London maker Jacob Kirkman were recognised in the eighteenth century as the finest and most sophisticated instruments, sought after across Europe and the Americas. In this fascinating programme Steven and Satoko make a welcome return to SVF using an original Kirkman harpsichord of 1778, owned by Peter Holman, and a wonderful newly-completed copy by Stephen Barber and Huw Saunders. The programme brings together original works for two keyboards from Handel to Mozart with the performers' spectacular arrangement of Geminiani's concerto version of Corelli's La Folia.

tickets: £20 (reserved) £15 (unreserved)

Monday 25 May 2026 at 6pm, St Mary's Church, Hadleigh IP7 5DT

Henry Purcell *King Arthur*

Rosamund Shelley & Stephen Varcoe *readers*, Philippa Hyde *soprano*
Archie Inns *tenor*, Stuart O'Hara *bass*, Psalmody, Essex Baroque Orchestra
directed by Peter Holman harpsichord

King Arthur, John Dryden's play set as a dramatic opera by Purcell, was an early attempt at an historical King Arthur, in conflict with the Saxon King Oswald. Nevertheless, Dryden retained Arthur's magician Merlin and added the evil Saxon sorcerer Osmond, allowing for spectacular magic displays such as the famous Frost Scene and the Act V masque, in which Merlin shows Arthur and Oswald a vision of a future united Britain. The musical scenes in this complete concert performance are linked by a script devised by Richard Andrews, which conveys the essence of Dryden's play.



With a pre-concert talk by Professor Peter Holman
at 4.45pm in the United Reformed Church, Hadleigh.

tickets: £20 (reserved) £15 (unreserved)

Sunday 12 July 2026, 3.15pm for 3.30pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms CO7 6HJ

The Eighth and Last SVF Musical Tea Party

A Musical Family

Tassilo Erhardt & Patrick Rimes *violin*

Sally Holman *bassoon*

Louise Jameson *bass violin & violoncello*

Peter Holman *harpsichord*



tickets: £30

Come and support SVF by enjoying a slap-up tea, starting with a glass of Prosecco, with delicious seventeenth- and eighteenth-century chamber music played by members of Peter Holman's family: his daughters Louise and Sally, son-in-law Tassilo, nephew Patrick, with a contribution from his granddaughter Lucy Jameson. There will be sonatas, suites and dances by Marini, Merula, Biber, Henry Purcell, François Couperin, Vivaldi, Tartini, Handel and others.

The Final Suffolk Villages Festival 28–31 August 2026

A Portrait of Marc-Antoine Charpentier

to include the Te Deum H.146

Charles Daniels *tenor*, Psalmody & Essex Baroque Orchestra

directed by Peter Holman

Steven Devine directs music by J.S. Bach

to include Suite no. 3 in D major & the Double Violin Concerto

The Dowland Project

led by Philippa Hyde *soprano*, Reiko Ichise *bass viol* & Elizabeth Kenny *lute*

Mediva

Ann Allen, Patrick Rimes & Grace Newcombe

Henry Purcell *Dido & Aeneas*

Helen Charlston, Philippa Hyde *soprano*, Michael Craddock, Stuart O'Hara *bass*

Psalmody & Essex Baroque Orchestra, *directed by Peter Holman*

BOOKING INFORMATION

Booking opens on 23 February to Supporters (Friends, Patrons and Benefactors) of Suffolk Villages Festival and on 2 March to the general public. To book tickets, please visit the website or telephone the box office.

Please note that we no longer issue paper tickets. You will receive email or postal confirmation with your allocated seat numbers, together with information about any special arrangements currently in place for our concerts.

SEASON TICKET

Buy a ticket for both concerts (19 April, 25 May) for £36 – a discount of 10%. The Musical Tea Party is not discounted because it is a fundraiser for SVF.

CONCESSIONS

Half-price tickets are available to full-time students and those under 30.

SEATING FOR CONCERTS

Top-price seats in the central section of the venue will be reserved, allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Unreserved seats will be at the side of the venue and may have a view which is partially obscured by a pillar.

SEATING FOR THE TEA PARTY

Seating is at tables with places reserved; when tickets are bought together the places will all be at the same table. Please let us know if you would like to be seated with people buying their tickets independently.

VENUE INFORMATION

Public car parks are clearly signposted in Hadleigh and Dedham but for ease of navigation we suggest the car parks in Magdalen Road, Hadleigh (IP7 5AD) and Mill Lane in Dedham (CO7 6DH). Some parking is available at Nayland Village Hall. Toilet facilities are available at all venues.

REFUNDS

We regret that refunds can only be given if the concert is sold out and we are able to sell on the ticket.

Every effort will be made to adhere to the advertised programme but please note that the organisers reserve the right to amend or cancel any part.

SUFFOLK VILLAGES FESTIVAL

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