

**The Launch of the
900th Anniversary of the
Church of St Peter & St Paul, Edenbridge**

by our Member of Parliament, Tom Tugendhat

A Concert of Orchestral Music



**The Countess of Wessex's
String Orchestra**

Director of Music: Captain Sarah Marinescu

Edenbridge Parish Church

Saturday 1st February 2020 at 7.00 pm

(Doors open 6.30pm)



We are very grateful to Tom Tugendhat for coming to launch our celebrations when his parliamentary life is so busy. It is very appropriate that he should introduce our orchestra, as he saw distinguished service in Iran and Afghanistan and was awarded the MBE.

The Countess of Wessex's String Orchestra (CWSO) was created on 1 April 2014 as part of the restructuring within the Corps of Army Music. There has been a long tradition of string playing in the British Army, particularly associated with the orchestra of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, in existence for over 250 years, and proud to have been the first professional orchestra in Britain. The CWSO can however trace its heritage back to 'The King's Musick' of strings from the time of the Restoration in England which was eventually to form the basis of Queen Victoria's private band in the nineteenth century.

The CWSO performs a variety of music, ranging from classical to pop, in various settings both in the United Kingdom and abroad. Engagements are varied, including investitures, ceremonies at royal households, state banquets and dinners, support to army regiments and corps, defence engagement activity, and international short-term training teams. The CWSO also provides the principal players for tri-service orchestral events, such as at Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations, the Passchendaele centenary at Ypres, the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, and the annual Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

The CWSO is based at the Royal Artillery Barracks in Woolwich and is proud to be named after the Corps of Army Music's Colonel-in-Chief.

It is a very great privilege to welcome the Countess of Wessex's String Orchestra this evening as they launch our exciting 900th anniversary year. The picture on the front of this leaflet shows them performing at the Guards Chapel in London. They will certainly lift our spirits!

Tickets @ £20.00 from Farringtons Jewellers, Edenbridge, TN8 5AU
Tel: 01732 863934 (closed on Mondays)

**Please note that all tickets must be purchased prior to the concert.
There will be no tickets for sale at the door.**