

PARBOLD *Music*
LANCASHIRE



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**Inspirational
Live Music
2025/26**

Tickets and Information:
www.parboldmusic.org

07768 799 821

Photo: Emil Matveev

Welcome to the 2025-26 Season

We are thrilled to share our new programme with you! Take a look through the brochure and you'll see that we've planned yet another thoroughly exciting series of live music. Year after year Parbold Music attracts the greatest international artists, who come to perform in our unusually intimate 200-seat Auditorium. And, year after year, we are delighted to welcome audiences from near and far to our beautiful village in Lancashire, recently named one of the best places to live in the UK by the Sunday Times.

There is something for everyone here, and if it's hard to choose between ten evenings of world-famous instrumentalists, ensembles, dancers and actors, we offer a season subscription, plus a fantastically low ticket price for young people and students of just £5.50 a ticket.

We are a charity run on a not-for-profit basis, by a team of volunteers from the local community who work tirelessly to make our music series warm and friendly. If you are new to us - or haven't been recently – don't miss out on booking your tickets early!

We're often described as 'Lancashire's best-kept secret'; however the secret may finally be out, as nearly every one of our concerts sold out last year. We know that our audiences return again and again, drawn by the thrilling opportunity to see and hear giants of the musical world - not from the back of a large concert hall, but from just a few feet away. It really is a season of musical experiences that you won't find anywhere else.

The Evans Family Foundation

This season is generously sponsored by the Evans Family Foundation in recognition of Maria B Evans Estate Agents Ltd and the good works that Parbold Music does in the community.

Box office: www.parboldmusic.org T: 07768 799 821 E: info@parboldmusic.org

Swati Dance Company

Saturday 20 September 2025 | 7.45pm

Our season opens with the glorious colour and timeless beauty of the classical Indian dance form, Bharatanatyam, in Swati Dance Company's *Symphony of Movement*. This show is a captivating fusion of classical grace and contemporary artistry that takes the audience on a journey through the different shades of a day.

Directed and choreographed by Swati Raut and Hari Krishnan, *Symphony of Movement* features stunning costumes by award-winning designer Sandhya Raman from India, and rhythmic music composed by Praveen Rao and performed live by Vijay Venkat (flute), Sri Vamshikrishna Vishnudas (vocals) and Prathap Ramachandra (percussion).

The performance showcases mesmerising solos, enchanting duets, and dynamic ensemble acts. *Symphony of Movement* is designed to bring Bharatanatyam to new and diverse audiences, offering a vibrant celebration of rhythm, movement, and culture.

“... the music was harmonious, a symphony indeed.”
- Arts Council England



A CAPTIVATING SHOWCASE

Lucy Parham, piano and Sir Simon Russell-Beale, narrator

Saturday 18 October 2025 | 7.45pm

Join us as distinguished actor Sir Simon Russell-Beale portrays one of the most prolific and innovative composers of the early 20th century - Claude Debussy - live on stage in Parbold's Auditorium.

Debussy's life is revealed in the form of a personal journal, from his initial success with the Prix de Rome in 1885 to his untimely death in 1918. We discover the complex intellectual and emotional world - the backdrop to Debussy's entangled love life - that led to illicit trysts in Jersey, a brush with a revolver and even a suicide attempt.

Debussy's recollections are punctuated throughout with solo piano works performed by the hugely talented Lucy Parham. A world-class pianist, Lucy Parham has earned wide critical acclaim for her series of Composer Portraits, each one meticulously researched and scripted by herself.

“

... the greatest stage actor of his generation.”

- The Independent
on Sir Simon Russell-Beale

Her illuminating selection of accompanying music ranges from the ever-popular *Clair de Lune*, *Rêverie* and *The Girl with the Flaxen Hair*, to virtuosic showpieces including *Jardins sous la Pluie*, the *Etudes* and *L'Isle Joyeuse*.

“

One of the must-see events on the musical calendar.”

- BBC Music Magazine



Photo: Sven Amstein

Pavel Kolesnikov, piano

Saturday 22 November 2025 | 7.45pm

We welcome Pavel Kolesnikov back to Parbold for a captivating journey through keyboard music's rich history.

Pavel Kolesnikov is known for his deeply thoughtful performances and programming. He has selected an evening of music that will take us from the structured, refined elegance of 18th century French suites, to the deeply expressive and virtuosic style of 19th century Romanticism.

Music by Duphy and Rameau features this evening, full of characteristic Baroque delicacy, ornamentation and grace. Pavel Kolesnikov's performances of music by Chopin have earned him huge critical acclaim. His recital includes works including Chopin's expansive Piano Sonata No.3, full of the emotional depth the Romantic era is so well-known for.

“

A poet of the piano.”

- Bachtrack

Leyland Brass Band

Saturday 6 December 2025 | 7.45pm

Renowned for their musical excellence and rich heritage, Leyland Band are one of Britain's leading brass ensembles.

Returning to Parbold under the baton of new Musical Director, Danny Brooks, their first half is packed full of classics featuring many of their award-winning soloists. In the second half they go all-out festive, heralding the Christmas season with arrangements of popular seasonal classics, all presented with their fabulously warm, engaging style.



Be prepared for an evening full of Christmas spirit!



Adrian Brendel, cello and Dame Imogen Cooper, piano

Saturday 31 January 2026 | 7.45pm

Two outstanding musicians perform as a duo in Parbold in January.

Dame Imogen Cooper's distinguished career as a soloist, chamber musician and educator mark her as a pianist of the very finest calibre. She is held in the highest esteem by celebrated musicians the world over: Sir Simon Rattle famously wrote, 'Imogen Cooper is one of the greatest musicians England has ever produced'.

She trained with many notable pianists, the most significant being the great Alfred Brendel, whose mentorship she describes as 'a seminally important time for me'. Their association has extended across the generations through her musical partnership with his son, the renowned cellist Adrian Brendel. A highly sought-after chamber musician, he is known for his musical sensitivity and wide-ranging repertoire.

Adrian Brendel and Dame Imogen Cooper perform a fascinating programme this evening, including works by Schumann, Bach and Liszt, and culminating in Schubert's beloved *Arpeggione* Sonata.

“

Cooper's playing exuded the wisdom of decades of experience.”

- The Telegraph

“

... the superlative cellist, Adrian Brendel.”

- The Arts Desk

Junyan Chen, piano

Saturday 21 February 2026 | 7.45pm

Having only recently completed her post-graduate studies at the Royal Academy of Music, pianist Junyan Chen has an extraordinary list of accolades.

Following success in competitions as a student, her achievements at the Leeds International Piano Competition 2024 saw her awarded not only Second Prize, but also the prize for chamber music, plus the Alexandra Dariescu award for a work by a woman composer.

Critical acclaim for Junyan Chen focuses not just on her accomplished technique and interpretations, but her exciting programming. She makes her debut in Parbold with a vibrant evening of piano works, making connections between musical eras and their shared traditions. Baroque pieces by Couperin sit side-by-side with *Tombeau de Couperin*, Ravel's tribute to the charm and style of early 18th century music.

... exhilarating and technically thrilling performance."

- Gramophone

The vivacity was outstanding."

- The Arts Desk



**BOLD
HONEST &
INSPIRING**

Colour and imagery is a hallmark of Junyan Chen's playing. She has chosen two of Messiaen's Preludes along with Amy Beach's richly expressive *Variations on Balkan Themes*. Ravel's iconic *La Valse* ends her recital with virtuosic energy.

Pied Piper Concerts for Schools

Friday 20 March 2026 | 11.30am & 1.30pm (Duration 45 mins)

Join the Elias Quartet for a magical musical journey!

In our Pied Piper concerts, 400 local primary school children are given the chance to experience live music performed by international artists and professional musicians. Designed to encourage interaction and participation, these events have delighted and entertained children and their teachers for the past 20 years.

This year we invite schools to bring pupils to hear the Elias Quartet with violinist Benjamin Nabarro. Since their rise to prominence as BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artists in 2009, the Quartet's deep musical understanding and bold performances have made them a fixture in the world's most prestigious concert halls and venues.

Admission is restricted to children from local schools accompanied by their teachers. Enquiries from others are welcome.

For further information:

email: admin@pmlancs.org
or call: 07805 663080



Benjamin Nabarro

Elias String Quintet with Benjamin Nabarro, violin

Saturday 21 March 2026 | 7.45pm

An augmented line-up for the Elias String Quartet this evening means we are treated to an evening of three quintets, each showcasing the remarkable depth and versatility of the string ensemble.

We have Mozart to thank for exploring the warm textures the addition a viola can bring to a quartet. The two violas in his String Quintet in C major give the piece a delightful depth and richness. The Elias also performs Sally Beamish's *Epilogue*, a reflective and atmospheric contrast to the Mozart, before the thrillingly energetic Quintet No.2 in B flat major by Mendelssohn.

Benjamin Nabarro, *violin*

Donald Grant, *violin*

Simone van der Giessen, *viola*

Gary Pomeroy, *viola*

Marie Bitlloch, *cello*

“

Simply astounding, in the freshness, intensity, assurance, and seeming spontaneity of their playing.”

- BBC Music Magazine



Photo: Benjamin Ealovega

Viktoria Mullova, violin and Alasdair Beatson, piano

Saturday 11 April 2026 | 7.45pm

An all-Beethoven programme of three of his violin sonatas:
Nos. 3, 7, and 9 - the Kreutzer Sonata, disliked so much by Kreutzer
that he famously refused ever to play it.

“

*Mullova's playing, its strength
and power resting
on many years' association
with Beethoven ... compel
the attention throughout.”*

- Gramophone Magazine

Beethoven's Violin Sonatas are full
of passion, wit and invention, with
lyrical melodies shared between
soloist and accompanist. Pianist
Alasdair Beatson is highly regarded
for his insightful interpretations of
Beethoven, and his collaboration
with Viktoria Mullova has been
widely celebrated. Gramophone
Magazine remarked - 'what stands
out is the balance and ease of interplay
between the two musicians', and
BBC Music Magazine declared -
'their dazzling playing captures all
the music's wit and brilliance'.

Viktoria Mullova's impeccable
technique and remarkable versatility
have established her as one of the
world's most exceptional violinists.
This is a rare and special opportunity
to hear two truly incredible artists
in our intimate Auditorium.
Without doubt, this is an evening
no-one should miss.

TRULY
DAZZLING

Garrick Ohlsson, piano

Saturday 16 May 2026 | 7.45pm

Tonight marks a very welcome return to Parbold for Garrick Ohlsson. A student of the late Claudio Arrau, he is recognised worldwide as a musician of magisterial interpretive and technical prowess. Since winning the Chopin International Piano Competition in 1970 - the first and only American to do so - he has built a career performing with the world's leading orchestras in the most prestigious concert halls.

“

By almost any measure, Ohlsson is one of the great American pianists.”

- The Washington Post

A truly virtuosic piano player, Garrick Ohlsson's recitals are staggering for their show of technical genius. He brings a spirit of intimacy and connection to every performance, astonishing audiences and critics with his flexibility. Praised for 'a sound so lush it almost glistens' in the Seattle Times, he is also capable of 'a level of thunder few pianists can conjure, yielding high points that almost literally rocked the house' - cleveland.com

Over his distinguished career Garrick Ohlsson has mastered no less than 80 piano concertos. He is one of the world's leading exponents of the works of Chopin, and known for his masterly command of the Romantic repertoire, as well as the works of Mozart and Schubert. Amongst his many award-winning CDs, his ten-disc set of the complete Beethoven Sonatas has received huge critical acclaim and a Grammy award for Vol. 3. He is, quite simply, a giant of the keyboard.

“

A force of nature”

- The Arts Desk

MAGISTERIAL
MUSICIAN

Ashley Wass, piano with Menuhin School Graduates

Saturday 20 June 2026 | 7.45pm

The immensely creative pianist Ashley Wass returns to Parbold bringing with him four young string players, all recent graduates of the renowned specialist Yehudi Menuhin Music School, where until recently he held the position of Director of Music.

Priding itself on giving opportunities to all, the school nurtures the talents of the most musically-gifted children from around the world, and provides an academic education to support them throughout their musical lives.

Together, Ashley Wass and the string players have programmed an evening of rich, expressive chamber music. They begin with Korngold's Suite, a rare showcase for the pianist's left hand, two violins and cello written for the concert pianist Paul Wittgenstein, who lost his right arm in WW1. Korngold's enviable talent for cinematic music shimmers throughout the lush string textures in this Suite. This is powerful musical storytelling at its finest.

A second half of music by Robert Schumann follows, full of Romantic fire and brilliance. Schumann's *Canon Etudes* arranged for piano trio is delightfully intricate, and his majestic Piano Quintet Op.44, bursting with intensity and lyrical charm, provides a deeply moving ending.

“... the enviable gift to turn almost anything he plays into pure gold.”

- Gramophone Magazine



Our Venue

Parbold Village Hall, The Green, Parbold, WN8 7DN

There is car parking at the venue, at the Surgery next door and at the Library opposite. More parking is in front of and behind the village shops.



Nestled in the valley of the River Douglas at the bottom of the iconic Parbold Hill, the picturesque village of Parbold is easily reached by road and rail. Visitors to the beautiful local countryside and waterways enjoy exploring Parbold's shops, coffee shops, art, wine bars and gastro pubs.

“

The green outlook from Parbold Hill should be enough to tempt you here (stand 120 metres above sea level for panoramic views of the Berwyn Mountains, Ashurst Beacon and Liverpool, to name a few)."

- Lancashire Life

The picturesque, canal-side village known for its thriving community groups and cultural activities that 'ticks all the boxes'."

- Lancashire Life



The beating heart of Parbold. This is now the Rolls-Royce of venues."

- Lancashire Life

ORDER FORM

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I would like to receive email updates from Parbold Music - please tick

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2025-26 Season	Adult	Qty	YP/ Student	Qty	Total
Season Subscription for all 10 concerts with no booking fees and saving over 10%	£240		£49		
Standing Order Payment Option: Please tick here and a form will be sent to you.					<input type="checkbox"/>

Our 2025-26 concerts and artists.	Adult	Qty	YP/ Student	Qty	Total
Swatti Dance Company Sat 20 Sept	£27		£5.50		
Lucy Parham & Sir Simon Russell-Beale Sat 18 Oct	£27		£5.50		
Pavel Kolesnikov Sat 22 Nov	£27		£5.50		
Leyland Brass Band Sat 6 Dec	£27		£5.50		
Adrian Brendel & Dame Imogen Cooper Sat 31 Jan	£27		£5.50		
Junyan Chen Sat 21 Feb	£27		£5.50		
Elias String Quintet concert Sat 21 Mar	£27		£5.50		
Viktoria Mullova & Alasdair Beatson Sat 11 Apr	£27		£5.50		
Garrick Ohlsson Sat 16 May	£27		£5.50		
Ashley Wass & Yehudi Menuhin Grads Sat 20 Jun	£27		£5.50		
I also wish to make a donation to Parbold Music.					<input type="checkbox"/>
Please tick here if you wish to Gift Aid your donation.					<input type="checkbox"/>
Total					

The quickest and easiest way to purchase tickets is via our website: www.parboldmusic.org

Once purchased online, your ticket(s) will be emailed to you.
Please print out your ticket or show it on your phone on arrival.

You can also purchase tickets by phone, email or post.

PHONE: 07768 799 821 (booking answer phone)

EMAIL: tickets@parboldmusic.org

POST: Please fill out the order form and send with an SAE to:

Parbold Douglas Music Box Office, Parbold Village Hall, 2, The Green, Parbold, WN8 7DN

Payment Methods

A. Purchasing tickets via www.parboldmusic.org

This is the quickest and easiest way to purchase your tickets.

B. Purchasing Tickets by post. All orders must be sent to the Box Office (address above). **Cheques** - Please make payable to **Douglas Music Society**.

C. Standing Orders* (For season tickets only: see order form)

*Spread payment over seven months (September 2025 – March 2026).

D. Season Subscriptions may be purchased ONLY by POST direct from the Box Office without booking fees.

E. Contactless payment available at the Box Office at the door on the concert evening.

Standby Tickets

Standby or Returned Tickets may be available at the Box Office on the evening of the concert.

Venue and Access

Seating is tiered as well as at floor level. Please do not hesitate to contact us (07768 799 821 answer phone) if you have any particular seating or access requirements.

Our audience travels from across the North West and free parking is available.

PLEASE NOTE: All venue seats are unreserved. If you're coming in a party or large group, we advise that you come early if you wish to sit together.

All details correct at time of going to press.

A large print version of this brochure is available on request.

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Reg. Charity No: 506675



The Queen's Award
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The MBE for Volunteer Groups



"The Rolls-Royce of venues" - Lancashire Life

*Parbold's Auditorium is an exceptional 200-seat performance space,
praised by international artists for its excellent acoustics and intimate atmosphere.*

BOX OFFICE: www.parboldmusic.org

T: 07768 799 821 | **E:** tickets@parboldmusic.org

Parbold Village Hall, The Green, Parbold, WN8 7DN

Parbold Music Lancashire gratefully acknowledges the support of:



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