

Reviving the legacy of Jenny Lind 125 years later

Malvern Civic Society sees new opportunity to celebrate the Swedish Nightingale

Malvern, Worcestershire, 2 November 2012.



In the context of the 125th anniversary of the death of the famous soprano and philanthropist Jenny Lind (1820-1887), buried at Great Malvern cemetery, Malvern Civic Society sees a major opportunity to revive her legacy as a source of inspiration for many people and institutions.

The next annual multicultural festival Malvern Civic Week – set for 13-20 July 2013 under the theme of « Malvern: bridging the past and the future » – will provide a framework for celebrating Jenny Lind with music, lectures, displays and other initiatives. Her contribution to Britain’s musical life and various charitable causes had already commenced in 1847.

The annual Fryderyk Chopin Festival Marianske Lazne (Czech Republic) has been invited to participate in Civic Week 2013 under the newly signed Malvern-Marienbad partnership agreement. Also invited is the association Icons of Europe (Brussels), whose 10-year long historical research project provides new insight on Jenny Lind’s life – including her relationship with Chopin that unfolded in Britain and in Paris.

Jenny Lind had spent many years in the London area before she settled in Malvern in 1883, where she died on 2 November 1887 at her house Wynds Point on the Malvern Hills. To the solemn tunes of Chopin’s Funeral March, she was buried at Great Malvern cemetery where her husband the German pianist Otto Goldschmidt later was also laid to rest. Her image has adorned the Swedish 50-kr banknote since 1996.

Says Roger Sutton, chairman of Malvern Civic Society: “Its time to revive and celebrate Jenny Lind’s legacy. She has touched and enriched the culture of not only Sweden and Britain, but also Europe and America. Malvern, with Jenny Lind still in its midst, is proud to provide a unique platform for this purpose”.

For any additional information

Roger Sutton

Chairman

Malvern Civic Society

Tel. 01684 565 273

chairman@malverncivicsociety.org.uk

