

# *Eastbourne* *Victorian Festival*

**26th September - 27th September 2009**



PUBLISHED BY THE EASTBOURNE SOCIETY

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**SOUTHERN**

# Introduction

*Welcome* to the Eastbourne Society's Victorian Festival. Once again a multitude of artistes will congregate in our fair town to entertain you.

We would like to thank our sponsors and advertisers for their continuing support. We are particularly grateful for the continued support of our President, Lord Burlington, whose Charity has contributed to the programme.

For further information contact

Owen Boydell, at Tara House,

43 Upland Road, Eastbourne BN20 8ER.

Tel 01323 721825, email [owenboydell@talktalk.net](mailto:owenboydell@talktalk.net) Or visit our website on [www.eastbournesociety.co.uk](http://www.eastbournesociety.co.uk)



## *Throughout the Festival...*

### **Victorian Quiz at various Eastbourne Libraries**

Eastbourne Central Library, among a group of local libraries, has a fun quiz with prizes for winners. Quiz entry forms and children's activity sheets can be obtained during the usual opening hours.

### **Eastbourne Gazette and Fashionable Visitors List 150th year**

Watch out for special happenings from the UK's oldest local newspaper.

### **Eastbourne Society's 'Between the Downs and the sea.'**

A new edition of this splendid pictorial guide to Eastbourne will be widely available throughout the town. Priced £2.50.

## *Saturday 26th September*

### **The Witty Wanderer returns**

Once again John Surtees, the purveyor of rib tickling jokes and doyen of guides to our fair town takes you on an informative and amusing stroll through some of the more fascinating corners of Eastbourne. **Free.**

### **The wonderful world of bell ringing**

Come and take part in this the 150th year celebrations at that wonderful Victorian Church, Christchurch, in Seaside. Learn about the world of bell ringing and, for the brave, have a try at ringing a bell. Can you help to keep campanology alive? St Mary's, Old Town, All Saints, Christchurch and St Peter's with St Saviour's will be ringing the changes during the week end, both for weddings and Sunday Services. For further information contact Jennifer Dearle on 01323 727689 email [jennydearle@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jennydearle@tiscali.co.uk) **Free.**

### **Yet Even Further praise of Dickens**

The venerable Dickens Society is presenting another of its celebrated readings of this popular novelist's oeuvre at that vibrant home of culture, the Heritage Centre in memory of one of Eastbourne's many famous visitors. The audience is invited to partake of refreshments of the more genteel variety. **Tickets £4.00 on the door on the day.**



**Assemble at the  
Heritage Centre  
Carlisle Road  
10.00 am**

**Christchurch  
Seaside 10.00  
to 12.30 am**

**The Heritage  
Centre  
Carlisle Road  
11.00 am**

**Eastbourne  
Station  
1.45 pm**

### **The Queen arrives with her consort, Prince Albert**

Her Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria, accompanied by her consort, Prince Albert, will arrive at our splendid Victorian Station to be greeted by the Mayor, the Station Master and a

# Programme of events

host of dignitaries including friends of Charles Dickens. A choir from Parkland Junior School will serenade the Royal Couple. Thereafter the Royal party will process up Grove Road to a private reception in the Town Hall (weather permitting).

## The Festival Choir at All Saints Chapel

Once again there is a glorious, patriotic concert at this most Victorian of Architectural gems, All Saint's Chapel in Meads. By kind permission of Berkeley Homes the Chapel will resound to the music of our own massed Choir and distinguished soloists at one of the highlights of this year's Festival. *Tickets £6.00 available from the box office at the Congress Theatre on 01323 412000; from the Tourist Information Centre, Cornfield Road; or at the chapel on the afternoon.*



**All Saints' Chapel**  
Darley Road,  
Meads 4.00 pm

## At Even Greater Expense

I say, I say, I say! Did you hear the one about the Eastbourne Society searching the world to find a troupe to bring you a joyful, enlivening (and generally naughty) music hall under the direction of 'Sir' David Buck? This year's Master of Ceremonies, Michael Kaye, invites you to bring your lustiest tonsils and your heartiest claps and join the Royal Party for an evening of sheer, unadulterated pleasure. *Tickets £10.00 at the Congress Theatre box office on 01323 412000; the Tourist Information Centre, Cornfield Road; or at the theatre on the night (don't leave it too late as this event is very popular).*

**The Royal Hippodrome**  
Seaside 7.30 pm

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## Sunday 27th September

### Tour of the Devonshire Park Theatre

This most glorious Victorian Theatre is celebrated by a distinguished group of supporters who will show you the wings, back stage and flies and will, if encouraged, perform for your entertainment. Tours start at 10am and take place at half hour intervals thereafter. **Free.**

**Devonshire Park Theatre**  
Compton Street  
10.00 am through to 4.00pm

### The Vic Dip

The Langham Hotel is the scene of the Festival's most extraordinary event for charity. Local hospice children will be the beneficiaries of the Victorian Swimmers braving the waves to the East of the Pier. Meet at the last surviving Victorian bathing hut. Cameras and donations most welcome. **Free.**



**Opposite the Langham Hotel**  
Royal Parade  
11.00 am

### Town walk with Dr John

The inimitable Dr. John Surtees, combining comic badinage with profound local knowledge, will guide all comers on a tour of historic Eastbourne; those surrounding the Parish Church of St Mary's and the Old Town. **Free.**

**The Lamb inn**  
Old Town 3.00 pm

### Victorian Evensong

St Mary's in Old Town is Eastbourne's oldest Church, and some would say the most beautiful. Each year this wonderful building celebrates evensong to reflect our Victorian Festival. All are welcome to join our congregation in familiar songs of praise. *For information call 01323 720420.*

**St Mary's Church**  
Old Town  
6.30 pm



### Gilbert and Sullivan Pot Pourri

Once again the Gilbert and Sullivan Society will be providing us with a splendid evening of comedy, pathos and drama, all sung with style and grace. Her Majesty, we understand, is particularly fond of G & S (as they are more familiarly known) and could well be singing (incognito of course). So join us in this final event of the Festival at that most homely of theatres, the Under Ground Theatre underneath the Central Library. *Tickets £7.00 from the box office at the Congress Theatre on 01323 412000; from the Tourist Information Centre, Cornfield Road; or at the Theatre on the night.*

**Under Ground Theatre**  
Grove Road  
7.30 pm



Pre-Prep and Nursery Drop In every Wednesday 9.30 -11.30am

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### WE WISH EASTBOURNE VICTORIAN WEEK EVERY SUCCESS

This practice is pleased to have been involved in the restoration and refurbishment of a number of Eastbourne's splendid Victorian buildings including hotels, public houses and churches, the Winter Garden, the Devonshire Park and Royal Hippodrome Theatres, and Eastbourne Pier.

We are Architects accredited in building conservation and are members of the Victorian Society. Please contact Peter Pritchett or Richard Crook for further information.

2 West Terrace, Eastbourne BN21 4QX  
Telephone: 01323 411506

admin@johnclarkeandpartners.co.uk  
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## Eastbourne College



Eastbourne College wishes  
The Eastbourne Society every success  
with the Victorian Festival

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