



‘Brassed Off’ actor to compere York 800 Proms

Proms in the Gardens: Monday 20 August, Mystery Plays Theatre,

Museum Gardens, York, 7.30pm

York-based actor Andrew Dunn is to compere a spectacular Proms concert on the stage of the Mystery Plays Theatre in York’s Museum Gardens as part of the York 800 summer programme.

It’s a fitting role for Andrew, best known for his roles as Tony in Victoria Woods popular BBC sitcom, Dinnerladies and Roger in ITV’s Coronation Street. He played trombonist Phil in the York Theatre Royal production of Brassed Off, starring alongside the Shepherd Group Brass Band – one of the two brass bands performing in the ‘Proms in the Gardens’ concert.

Shepherd Group will be joined on the massive Mystery Plays stage by York Railway Institute Brass Band – and, in a real-life ‘Brassed Off’ parallel, both bands have made it through to the National Brass Band Championships this year, just as the fictional Grimley Colliery Band does in Mark Herman’s original film.

The bands are playing together throughout for the ‘Proms in the Gardens’ on Monday 20 August, which is in aid of the Lord Mayor of York’s charities by arrangement with York Cultural Company and supported by City of York Council.

The event will feature the 1812 Overture and all the flag-waving ‘Last Night of the Proms’ favourites, as well as specially arranged and commissioned music to

celebrate York's 800 years of history, including the world premiere of York composer David Lancaster's 'City of Kings'.

'With 50 brass players and a team of percussion on stage it's going to be an awesome spectacle and sound,' said Kate Lock, co-director of Brassed On York Ltd, a not-for-profit company that was formed to stage the concert.

'We are putting on an accessible and affordable Proms right in the heart of York, and the specially composed music and the pageant aspect of it makes this an unique part of the York 800 celebrations.

'It's all in the best tradition of Proms concerts, but with no hassle about parking in muddy fields. Seating is under cover and you can picnic in the Museum Gardens beforehand. It makes a great after-work event to come to and the beautiful abbey ruins setting is a truly magnificent space for what promises to be an atmospheric and uplifting event.'

Proms in the Gardens is on Monday 20 August at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £20, 17.50 and £12 (concessions £18 and £15) and can be booked through the Theatre Royal box office on 01904 623568 or online at www.yorktheatreroyal.co.uk

More details from www.brassedon.org

www.york800.com

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