

Ivor Gurney: High above Gloucester and the Severn Plain

Friday 14th September

10am – 11.45am

The Old City – Guided walk led by **Eleanor Rawling** around Ivor Gurney's Gloucester, looking at his birthplace, school, the cathedral and other places connected with his family life and creative development. (*Easy walking, flat pavements and walkways, 2.5 miles*)

[11.45am – Bus to Ashleworth and lunch break]

1.15pm – 3.15pm

Ashleworth nestles by the river – Guided walk led by **Eleanor Rawling** around the village, tithe barn, church and manor house at Ashleworth and onto Barrow Hill “where eyes, heart and soul may drink their fill” – including reading of poems and discussion of music written during or just after Gurney's return from the war. (*Moderate walking, field paths and lanes, some hills, 5 miles*)

[3.15pm – Bus to city – tea will be served from 3pm]

4pm – 4.20pm

The House of Stone – Visit to Gloucester Cathedral, to hear discussion between **Stephen Johnson** and **Adrian Partington** about Gurney's connections with the cathedral.

4.45pm – 7pm

Talks in the Ivor Gurney Hall

The world into which Ivor Gurney was born, his musical education and early works
Stephen Johnson

The influences upon Gurney of the poems of A.E. Housman
Peter Parker

Exploring Ivor Gurney's Gloucestershire through his Poetry
Eleanor Rawling

The dual phenomenon: Ivor Gurney, Composer and Poet
Philip Lancaster

[7pm – Supper break]

8pm – 9.45pm

Concert – with **James Gilchrist** tenor, **Catherine Schofield** violin and **Anna Tilbrook** piano (see separate concert programme)

Throughout both days there will be poetry readings by **Nicola Harrison**, **Tim Kendall**, **Eleanor Rawling** and **Stephen Johnson**.

Saturday 15th September

10am – 12.30pm

Up There on the Roman Hill – Guided walk led by *Eleanor Rawling* beginning on Crickley Hill, Gurney's high playground and quiet retreat, and one of the places featuring most frequently in his poetry and music. The walk reaches the summit of Crickley with magnificent views of the Cotswold Edge and Severn Plain, then descends to pass 'Gurney's cottage', Dryhill Farm and the site of Dryhill Roman Villa, all important places in Gurney's creative life. Climbing back up the steep scarp slope via the ancient drovers' road, the Greenway, the walk follows the Cotswold Way back through the ancient beech trees now protected in the Crickley Country Park. (*All off-road with steep hills, field paths, woodland and some uneven ground, 4.5 miles*)

[12.30pm – To city and lunch break]

2pm – 4.15 pm

Talks in the Ivor Gurney Hall

“First War Poet”

Tim Kendall

Ivor Gurney: Dweller in Shadows

Kate Kennedy

Concerning Gurney's mental illness

Michael Trimble (with **Stephen Johnson**)

Gurney's late and unpublished music

Ian Venables

[4.15pm – Tea break]

5pm – 5.45pm

Forum – chaired discussion between audience and speakers

5.45pm – 6.30pm

Pre-concert discussion – led by *Stephen Johnson*, and including *Philip Lancaster*, *Nicola Harrison* and the musicians

[6.30pm – Supper break]

8pm – 9.45pm

Concert – with *James Gilchrist* tenor, *Anna Tilbrook* piano, *The Bridge String Quartet* and *Michael Craddock* baritone (see separate concert programme)

Throughout both days there will be poetry readings by *Nicola Harrison*, *Tim Kendall*, *Eleanor Rawling* and *Stephen Johnson*.