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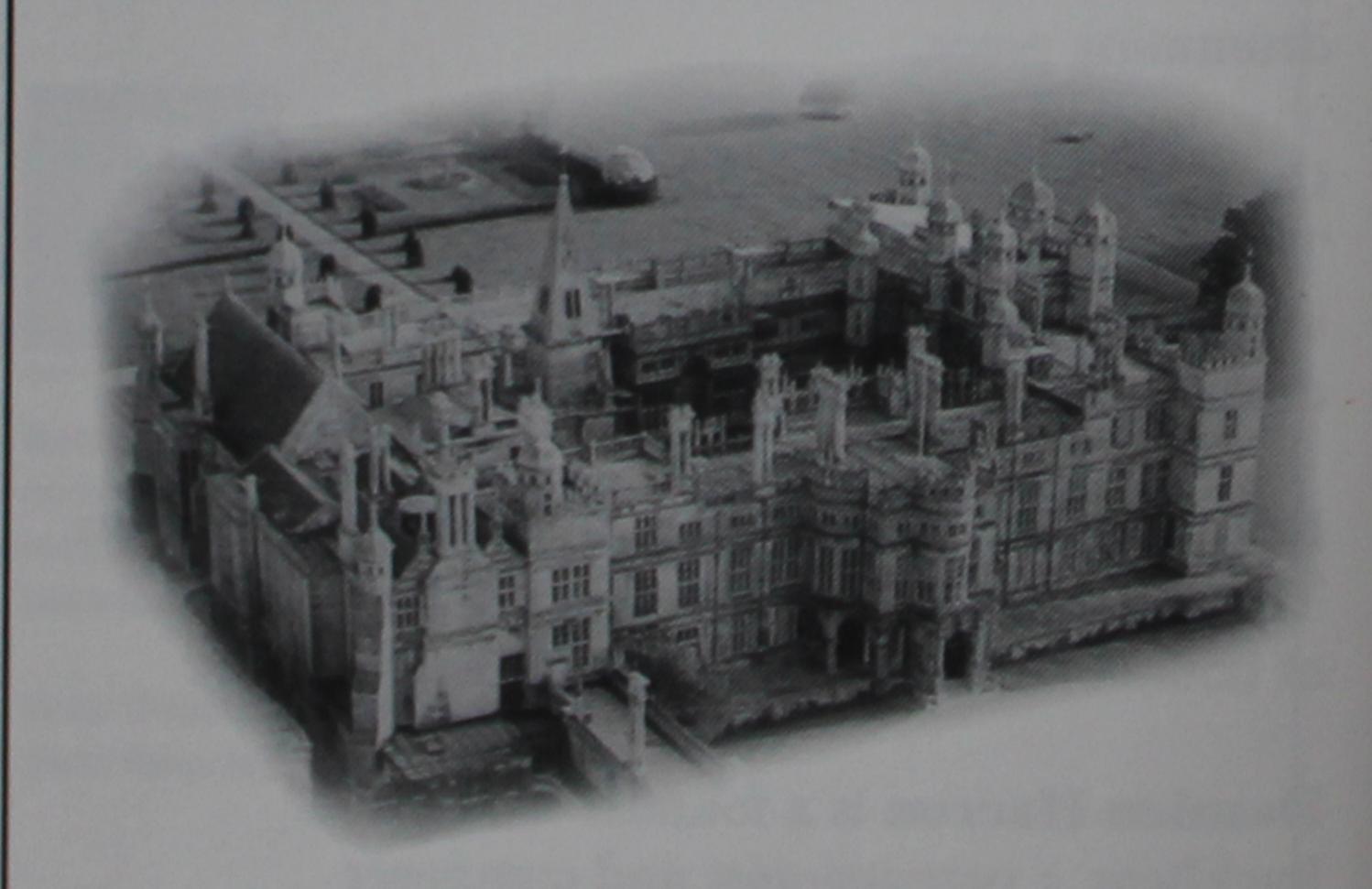
Guided Tour

Burghley House and its Music Lecture-recital by Gerald Gifford 3pm

Burghley House is the largest and grandest house of the first Elizabethan Age. Built and mostly designed by William Cecil, Lord High Treasurer of England, between 1565 and 1587, the house is a family home for his descendants to this day. It contains a huge collection of great works of art, including 17th century Italian paintings, rare porcelain and wood carvings by Grinling Gibbons.

Amongst the treasures is an extensive collection of manuscript and printed music formed between 1650 and 1850 by various members of the Cecil family, especially Brownlow, ninth Earl of Exeter, who was a great friend of Handel and highly influential in English musical circles during the latter half of the eighteenth century. Brownlow amassed a collection of musical instruments, including the pump organ and the square piano which can still be seen in the Chapel today, and which are still used for recitals and church services.

The harpsichordist and organist Gerald Gifford has been widely associated with the Burghley music collection since 1978, when he was granted access to this remarkable private holding by the sixth Marquess of Exeter. Dr Gifford's researches at Burghley have led to facsimile publication of selected rare editions and numerous solo recordings, broadcasts and recitals themed on the collection.



Open-air Theatre

Illyria

The Reluctant Dragon

by Kenneth Grahame

7.30pm (gates open at 5pm) The Creed Chapel, Ashton

Actors John Auger

> **Emmy Bradbury** Michael Geary Jeremy James

Simon Matthews

Tim Thomas Director Jill "Wigs" Wilson Designer Oliver Gray Music

What would you do if a REAL Dragon moved into a cave on the hillside near where you live? You might run away screaming like everyone else or, if you're a very special type of person, like Boy in this story, you might pluck up some courage and make friends with it.

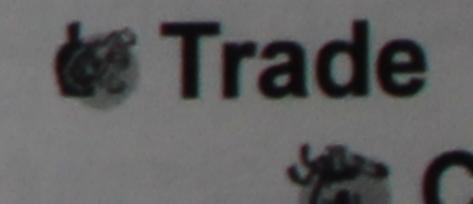
In this enchanting tale from Kenneth Grahame, author of The Wind in the Willows, nothing is what it initially appears to be. This Dragon is actually a lovable Dragon; not for him are the boisterous pastimes of rampaging through villages, breathing fire and eating damsels. His is a life more dedicated to wit, poetry and an appreciation of sunsets. But his refined existence is threatened when the foolish villagers find out about their antediluvian neighbour. Without taking the trouble to get to know him, they send a distress call for St George, Slayer of Dragons...

The Saint agrees to rid the village of its pestilential scourge. But little does anyone suspect that beneath his glistening armour, even St George might not be quite so brave as he seems. Faced with a Dragon unable to fight, a Saint unwilling to fight, a mob baying for blood and not a Damsel in sight, Boy's creative powers will be stretched to the limit!

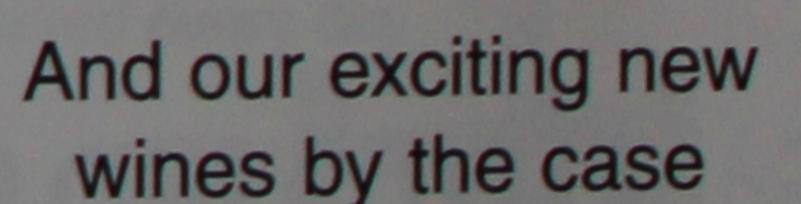
For the last five years Illyria has performed more open-air children's theatre across the UK than any other company. Their actors are drawn from the RSC, Royal National Theatre, the West End and from British and American film industries and television.











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