

## The Lion Ballroom

Lion Yard, off Broad Street  
Leominster HR6 8BT

The Lion Ballroom was originally built as part of the Lion Hotel in 1843 but its architectural style is reminiscent of the late Georgian period with its columns and ornate ceiling set off by beautiful crystal chandeliers. Its purpose was to serve the booming coaching trade of the first half of the 19th century with Leominster being a major stopping point. However, its heyday was short-lived as the arrival of the railways in the 1850s changed the pattern of travel and coaching inns were no longer needed in the same way.

Over the decades, the Lion Ballroom has served a number of purposes, not least as a superb concert venue where the ambience and acoustic suit perfectly the concerts being performed there.

## The Priory

Church Street, Leominster HR6 8EQ

The Priory Church dates from the middle of the 12th Century with later additions. A nunnery in 660 AD, it was rebuilt in the 12th Century. In 1539, during Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries, the east end of the church was destroyed along with most of the monastic buildings, but the main body of the church was preserved. The church is especially notable for the superb carving of the west doorway and the remains of its 'Wheel of Life' wall painting dating to the 13th Century. The tower contains a peel of ten bells, eight cast in 1756 with two later additions.

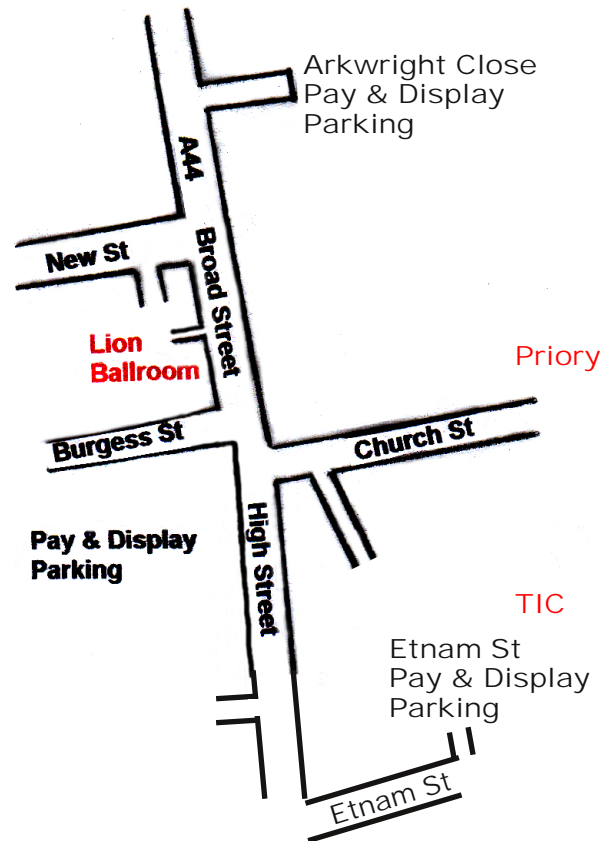
Leominster Tourist Information Centre  
11 Corn Square  
Leominster  
HR6 8YP

Tel: 01568 616460

Opening hours 9.30am-4pm  
Monday to Saturday

email: [reception@leominstertourism.co.uk](mailto:reception@leominstertourism.co.uk)

[www.leominstertourism.co.uk](http://www.leominstertourism.co.uk)



Leominster Town Centre (not to scale)

The barrier off New St between the flats and the Veterinary Surgery will be raised to allow limited free parking for concerts at the Lion Ballroom.

# Leominster

## Early Music Festival Weekend

Friday 2 March - Sunday 4 March 2018



*Featuring Music from  
the 14th to the 17th  
Centuries*

A Weekend of Events  
at the Lion Ballroom & Leominster Priory

Promoted by Espresso  
[www.espressivo.co.uk](http://www.espressivo.co.uk)

Supported by Gemma Classical Music Trust  
Regd Charity No. 1121090 [www.gemmatrust.com](http://www.gemmatrust.com)

**Friday 2 March at 7.30pm**

**Lion Ballroom**

## *Time Stands Still*

*A programme of Elizabethan and Jacobean Songs and Keyboard Music including works by John Dowland, William Byrd, Orlando Gibbons, Thomas Campion, Robert Johnson*

**Simon Ponsford** - countertenor

**David Ponsford** - virginals

**Saturday 3 March at 11am**

**Lion Ballroom**

*John Ogilby -  
dancer, tailor, soldier, spy*

*A presentation in words, music and dance following the route from London to Aberystwyth drawn up by King's Cartographer John Ogilby (1600-1676)*

**Mary Collins** - Baroque dancer

**Steven Player** - Baroque dancer & gittar

**Joy Smith** - Baroque harp & story-teller

**Aaron McGregor** - Baroque violin

**Saturday 3 March at 3pm**

**Lion Ballroom**

## *Craftsman's Art & Music's Measure*

*A presentation on the making and playing of medieval instruments by expert Alan Crumpler with reference to instruments depicted in the original 15th Century windows of St Mary's Fairford*

**Saturday 3 March at 7.30pm**

**Lion Ballroom**

*Ecco la Primavera!  
Behold the Spring!*

*Stories of love, life and death in 14th Century Florence through the work of its greatest musician and poet Francesco Landini*

**Vivabiancaluna Biffi** - soprano & viol

**David Hatcher** - viols

**Sunday 4 March at 7.30pm**

**Leominster Priory**

*Duarte Lobo: Missa pro defunctis  
16th Century Choral Music from Portugal & Spain*

**Border Voices**

Free entry with retiring collection in aid of  
Leominster Priory Restoration

**Simon and David Ponsford**

A superb father & son duo of sublime artistry  
[www.sjhponsford.com](http://www.sjhponsford.com) & [www.davidponsford.org](http://www.davidponsford.org)

**Mary Collins**

An early dance specialist who teaches and performs widely [www.marycollins.co.uk](http://www.marycollins.co.uk)

**Steven Player**

A Baroque dancer, instrumentalist & performer, much in demand [www.strangeandancientinstruments.com](http://www.strangeandancientinstruments.com)

**Joy Smith**

A leading Baroque harpist and gifted story-teller  
[www.joyharps.com](http://www.joyharps.com)

**Aaron McGregor**

An inspiring and passionate Baroque violinist  
[www.fillocksfiddlers.com](http://www.fillocksfiddlers.com)

**Vivabiancaluna Biffi**

A singer with a voice of heart-rending beauty who accompanies herself on the viol (see her performances on Youtube)

**David Hatcher**

A highly acclaimed teacher and performer on Renaissance instruments [www.dhatcher.co.uk](http://www.dhatcher.co.uk)

**Border Voices**

An acclaimed choir directed by David Hatcher which specialises in singing music of the Renaissance

**Tickets: £12 (students £6) per concert**  
(£6 for the Saturday afternoon presentation)

from Leominster Tourist Information Centre  
11 Corn Squire, Leominster HR6 8YP

**01568 616460**

**A discounted ticket at £30 is available to include all three Lion Ballroom concerts.**