**Mark Edwards – conductor**

**Biography**

Northern Praeclassica’s Musical Director is Mark Edwards. In 2012, Mark gained an MMus (Conducting) with Distinction from Newcastle University, having studied under the guidance of Professor Eric Cross. Mark is pleased to have studied and worked with many great musicians including: Philippe Bach, Gianluigi Gelmetti, Neil Thompson, Denis McCaldin, Philip MacKenzie, Christopher Gayford and Edwin Roxburgh. Mark has also conducted many ensembles including: Newcastle University Symphony Orchestra, The Amadeus Orchestra, Northumberland Orchestral Society, Tyneside Chamber Orchestra, Newcastle Sinfonietta and Newcastle University Gilbert and Sullivan Society. Recently he also conducted the premier of five new works by local composers with the Northern Sinfonia.

Mark is currently Director of Music for Felling Male Voice Choir with whom he has recently returned from the Czech Republic following a collaboration with The Janáček Choir. Recent highlights include performing at the Royal Albert Hall and singing on BBC3’s ‘In Tune’ programme. Further projects in 2013 include: a ‘Late Mix’ concert with Northern Sinfonia, soloist in the Mayuzumi Xylophone concerto, and a performance at Symphony Hall (Birmingham).

Mark also currently works for Durham Music Service teaching percussion in schools and is a freelance percussionist with local orchestras and bands. In the summer of 2013 Mark studied with Rodolfo Saglimbeni as part of the George Hurst Masterclass.