



High Wycombe Music Centre
Millbrook Combined School, Mill End Road, High Wycombe HP12 4BA
Tel 01494 475166 Fax 01494 442773
Email hwmusic@buckscc.gov.uk
Website www.buckscc.gov.uk/hwmc



NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM 2010

EVENTS DIARY

- Saturday 1st May 5.30 **Chamber Concert.** Eden Centre Library To include: Flute Choir, Sax Quartet, Clarinet Quartet, Sax Choir, Clarinet Choir, Brass Dectet, Junior Flute Choir, Brass Quintet, Recorder Consort
- Sunday 2nd May 7.00 **"Cirque de Musique" HWMC Big Band** perform in aid of the Mayor's charity. Tickets available from Swan Box Office (01494 512000) £15.00
- Wednesday 12th May 5.30 & 7.00 **Chamber Music Competition**, venue tba
- Saturday 15th May 7.30 **Senior Orchestra, Senior Wind Band, Junior and Senior Big Band and String Orchestra Concert.** St Andrew's Church, Hatters Lane
- Wednesday 19th May 7.30 **Brass Dectet** perform with Marlow Community Choir Sir William Borlase's Grammar School. Prog to include Rutter's Gloria
- Saturday 22nd May 12.30 **Matinée Concert**, Room 11 HWMC
- Saturday 22nd May 12.15 Joint rehearsal for Saturday Strings and Friday String Club South Hall, Millbrook Combined School. (Ends by 1.30)
- Saturday 22nd May **Concert for Elem Wind Band, Sat Strings, Jun Big Band and Stage Choir CANCELLED** (JBB now performing on May 15th)
- Sunday 23rd May **Harp afternoon.** A special event for young harpists with visiting artist Eleri Darkins. Contact Sarah Goss for further details.
- Weds 26th/Thurs 27th May **Ensemble Auditions** (see Newsletter for further details)
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| Saturday 12 th June 2.00-4.00 | Massed Rehearsal for RAH concert
Venue to be announced |
| Sunday 26 th June 7.00 | GALA CONCERT, Royal Albert Hall
Tickets from HWMC PTA, www.royalalberthall.com or 0845 401 5045 |
- Wednesday 30th June 7.00 **Scholars Concert.** Room 11 HWMC
- Sunday 4th July **Big Band** recording session at Sir William Borlase's Grammar School
- Monday 5th - Sat 10th July **National Festival of Music for Youth (Birmingham)**
- Sunday 11th July 4.00 **Music for a Summer afternoon.** Guitar Consort perform at Marlow Parish Church

Music Centre dates 2010

Summer Term 2010

Tuesday 20th April JBB & Big Band rehearsal
Friday 23rd/Saturday 24th Music Centre resumes
Friday 28th May - Saturday 5th June

Music Centre Half Term

Tuesday 22nd June /Friday 25th /Saturday 26th June
Final Music Centre sessions

Autumn Term 2010

Fri 10th/Sat 11th & Tues 14th September MC resumes

Soloists Competition

Christopher Walker was the adjudicator at the Soloists Competition in February. Congratulations to the following:-

Junior Section

1. Samuel Bartram (Violin)
 2. Jack Smith (Cello)
- HC Megan Cave (Piano)
HC Mark Bonner (Violin)

Intermediate Section

1. Hepzibah Hill (Oboe)
2. Ellen Southall-Garrad (Voice)
3. Sarah Smith (Alto Sax)

Senior Section

1. Liyang Pan (Piano)
 2. Dan Berkey (Cello)
- HC Nathan Lewin (Xylophone)
HC Aoife Dudley (Oboe)
HC Ben Aldren (Clarinet)
HC Charlotte Lee (Guitar)

Advanced Section

1. Jenny Bantick (Clarinet)
 2. Nat Reading (Guitar)
 3. Jonathan Venvell (Oboe)
- HC Hannah Moore (Flute)
HC Judith Swinhoe-Standen (Alto Sax)

Music Centre Ensemble Auditions

Music Centre ensemble auditions will take place for all brass, string and woodwind students (apart from those in the most junior ensembles) on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th May. A letter giving full details will be circulated to all students and parents later in the term.

Exam Results

Congratulations to the following.

VIOLIN:

Mark Bonner, V Merit
Sneha Prakash, III Merit
Francesca Hyde, III Pass
Ben Biss, II Merit
Pippa Young, I Pass

VIOLA:

Jonathan Tann, I Dist

CLARINET:

Zoe Pitman, VI Dist

RECORDER:

Pippa Grundey, VIII Merit

TRUMPET:

Mark Bonner, II Pass

TROMBONE:

Lewis Bridgeman, VII Dist
Liam Haines, V Merit

PIANO:

Daniel Berkey, VII Pass
Mark Bonner, III Merit

THEORY:

Gabriella Haynes, V Merit

GUITAR:

Nat Reading, VIII Merit
Aoife Corbett, VIII Merit
Leanne Robinson, VIII Pass
Charlotte Lee, VII Dist
Tom Weeds, VII Merit
Natasha Henson, VI Dist
Charlotte Reston, VI Dist
Sam Lowe, V Dist
William Hopwood, IV Dist
Tom Rebour, III Dist
Max Howey, II Dist
Lauren Nicholson, II Dist
Kiera Gillies, II Merit
Connor FitzGibbon, I Dist
Vincent Allen, I Merit
Aaron Hall, I Merit

HWMC Tour

Final details are being put in place for the summer tour that takes the Youth Orchestra, Concert Band, Youth Choir, Guitar Consort and Clarinet Choir to France and Germany. Andy Rogers and Simon Salisbury will be making an inspection visit in early May, after which details of the concerts will be finalised.

HWMC PTA

Saturday 22nd May 2010

Cake Sale @ the Tuck shop, 9.00 to 11.30am.

Donations of all types and sizes of cake welcome
(includes muffins, flapjacks and biscuits!)

Please bring donations to the Tuck Shop on
Friday evening (21st May, 4.30-8.30pm) or
Saturday morning (22nd May from 8.30am).

Thanks.

Please use the website

As we approach the Royal Albert Hall concert, we shall make more and more use of the HWMC website. It is possible to download all the letters and forms that have already been distributed to students by hand (just in case they get lost in transit!!) and also keep up to date with dates and events. A reminder of the address :-

www.buckscc.gov.uk/hwmc

Royal Albert Hall update

Preparations are well advanced for the concert on June 26th. A lot of the music is already being rehearsed and as we progress into the summer term, the ensembles and choirs will also begin to tackle the "massed items". As a finale to the concert we will be performing well known melodies from The Lion King and EVERY performer will be involved (including 100 children playing African Drums!). We have also commissioned several new compositions for the occasion. Some of these will be written by our own staff - (Andy Rogers and Patrick Gazard), some will be written by ex staff members (Liz Grant) and a new piece featuring the Sax Choir, Clarinet Choir and Percussion Ensemble has been written by Roger May. Many staff have also been involved in arranging music specially for the occasion.

It is really important that all students and parents keep up to date with information and requests for completed paperwork. As you can imagine, taking 700 music centre students and 250 children from local primary schools to the Royal Albert Hall is a massive undertaking and this is on top of running our usual Music Centre programme, including a tour! So, please do help us by responding on time to requests. All letters and forms appear on the website.

HWMC PTA

Saturday 16th October 2010

Supper Concert 2010

Longburrow Hall, Stokenchurch

7.00pm (doors open) to 11.00pm

A popular evening which sold out in 2008 and 2009.

Tickets available from 24th September 2010 at Tuck Shop

Adults - £16.00; Child - £11.00;

2 adults+2 children - £48.00

Singing Day & Brass Band Day

In February, members of the Youth Choir, Intermediate Choir and Junior Choir had the fantastic opportunity of working with Greg Beardsell and Dominic Peckham who are directors of the National Youth Choir. A truly inspirational (and high energy) experience for all the participants that produced astonishing results. In March, Jock Mackenzie (Conductor of Hampshire County Youth Brass Band) gave our senior brass players a "brass band experience." It was a great success and an opportunity that our players will long remember.

John and Tula Compton

At the end of this term we say farewell to John and Tula Compton, who retire from the Buckinghamshire Music Service. John has worked at the High Wycombe Music Centre since 1976 and Tula for the last eighteen years. There cannot be a Music Centre in the country where the standard of classical guitar playing has reached such consistently high levels. For many years, students have gone on to represent their country in the National Youth Guitar Ensemble and as you will read in the following article, this tradition still continues.

The legacy that John and Tula leave is one that we shall treasure. We wish them every happiness in the years to come.

Guitar News

Aylesbury Guitar Festival, Sunday February 7th.

The Senior Guitar Ensemble & the Consort entered the Large Open Ensemble class, competing against, amongst others, Aylesbury & Amersham Music Centre's leading ensembles. We are delighted to report that the Senior Ensemble came joint third, whilst the Consort won outright; they were indeed in a class of their own & the adjudicator (Graham Wade : formerly Head of Strings and Professor of Guitar at the City of Leeds College of Music and Tutor in Guitar to the Universities of Leeds and York) asked them to stand for a round of applause during his summing up in which he described them as being of high-on professional standard.

Chairman's Service, St. Lawrence's Church, West Wycombe, Sunday February 28th.

The Consort was invited to perform at the Chairman's Service in St. Lawrence's Church, West Wycombe, playing for 30 minutes before the start of the service. This prestigious event was attended by numerous local dignitaries and local government

officials and as ever, the Consort gave a performance of the highest quality.

We are also delighted to report that one of our Scholars, Charlie Reston (Senior Guitar Ensemble), has won a place in the National Youth Guitar Ensemble (NYGE); she is one of the youngest players ever selected. She joins Aoife Corbett, Ross McLean & Nia Madden - Consort players who are already NYGE members. Charlie has also passed the auditions for Guitar Circus (Director, Gary Ryan - who you may recall adjudicated the Soloist's Competition here at the Music Centre in 2009), indeed she has been appointed section leader.

Further success has been achieved by another of our guitar scholars, Sam Lowe, who has been

selected for the NYGE reserve list - a remarkable achievement considering how recently he started his guitar scholarship studies with Petula Compton. Sam also recently won the Junior section of the John Hampden Grammar School Soloist's competition.

Chamber Music Competition (Weds 12th May)

This year, we are delighted to welcome back Liz Grant to adjudicate this competition. Entry forms will be circulated the first week back after Easter. The closing date is Saturday 1st May. Anyone from the Centre can enter, so get your friends together and start rehearsing now!

MUSIC CENTRE FEES FOR APRIL 2010 – MARCH 2011

Basic Centre Membership for 1st child (up to 2 Ensembles)	£56.50
Basic Centre Membership for 2nd and subsequent child (up to 2 Ensembles)	£47.50
Supplement (if in 3 or more Ensembles)	£12.50
Full scholarship (1st Child)	£279
Half Scholarship (1st Child)	£179
Full scholarship (2nd and subsequent child)	£270
Half Scholarship (2nd and subsequent child)	£170
30 minute tuition (Horn, Oboe, Bassoon, Double Bass etc (Instrumental lesson)	£158
20 minute tuition (Horn, Oboe, Bassoon, Double Bass etc (Instrumental lesson)	£108
Group lessons (Horn, Trombone, Cello, Double Bass etc.)	£56.50
Theory, advanced Aural group classes (no charge for Scholars)	£31.50

Full or partial remission of fees is available to parents in receipt of certain state benefits. Other cases of hardship will be considered sympathetically. Please complete a request for remission form if you wish to apply for assistance.

HIGH WYCOMBE PTA

This is my last letter before the Royal Albert Hall Concert and I can assure you that the PTA is fully immersed in all the detailed planning such as making transport arrangements, ensuring that the concert is recorded properly so we can make good DVD's and CD's, creating a high quality souvenir programme, providing parents to escort the performers from High Wycombe to the RAH and within the building etc etc. Details will be provided to you in good time, but just to confirm and to advise "new" parents, the performers will be taken, at no cost to you, to the RAH during the morning of 26th June by coach so that they can rehearse and you will then join up with them after the concert. We will provide coaches to transport you to the RAH, if you so choose, in the late afternoon, returning after the concert, for which there will be a charge.

I have separately written to you about ticketing arrangements- please read it carefully. To confirm the key dates: the box office opens on Monday 26th April and we will sell tickets which have been donated to us by RAH members on Saturday 24th April at the Music Centre. Thank-you to all parents who have volunteered to help on the day.

We are also working on 2 other occasions. There will be a cake sale on Saturday 22nd May as a fund raiser and on 16th October we will have another of our popular Supper Concerts. Please put these dates in your diaries and bake cakes and buy tickets respectively.

David Sutherland
Chairman PTA