



## May 2011 - Newsletter

**Music Centre Summer Term 2011** 30<sup>th</sup> April – 4<sup>th</sup> July

**Half Term** 28<sup>th</sup> May – 5<sup>th</sup> June

**Music Centre Autumn Term 2011** Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> September – Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> December

**Half Term** Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> October



### Welcome to the Summer Term at AMC!

We hope you have all had a good Easter holiday. Last half term was particularly busy here at AMC; the soloists' competition, the Regional Round of the National Festival of Music for Youth and seven spring concerts; all took place! Music making in Aylesbury is definitely alive and vibrant! Congratulations to all who took part.

#### Soloists' Competition

Congratulations to all the students and their accompanists who took part. It was a real pleasure to listen to all the performances. Many thanks must go to the adjudicators who had the difficult task of picking the winners - Brian Dipple, Sophie Dolman, Gary Jones and David Stowe for their time and words of encouragement. The winners of the Finals 2011 are:

**Sarah Assaf** – Senior (piano)

**Christopher Hobbs** – Intermediate (bassoon)

**Alexandra Ridout** – Junior (trumpet)

#### National Festival of Music for Youth

AMC was the venue for the Music for Youth Regional Festival. 23 groups from our region took part in the day-long festival. The very busy day was impeccably organised by Lizzie Molloy. Many thanks to her and *all* the AMC staff who made this day possible.

All the AMC groups performed to a very high standard and the mentors were most impressed by the standards of our groups. Some groups may be invited to perform in July at Birmingham Symphony Hall / Town hall. Let's keep our fingers crossed that one of our groups is invited!

#### A New Ensemble For September 2011?

Information & Application forms to join a 'new' ensemble for September 2011 are available NOW – from your AMC teacher, the AMC foyer or AMC office!

The **application closing date is 12<sup>th</sup> May** and auditions will be held in June 2011 – so ACT NOW to join in September! (Please note, auditions do not apply to all groups)

#### The Friends of AMC

All of us here at AMC really appreciate the help/time the Friends Association give to us. Sadly, Wendy Brazier and Jon Hykin (the chairman and secretary) will be leaving us at the end of the summer term. We thank them both for their invaluable help. **WE NEED MORE PARENTS** or even **GRANDPARENTS** to help with the Friends. The Friends organise refreshments/snacks on Tuesday / Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings and also help out at concerts. Their work really adds to the something special of the centre. **IF WE CANNOT FIND MORE PARENTS, then these stalls will cease to exist.** Come and be involved. **WE NEED YOU!** There will be a **meeting** in the Roblin Hall for all interested on **Saturday JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup> at 1.00pm. PLEASE COME!**

#### Fundraising Quiz Night – 14th May

The Friends are organizing a Quiz night! It will start at 7.00pm so younger students can take part. Teams will consist of 8 players. Staff will be encouraging students to represent their band. Adults – come and take on the students! Tickets £5 - to include nibbles. Bring your own drinks. Raffle, prizes and wooden spoons! Tickets will be on sale from the AMC office from 5<sup>th</sup> May.

#### Aylesbury Festival

The Aylesbury Festival 2011 will run for 16 days from Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July to Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> July. Over 70 events will take place bringing musicians from around the world to work alongside local talent. Performances will take place at locations across the town and there will be over 30 participatory workshop activities for people to take part in. AMC concerts during this time will be part of the festival. Take a look at [www.aylesburyfestival.co.uk](http://www.aylesburyfestival.co.uk) for further details.

## Dates for the rest of this term

27 <sup>th</sup> <u>April</u>	Teaching resumes in schools
29 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Bank Holiday AMC closed</u>
30 <sup>th</sup>	*****Music Centre resumes for Summer Term *****
2 <sup>nd</sup> <u>May</u>	<u>Bank Holiday AMC closed</u>
8 <sup>th</sup>	Beginner String Workshop 10.15 – 3.30pm @ AMC – Roblin Hall
9 <sup>th</sup>	AMC Dance Band with St Albans Big Band          6.10pm Rehearsal. Concert 7.30pm. Admission free – @ Roblin Hall
14 <sup>th</sup>	The Friends fundraising QUIZ NIGHT Roblin Hall 7.00pm
17 <sup>th</sup> <u>June</u>	Scholars Soireé - Roblin Hall @ 6.30pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Chamber Choir / Guitar ensemble Picnic in the Park @ Claydon House
26 <sup>th</sup>	Big Band Special at The Court Theatre@ Pendley, Tring. AMC Dance Band
3 <sup>rd</sup> <u>July</u>	<b>Summer Sizzler – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 12.30 - 4.30pm</b> <b>ALL Aylesbury Music Centre Groups Involved!</b> Make sure that you look at the attached sheet which gives all the preliminary information about <u>your</u> summer concert!
4 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day Music Centre Term
8 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Orchestra Concert in Methodist Church 7.30pm
10 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	AMC Brass band Tour to Belgium
4 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup>	National Festival of Music for Youth Week – Birmingham
10 <sup>th</sup>	FLUTE DAY @ AMC: 10.00am – 5.00pm. Application forms available in AMC Foyer
17 <sup>th</sup>	CYO Rehearsals: 10am - 6pm
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last day of School Term

## Music Centre Fees

As you know, there has been considerable uncertainty over the future of central government funding of music services. Following the government's response to the Henley Review on Music Education in early February, we received information about the grant Buckinghamshire will receive for the financial year 2011 – 12 on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Whilst the outcome isn't as bad as we had feared, we will need to absorb a 10% reduction in funding in the next financial year. The Music Service has been looking at a range of options to reduce its costs, whilst preserving an acceptable level of service. However, in addition to these measures, I regret that it will be necessary to increase our charges for Music Centre activities for the Summer Term 2011.

Basic Centre Membership for 1st child (up to 2 Ensembles)	58.50
Basic Centre Membership for 2nd and subsequent child (up to 2 Ensembles)	49.00
Supplement (if in 3 or more Ensembles)	13.00
Full scholarship (1st Child)	289.00
Half Scholarship (1st Child)	185.50
Full scholarship (2nd and subsequent child)	279.50
Half Scholarship (2nd and subsequent child)	176.00
30 minute tuition (Horn, Oboe, Bassoon, Double Bass etc (Instrumental lesson)	164.00
20 minute tuition (Horn, Oboe, Bassoon, Double Bass etc (Instrumental lesson)	112.00
Percussion lessons (Small group)	58.50
Theory, advanced Aural group classes (no charge for Scholars)	32.50

*Suzanne Hopkins*

Head, Aylesbury Music Centre

