



Newsletter

January 2004

### Music Centre Websites.

In addition to the website for the Music Centre, we now have an up-to-date website for Parents' information. You will be able to find on these the latest newsletter, dates for forthcoming concerts and other items of information. We hope that by being able to go to these sites, any doubts that you may not have received the latest important bit of information from your offspring will be alleviated and the nagging feeling that the information you really needed was on that crumpled soggy ball that you found in the pocket of the trousers that just came out of the washing machine, will be a thing of the past.

The website for the Parents' Association is <http://www.hmc-parents-assoc.org.uk> and the site for the Music Centre is <http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/musicservice/harrogate.asp>

### OPEN MORNING SUCCESS

Despite fierce competition with the rugby final on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, many managed to get to the Open Morning and we made nearly £1000 profit. Thank you for supporting this event.

The radio in the corner of the hall kept us informed of events on the other side of the world, and we all certainly knew what the huge cheer that went up at the end signified!

It was very good to see so many people visiting the various ensembles throughout the morning, getting a flavour of the range of music played at the Music Centre. The Mayor also sent a letter of thanks to the Centre saying how much he, and the Mayoress, had enjoyed the morning, and they wished to congratulate the musicians saying that "it was a delight to listen to them all".

### Fruits of labour

Thanks to all the support from parents, we have had some very successful fundraising events over the year and have been able to give the go-ahead for the purchase of a large number of items. These include:

sheet music, music stands, a conductor's stand, a side drum, two snare drums (including harnesses), a bass drum, a surdo, a bass clarinet, a tenor saxophone, an electric piano, a new PA system and cases for various instruments. The list goes on.....

These purchases are greatly appreciated by the ensemble directors and, we hope, will add to the enjoyment of the band members.

### Guess the Rabbits' Birthdays Competition

The Brown and Pink Rabbit from the Xmas concerts were claimed and given good homes by the two lucky winners. Brown Rabbit's birthday was the 24<sup>th</sup> October and Julia Griffith of Pately Bridge guessed 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Pink Rabbit's birthday was the 6<sup>th</sup> July and John Summerton of Harrogate guessed 5<sup>th</sup> July.

### Artists and Albums Competition

There were five joint winners of the competition, who were: Cathy Bishop, Paul Matthews, "The Sweeneys", David Webster, Liz MacIntosh.

### Christmas Concerts

The three Christmas concerts at St. Mark's church and Granby School were extremely well attended, and some great music was played by the various ensembles. With junior groups playing in the same concerts as the more senior bands, an opportunity was provided for everyone to hear some of the range of styles and levels of music embraced by the Music Centre.

The HYJO concert in The Old Swan Hotel on 14<sup>th</sup> December also went well with some fantastic solos and a great sound all round. A tribute was made to Nigel Beetles, who was a founder member and who had directed HYJO for 17 years before moving on this summer.

**Many thanks to Exel.plc** for a generous donation of £350 to the Music Centre. If any parent has access to charitable funds via their place of work, and is able to persuade their employer to make a donation to the Music Centre, please contact anyone on the Parents' Committee, who will be very happy to deal with the matter.

### Playing for Charity

Before Christmas, musicians from the Music Centre raised a total of £726 for two local charities: Follifoot Park Disabled Riders Group and the Harrogate District Society for the Blind. This was despite the vagaries of the weather, with HYJO confronting rain on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November (but being given refuge in the Victoria Centre for their performance) and blustery wind in the Market Square two weeks later. Saxism, a group formed by Music Centre musicians, played in the somewhat more temperate climate of Marks and Spencer. Both groups are grateful to Harrogate Borough Council and Marks and Spencer for giving them permission to play.

### Forthcoming concerts

- April: **ICB** playing at the International Festival over the Easter holidays (dates to be confirmed)
- 15<sup>th</sup> May: **Area Band** playing a joint concert with Skipton Music Centre at Aireville School, Skipton, at 7.00pm.
- 26<sup>th</sup> June: **HASSO** playing at St. Mark's Church at 7.30pm.
- 19<sup>th</sup> June: **HYPE, Guitar Orchestra, Woodwind Choir** and **Junior Brass** playing at Ashville College, at 7.00pm (to be confirmed).
- 27<sup>th</sup> June: **Junior Strings** and **ISO** playing at Granby, at 7.00pm (to be confirmed).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July: **HYJO** playing at Grassington Festival in the morning and at Harlow Carr Gardens in the evening, for Soroptomist International, at 7.00pm

More information will be sent to you nearer the time .

### For Sale

**Full sized cello and full size double bass.**  
£500 each. Contact  
peter.mcparlin@northyorks.gov.uk

### Lost Property waiting to be claimed

A mink stole was left after the Open Morning on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

### Spare seats on coach to BBC Philharmonic Orchestra.

HASSO members have been offered the chance to go to Leeds Town Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> April to hear an exciting concert including the Rite of Spring, The Hebrides Overture and Beethoven's 4<sup>th</sup> Piano Concerto. There are a few spare places on the coach so if anyone who already has their own entrance ticket would like to go on the Music Centre coach, please contact Tony Elgie (tel: 01423 501377).