


 Harrogate Music Centre

 Parents' Association

<http://www.hmc-parents-assoc.org.uk>

**Newsletter**

**March 2007**

### **GALA CONCERT**

**What a great night out! This year's concert was a wonderful event for the musicians of the Music Centre and a real treat for the audience. The prestigious surroundings of the International Centre provided an appropriate, professional, setting for the outstanding performances from all our musicians. The talent of all the groups was very much in evidence, from the youngest to the oldest performers. The junior groups were able to show off their well rehearsed repertoires setting a lively pace for the rest of the night. The variety of musical styles performed emphasised the range of music on offer through the Music Centre, and contrasting cultures, styles, textures, rhythms and eras were played, producing a richly textured evening. The final two pieces performed by the combined senior ensembles were truly stunning, and justly deserved the standing ovation from the audience.**

**Our younger musicians will undoubtedly have benefited from seeing the weeks of rehearsals culminate in this biennial concert and, by hearing the variety of genres of music played, will have gained a deeper appreciation of the wide variety of music they can look forward to playing as they progress through the Music Centre.**

**Although praise must go to the musicians and their ensemble directors for providing such enjoyable entertainment, we must also thank everyone who supported this event, not just by attending the concert, but also by acting as taxi drivers to and from the Music Centre every Saturday morning.**

### **Recognition for fundraisers**

After the sponsored practice last November two Music Centre musicians stood out for having raised significant amounts of money, and the Parents' Association has decided to provide new awards to recognise this effort. This year they went to Rory Dyke (HYPE) and Lydia Barrington (ICB). Well done, and thank you both.

The ensemble that raised the most money overall was HYPE, and its members were rewarded with 'refreshment vouchers' for using at the Saturday morning tuck shop.

### Here is what our younger musicians said about the concert...

- It was fun. There was lots of different types of music. I especially liked the big red band because it was really exciting (Oliver Wilson, JS)
- It was really good. I liked the Loose Leaf Rag the best. The different types of music were really good. I want to go to ISO next (Robert Aitken, JS)
- It was exciting (Christian Dutton, JS)
- The finale was great (Rory Cardwell, JS)
- The Gala concert was very good. I was a bit nervous, but I enjoyed it. I liked watching everyone else. (Sophie Clement, JS)
- I wasn't scared. It was food fun. It was a long day! (Beth Bird, JS)
- Very interesting, I loved all the performances (William Dutton, ex. JS)
- My favourite was HYJO. I also enjoyed the Big Red Band (Rory Dyke, HYPE)
- I really enjoyed the concert, especially the Lord of the Dance at the end. (Alex Barker, JS)
- I thought it was a good experience to watch all the bands play. I liked HYJO and the last piece best. (Ilana Weets JCB)
- It was really good. I liked HYPE and would like to join them sometime (Miles Blakey, JCB)
- It was quite scary to start with and then the lights went up and I felt a bit better. I thought my band played well. The other bands played really well, I liked them all. (Nathanael Welsby, JCB)
- I liked it when the lights went out and the siren came on because I was worried that it wouldn't work and would ruin it for my Daddy, because the Great Escape is his favourite film and I had been keeping it a secret that we were playing it. When the man said that we were playing the Great Escape he was really pleased and enjoyed it a lot! I liked listening to the ICB because I liked the pieces they played and the Lord of the Dance at the end was great. (Abby Hatch, JCB)
- Taking part in the Gala Concert was brilliant. The stairs backstage were steeper than I expected. The lights on stage were brighter than I expected. The sound of JCB playing to a packed house was louder than I expected too. I liked all the light designs behind us and it was scary when the air raid siren started. (Jenni Hardcastle, JCB)

### Forthcoming Concerts (also posted on the web site)

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March:** Area Band, 7.30pm International Centre, 'Royal Hall Resotration Fund Concert'.

**Saturday 19<sup>st</sup> May:** Area Band, HASSO, 7.00pm Harrogate Grammar School.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June:** ICB, 2.00-4.00pm, Oatlands Junior School Summer Fair.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June:** Junior Strings, Guitar Orchestra and HYPE, 7.00pm, Harrogate Grammar School.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July:** JCB, ICB and ISO, 7.00pm St Mark's Church.

### Music Centre Auditions

Applications for auditions must be received by the Music Centre by 31<sup>st</sup> March. Auditions will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June. Further information can be obtained on Saturdays at the Music Centre or from the Music Centre Office: 01423 700118.

*You can also download the application form and the audition requirements from the Parents' Association website.*