

# Harrogate Music Centre

## Parents' Association

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

### Playing with the National Concert Orchestra.

The junior ensembles; junior strings and ISO were very lucky to be able to work with professional musicians from the NCO in March, culminating with their concert on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Those who attended said what a successful and lovely concert it had been.

#### Comments from Music Centre players:

"Last term ISO and Junior Strings did series of workshops with the Northern Chamber Orchestra. The workshops were fun because we didn't just play our instruments we did rhythm work as well. At the end we put on a themed concert at St Aidans. It's theme was Mozart's 40<sup>th</sup> symphony all the parents really enjoyed the concert." Kirsty Hall

"I enjoyed the NCO concert and the preparations because when we had the classes it taught me a lot about sound variation and rhythm which will come in handy for the future." Rachel MacKenzie

### A delight to Hear

Music Centre staged two highly enjoyable concerts in May:

**HASSO** performed a concert on 13<sup>th</sup> May where the first half consisted of the first, second and third movements from different Mozart concertos showing off the musical talents of the soloists on different instruments (David Millican on piano, Tom Smith on viola, Tom Walker on violin, Sophie Clark on Oboe, Vicky Sheenan-Dare on clarinet, Lucy Herd on French horn and Jessica Benson on bassoon). The music by Rossini and Tchaikovsky in the second half was typical of the extremely high standard we have come to expect of HASSO.

**Area Band, HYPE and Guitar Orchestra** played a varied programme on 20<sup>th</sup> May that was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended and exemplified the diverse range of music promoted by the Music Centre directors.

throughout the year and through raffles and other fundraising activities we are able to pay for concert venues, competition entrance fees, coaches to transport the ensembles to and from competitions, new instruments, instrument repair, new sheet music, music stands and folders, and much more. We also run a tuck shop for the children each Saturday morning and provide refreshments at all concerts. Thanks to (strong) parents who load and unload instruments into and out of vans before and after concerts the children are also able to play at venues other than Harrogate High School which greatly enriches their experience and musical development.

We, on the Parents' Committee, consider it vital that parents continue to provide support to our children by giving up (a relatively small amount of) time to help and we would warmly welcome anyone wishing to join us. Attending an AGM is one way in which parents can learn more about how the Parents' Committee supports Music Centre and it offers parents the opportunity to meet the committee and pose any questions they may have.

We realise that most parents are busy people and so have scheduled the 2006 AGM for 9.30am, a time when we hope parents might be able to stay at Harrogate High School for half an hour or so after dropping off the children. We would love to feel that there is a large body of parents who understand the importance of the role that we play and who are willing to show their support by coming along to the AGM. We look forward to seeing you on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Since the last newsletter we have provided money for:

- ?? the National Chamber Orchestra to work with our younger musicians over several weekends, and to give a joint concert at St. Aidans
- ?? coach hire for the journey of HYJO to and from the finals of the National Concert Band Competition in Glasgow
- ?? new music folders and music stands
- ?? a case for a double bass
- ?? hire of venues for the summer concerts

## Please Help

No-one responded to our previous call for help, so we are putting out this message again. We need help from parents who have:

**marketing experience**, who could help us to be more effective at contacting potential young musicians in Harrogate and the surrounding area. Despite sending leaflets and information about the Music Centre to local schools and music teachers we are getting fewer young musicians joining the music Centre. We would, therefore, welcome advice and expertise to help us reach our "target audience".

**muscle (!)**, who could lend a hand with loading and unloading the various instruments and items of equipment into and out of vans before and after concerts. Ideally, if several people volunteered for this, any one person would only be needed when their own child was actually playing in the concert. At present this duty falls to the ensemble directors and those Parents' Committee members who have sufficient muscle power, so a band of several volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

**D.I.Y. know-how**, who could occasionally be called upon to do simple odd jobs, such as putting up shelving in the music store or putting together trolleys for transporting instruments around the Music Centre site. (These have actually already been done, but give an idea of what might be involved).

Please contact Mary Walker (01423 879408) if you feel you can help us.

### For Sale

Clavinova (CLP250) with stand.  
14 yrs old but in very good condition.  
Offers around £285.  
Contact Gary Mills, c/o Music Centre Office Tel: 01423 700118.

### Success in Glasgow for HYJO

HYJO competed in the national finals of the National Concert Band festival in April and gained a silver award. This is an outstanding achievement considering that all the other competitors were University groups. Well done to all of you!

#### HYJOC D

There are still a few copies of the HYJO CD for sale at £10 each. (plus £1 p&p if you need it sending to you). If you would like a copy please phone Rick Sweeney on 01423 524494

### Forthcoming concerts (*also shown on our website*)

June 24<sup>th</sup>: **ICB** at Oatlands Summer Fair , 2-4pm

**HASSO** at Skipton Music Centre, Aireville School (requiring an afternoon rehearsal), 7.00pm

**HYJO** at the Manhattan Club, 7.30pm

July 1<sup>st</sup>: **HYJO** at the Grassington Festival, 10am -12noon

**JCB** at St. Robert's Church (Bilton) Garden Party, 2-3pm

**ISO, JS, HYPE and Guitar Orchestra** at Harrogate High School., lower Hall. 7.00pm

**HYJO and Area Band:** playing with the Tewitt Band in the Tom Mansfield Memorial Concert at Harrogate Grammar School, 7.00pm

**ICB:** at West Park Church. Evening concert, time tba

July 9<sup>th</sup>: **JCB & ICB** at Harrogate High School 7.00pm