



EYS April/May Newsletter

"Aiming for a greater understanding and enjoyment of music"



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This month we have a bumper newsletter. As the April newsletter seemed a bit thin and lacking in excitement it was decided to amalgamate the April and May ones together, so apologies if you have been waiting! It's an exciting term for EYS with a new venue for the groups and lots of fundraising events. Thanks go to everybody involved in EYS, every contribution, however small, helps.

New Venue

Many of you will already be aware of our new venue, **Stoke Hill Middle School**. The timetable is as follows

4.15 – 4.55 Mini Music Makers and the **Pizzicato Players**

5.00 – 5.40 Spiccato Strings and **Mozart Music Makers**

5.40 – 6.40 Col Legno Quartet and **Accent**

Don't forget to arrive promptly and to sign in at reception. This is important for security purposes. Please also remember that we need to leave the premises neat and tidy at the end of our sessions.

Congratulations

Congratulations go to

Helen Ballantyne who passed her **grade 1 cello**

Rosie McGeorge who got a **merit** for **grade 2 cello**

Becky Ford who got a **merit** for **grade 3 cello**

Congratulations also go to those who took part in the **Devon Performing Arts Festival**

Helen Ballantyne who got a merit in the **grade 1 group**

Becky Ford who got a merit in the **grade 3 group**

Daisy Cameron who got a merit in the **grade 3 group**

Maya Shankla who got a commendation in the **grade 5 group**

Congratulations also go to **Jackie Oates** who has won **two awards** at the **BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 2009**, the **Horizon award** and the **Best Traditional Track**. You can buy her album "The Violet Hour" online

Concerts and Events

A **coffee morning** has been provisionally booked for the **14th of June** at **Belmont Park** from **10.00 to 12.00**. If anyone would like to use this event to support a charity by selling charity products or making a collection, please contact Kirsty. The sale of refreshments will continue to support EYS, enabling us to keep our fees low and offer assisted places as necessary.

Don't forget, seniors, this event is for everyone, not just the juniors. It would be great to demonstrate the range of skills that EYS encompasses, so please take part. Kirsty will confirm the date with the hut, but in the meantime polish up your musical skills and, of course, your baking skills!

The **Senior Summer Concert** has been provisionally booked for **Saturday 4th July** at **South Street Baptist Church**.



Other news

Thank you again to everyone who took part and helped with the last **coffee morning**. A grand total of £112 was raised for **CLIC Sargent**.

As most of you are aware, we have been running a **social inclusion project**, supporting music lessons for children from the more disadvantaged areas of **Exeter**. This project was originally called the **Beacon Heath and Whipton Music Project** and supported children from **Willowbrook School, Whipton Barton Infants School** and young children attending the **Sure Start** centres in these areas.

Our funding came from our own **concert fundraising efforts** and a grant from **Youth Music**. This combination meant that in the last year Jackie and Kirsty have seen over **200** children in this project! Some of these received one-off workshops and others ongoing lessons. Of those who had ongoing lessons, the majority have wanted to continue. We are pleased to have been given more money by **Youth Music** to enable the youngest members of the project to continue for another year. As a result of this success we are re-launching this project as **EYS In Tune**. We are applying for funding to not only support children in these areas, but in other parts of **Exeter** as well in the hope that this will enable more children and teenagers to take part in our main organisation.

Ayesha and **Hannah** from **Accent** have been recording with the **Bristol** band “**Yes Sir Boss!!!**” They will be featuring on the band’s next CD, which is available in the next couple of months. Their website is www.myspace.com/yessirbossmusic.

The girls are currently fundraising for their places on the **National Camerata Residential** this summer. They are over half way to their target of **£650**. They have had very generous support from **Tracy Baird** from the **Royal Oak, Nadderwater** and from **Tony Skerrett** who raised another **£65** on **St Patrick’s Day** with the help of **Jaime Gill** and **John Collum**.

Please be aware that if you want to leave a **chamber group** you are required to give at least **3 weeks notice** before the **first rehearsal** of each term. Sadly, if not enough notice is given we have to charge a **£20 fee**. We haven’t been very efficient enforcing this in the past but we may need to be more efficient from now on.

Keep an eye out for the **Dartington Summer Courses**, they may still have places! The website is <http://www.dartington.org/summer-youth-programme>. They have courses for complete beginners, not even playing right up to grade 8 standard.

A last reminder. Our volunteer web administrator who has been looking after our website for the last few months finishes at the end of May to start a new job. We desperately need someone to take over. Please contact Kirsty if you can help.



Friends of Exeter Young Strings for 2009

Become a friend of and support our young musicians.

For just £15 you will receive a monthly newsletter, tickets at members prices and priority booking for events for all of 2009. Please phone **01392 460444** or email exeteryoungstrings@yahoo.co.uk if you are interested.

You will be helping to keep our members fees as low as possible meaning more of Exeter’s children and teenagers will be able to take part.



Devon Strings
Devon Strings
Workshop

1 Bartholomew Street West, Exeter,
Devon, EX4 3AJ Tel.(01392) 433748
www.devonstrings.co.uk

Saturday the
15th November
~ Open Day ~
See a violin
being made!

- Instruments
- Bows
- Strings
- Sheet Music
- Accessories
- Rentals

From Kirsty and Staff

Cost of printing this newsletter was paid for by Devon Strings