



NEWSLETTER No. 7 - 19th May 2012

It doesn't seem possible but we are nearly at the end of our Music Centre year. Next Saturday, 26th May is the final meeting of the year. We restart in September with Enrolment on Saturday 8th September, 10am-noon and then classes start the following week, Saturday 15th September.

If you want to enrol for next year and want to avoid queuing at Enrolment, you can enrol in the Office today and next week. As usual, cash and cheques only. Cheques can be dated September if you wish.

STAFF LEAVING

Earlier this term, Graham Agnew decided to leave the Music Centre. Graham has been teaching bass guitar for several years and also has been "lifting and carrying" the equipment from the storeroom to the classes - music stands, instruments, etc. - for at least 15 years! Time for a rest, I think!

Clare Patullo is leaving at the end of this term. Clare has been very successfully running the Mini Music Maker classes and the Find Your Voice group for the last three years.

I'm sure you will want to join me in saying a big thank you to both of them for all they have done for the Centre.

Thanks also to Robyn Allen who has been taking Graham's classes on a temporary basis.

We will, of course, be appointing new staff for all these classes in due course.

CONCERT DATES

Our next Concert is next Saturday, 26th May at 1.15pm. This is the last day of term and the Concert will follow straight on from the morning's classes. Tickets available next week.

ANNUAL SURVEY

Our annual survey form is out now. You can pick up a copy from the office or snack bar. Please fill it in as it helps to give us and ArtForms an idea of how well we are doing. Please drop completed forms back to the office or you can post them direct to ArtForms. There is also an on-line option this year. Go to: www.northleedsmusic.org/survey2012

NEW FOR SEPTEMBER

If you have a look at our new brochure you will find some new classes. We are continuing with the Music Passport Club which is aimed at older children, 7+ years, and gives them an insight into the world of music in a fun, informal way. Also, the Rock Band which was started last year is being continued and we hope more of you will support it. As well as electric guitars we can include saxes, flutes, drums, keyboard and vocalists. You need to have been playing your instrument for at least three years.

In response to requests, we are starting a Ukulele class, aimed at beginners. We will have a few instruments available to try out. I have also included "Aural" lessons on the timetable which is something we have always offered to those taking exams but have decided to advertise it in the brochure. You don't have to be doing an exam and this will offer something that isn't in the theory classes.

Continued overleaf ...

NEW FOR SEPTEMBER (continued)

Someone on their survey form has said "they wished we offered Oboe lessons". I'm always open to suggestions for new classes and we can offer lessons on more or less any instrument. So if the person who wants oboe lessons contacts me I'll see what we can do. Whilst talking about double reed instruments, we're keen to find some Bassoon pupils, (beginners or advanced players), so if you fancy that instrument then, again, please contact me.

We can always find places for bass woodwind and brass instruments in the Orchestras or Concert Band. These include bass clarinet, bassoon, baritone sax and tuba. Please contact the office if you play any of these. Don't forget that we now have a "whole morning rate" which means that you can join as many classes as you can fit in during the morning for a maximum fee of £224 per year for under 18's or concessions and £337 per year for adults.

Another important thing to note for September is that a number of classes will be located in different rooms.

Maps will be on display on the first Saturday back, but briefly, the Orchestras will be in Block B on the first and second floors, the Jazz Orchestra will be in Block A on the second floor. A number of classes already in Block B will move to a different floor. Drums will stay where they are but access will only be via Block B.

The Music Centre Office will be on the ground floor of Block B, first room on the right as you go past the lift. The lift will be available to pupils and staff who have problems using the stairs. The lift only operates on a key which will be held by authorised staff in the Music Centre Office.

There's a number of reasons for these changes so if you have any concerns please contact me.

INSTRUMENT HIRE

If you have a Music Centre instrument on hire will you please return it to the Office either this Saturday or next Saturday (26th May). All instruments need to be returned at the end of the academic year so we can do a stock check. If you want to continue playing or practising during the summer please come into the Office and we can arrange for you to keep the instrument. If you don't come and see us we will be contacting the person who signed for the instrument as one or two have gone missing over the years and we can't afford to replace them.

FINALLY ...

I hope you have all enjoyed this year learning and making music at the Music Centre. Thanks to all the staff, their assistants and the helpers in the Snack Bar. Have a pleasant summer break (let's hope the weather improves!) and I hope to see you all again in September.

Don't forget to check our website for the latest information about the Music Centre
and if any events, dates, times etc. change
If you follow us on Twitter you will have the most up-to-date information.

Mervyn Manning
Head of Centre



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