

1

- Director's Report
- BBC Young Musician finalist

2

- The Chair's Message
- Spike's Corner
- Newbury Young Musician Of The Year

3

*A week in
Provence*
The SURVIVAL GUIDE!

4

- Fun, Games & Great Music Making at Bryanston

BBC Young Musician 2010 finalist

Sincere congratulations to former HCYO principal trumpet Sam Moffitt for reaching the Brass Final in this year's Young Musician of the Year competition which was televised in April 2010. He was the only trumpet player to reach the final! We are all very proud of his achievements - very well done, Sam!

A fortnight ago Sam also performed his Debut Recital at the Portsmouth Festivities which was won as a result of his success in the previous year's Portsmouth Music Festival. The recital was a stunning success and played to a full house.

Director's Report

Hello to all, and welcome to our Summer newsletter.

Thank you all for your support this past year. With the involvement of so many Friends, the Orchestra continues to flourish, and can look ahead to the 40th Anniversary season next year with confidence and excitement. The Youth Orchestra's year will be dominated by Mahler's apocalyptic Second Symphony: a celebration not only of our own forty years of music-making, but also of Mahler's death in 1911. His music presents an enormous challenge to the players, but it is an experience no orchestral musician of any age should be without. The opening concert of the 2011 Winchester Festival, on July 1 in Winchester Cathedral, and with the CYO joined by the String Orchestra, offstage brass and a huge choir for the massive finale, should be an event to remember for a lifetime. We are also planning a Reunion Concert on Sunday 1 May - at The Anvil in Basingstoke, logistics permitting - so if you are an ex-member, do keep the date free.

But more on all that when the Orchestra re-convenes in September. For now, as I complete the arduous but enjoyable task (yes - it really is!) of auditioning current and aspiring players for next year, we should look back at a year of fabulous activity. Spike describes the String Orchestra's projects brilliantly below. I only wish to add that it has been a great source of satisfaction for me too, that the String Orchestra has really come into its own, and is performing with such élan.



That is testament to the way Spike and our other colleagues are willing always to think of new approaches and challenges.

It is fair to say that in many respects the County Youth Orchestra was a comparatively inexperienced group when we first met up in September of last year. So to have achieved what it has is even more impressive. We have all worked incredibly hard, and the players will testify to the extra hours of string coaching or the obsessive sessions of wind and brass tuning! It all means that in the moment of performance, we can respond to one another, be flexible and fresh and full of energy... and so it has proved. That is an enormous pleasure for me to be

part of - and not one that every youth orchestra is capable of.

The range of activity this year has been huge, from dance collaborations to concertos with ex-members, from box-drums to Bach to Bolero... and all of it sustained by an underlying intensity on the part of the players. This intensity comes in large part from the bonds that join the players together in friendship and shared experience. As we set off on tour this summer, it is a good moment to celebrate that, above all.

Tom Seligman - July 2010

FRIENDS OF THE HAMPSHIRE COUNTY Youth ORCHESTRA

Newbury Young Musician Of The Year

More congratulations - this time to Ellie Nugent who on Sunday June 20, won the Newbury Young Musician of the Year 2010 competition. Ellie had qualified through previous heats along with six other talented young musicians. The judges were Glen Clarkson, Alexander Hohenthal and David Hill and at the end of the afternoon after listening to the judges' comments, Ellie was given the title along with £2000, a unique trophy hand crafted by David Duke and the fabulous opportunity to perform in September 2011 with the Southern Sinfonia Orchestra. Ellie has still not come down off cloud nine.



Spike's Corner

This year has been particularly exciting as we have extended the idea of playing without a conductor to the String Orchestra, following on from the very successful Elgar Introduction and Allegro with the Chamber Orchestra strings last year. Concerts in December at Thornden, February in Andover (the first of this year's String Bonanzas) and March in Romsey Abbey meant that the orchestra was well prepared for a great performance in the National Festival of Music for Youth in Portsmouth. The orchestra played their socks off and I stood at the back of the hall and cheered my voice hoarse. It was very exciting and humbling to realise as the orchestra started that there was now nothing I could do to influence this performance and I just had to leave it to them, and they made me very proud with their commitment and the finesse of their performance, which brought high praise from the adjudicators.

Bryanston brought a new challenge with the purchase and loan of enough new violas for every

Looking forward and back... A word from the Friends of HCYO

Where does the time go? It hardly seems five minutes ago that we were looking forward to the December concert and Busking. As I write we are looking forward to the Lilly Concert - always fab!, the tour to Provence, the summer holidays and then another fun-filled year with lots of activities and concerts starting again in September.

Looking to the present it is always sad to say goodbye to those HCYO players who are going off to university or other colleges but at the same time it is very exciting to see the wealth of opportunities which are open to them, some of which will be directly attributable to HCYO and to Tom and his colleagues for which we must be very grateful. Those who do not pursue a career in music will doubtless look back on their time in HCYO with great fondness and will have forged friendships which will last many years. Wherever the players are headed, we sincerely wish them luck and are sure that they are destined for great things.

As regards the FHCYO we are sorry to lose Len Shah, our Treasurer for the last five years and his wife Dipti who have been such loyal, reliable and giving members of the team, always helping out at concerts and fundraising events. We also say goodbye to Mike and Sue Thompson. Sue has been responsible for the newsletter content and together with David Shute has transformed it into a Newsletter of which we are all very proud.! Mike very nobly took over the web site and similarly has transformed this into a place where information is up to date, looks good and is easy to access. We are all very grateful for the huge amount of time and commitment they have all given over the years which is entirely voluntary and all for the good of the players, our children. We wish Nirali and Patch every success as they move on to university. They will all be sorely missed and as I write, we are still looking for a new treasurer and Newsletter co-ordinator. If you do have the necessary skills or just a sheer willingness to help, please contact me (details below) as at the moment I really don't know how we are going to manage next year.

So what does our fundraising achieve? Well, this year alone the Friends raised around £18,000 which included over £5500 raised by Judith Grajewski with her targeted correspondence to raise funds from specific trusts and organisation - thank you

Judith. We raised around £1400 from our Auction and Raffle at Bryanston of which around £600 came from the luxury raffle, the December concert with refreshments, merchandise and raffle raised over £900. Busking raised the best parts of £900 and is totally from outside donations so always to be encouraged. Joanna Seligman raised over £2000 from the Come and Sing event together with the luncheon party which she organised. Friends' subscriptions raised over £3000 and the Friends100 club close to £400

These funds have paid for/contributed to the following:

- £10,000 towards the costs of Bryanston which keeps the costs per family down
- £250 for the reconditioning of Contrabassoon and Eb Clarinet
- £2000 for the purchase of new Cymbals, new castanets and triangles and rebuilding of the Marimba,
- £2400 for the purchase of eight new violas
- £200 for soloists' expenses and gifts
- £200 for music and an amount, yet to be finalised, as a contribution to the Tour to Provence to keep the costs per family down.

So looking forward again - there is much planned for the coming year with exciting anniversary concerts and so forth. The Friends are hoping to organise a social event at the beginning of the year for the String Orchestra - details to be confirmed soon.

Finally I should like to thank the remaining members of the Committee who have been such fun and kind people to work with over the last year for ensuring that the players and Tom have as much help as possible from sorting out the orchestral dresses and ties, to the Tuck Shop, website, Newsletter, fundraising, Busking, Friends 100, merchandise etc. We do need some more volunteers now so please come and join us.

First meeting date will be Saturday 18th September.

Judi Toal Joint-Chair
E: judi.toal@talk21.com
T: 02380 694273

member of the orchestra and we celebrated our viola-fest by playing two concerti by Telemann: one was the "usual" viola concerto with the solo part played by ex-member Sam Rolles (accompanied by a conductor-less string orchestra, ably led by Grace Ibbott, with a continuo team of Julia Robertson on her brand-new cow-headed cello and Sam Warner on electronic keyboard); the other was a transposition of the Concerto for Four Violins, played on this occasion by 31 violas! Even the cellists were brave enough to have a go at playing the viola (no mean feat, I can honestly say, having tried it myself) and the result was stunning.

Not content with getting all the violinists in the orchestra to play viola, we also introduced all the cellists to playing the double bass, which added much-needed depth to an otherwise bass-less orchestra. Under Mark Frampton's patient tutelage the cellists learned to cope with the confusion of moving from cello-fingering to bass-fingering and rose to the challenge very well.

This term the orchestra has had more challenges, playing Telemann in the Anvil, sharing a rehearsal with potential new members on the Open Day and

learning a new piece (Danza by the wonderfully-named Vaclav Nelhybel) in a very short time. In our performance on June 26th in Totton (the second String Bonanza) we shared the stage with four other string groups, including the strings of the Chamber Orchestra, with whom we replayed the Elgar Serenade which had been learned at Bryanston. This was again performed without conductor, stretching the listening- and communicating-abilities of all the players to the limit, but with great success. The finale of the concert included all the five orchestras playing Gideon Baker's Caribbean Capers, which made a merry noise and rounded off well a year of collaborations and challenges.

As always I have been impressed by the way the members of the String Orchestra have risen to the challenges set for them. They have accepted my seemingly impossible demands with good humour and forbearance, efficiently changing seating, sections and even instruments with alacrity and even enthusiasm, so I look forward to more challenges and exciting music-making next year.

Spike Wilson



A ~~year~~ week in Provence The SURVIVAL GUIDE!

HCYO TOUR SURVIVAL GUIDE!

Experienced tourist, Hattie McCall Davies has some good advice. So we've been thinking that for those of you who have never been on tour, there is a few teeny weeny things, small but vital things, that you should know!



Not the best picture of a slightly younger me demonstrating this very process in an Italian bath!

Concert Wear Hygiene!

Girls: So, as you all know, these gorgeous dresses are not exactly fresh when things get hot...and we will be playing more than one concert! So, solution???. Travel Wash. Simple as that. Available from Boots for 99p, but also from most places like that and online... Basically, shove dresses (and your friends-in fact it's quite a laugh really) in bath along with travel wash. Do the whole washing thing and hang 'em up. Hey presto, clean dresses!

Top Tips: bring a hanger to hang dresses to dry/ make sure someone in your room has a hair dryer for speedy dry in case of an imminent concert! Worth considering bringing some spray deodorant for when you're at concert venues in dresses for a while...

Guys: Just because you don't have snazzy dresses does not mean that you are immune to smelly concert wear. So PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!! Either: bring more than one white shirt (and indeed black socks!) Or invest in travel wash as well!

AND THIS WAY WE CAN ALL SMELL LOVELY AND FRESH!!!

And a few last things:

- Boys: don't forget your speedos!!
- Girls: general swimwear, and everyone:-
- Towels
- Camera for those 'special moments'
- Ice cream money
- SUN CREAM!
- Enough underwear
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Instrument!
- Spare strings
- Spike holders
- Humidifiers etc...

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY:

A jumper and some warm clothes for the coach because at night, on the way over and after evening concerts, the air con can make it reeeeeeealy freezing when you're trying to sleep - take it from someone who knows! Speaking of which, a small pillow makes the journey more comfortable too.

AND HAVE A GREAT TIME!!!!



Tour Calendar

HCYO Tour to Provence includes the following dates

Tuesday 27th July at 9:30pm
Parvis de la Basilique
St Maximin La Sainte Baume

Wednesday 28th July at 9pm
Flayosc Jeu de Boule

Thursday 29th July at 9pm
Eglise Le Luc

Friday 30th July at 9pm
Stade Municipale Sollies Toucas

Saturday 31st July at 9:30pm
Eglise Notre Dame du Bon Voyage, la Seyne



FUN, GAMES & GREAT MUSIC-MAKING AT BRYANSTON



“Bryanston 2010 over the Easter holiday, will live long in the memories as one of the best by those who attended”

Day One saw the long awaited arrival with new members given a tour of the beautiful surroundings and fantastic facilities of Bryanston School by the more battle hardened members. Then a full day of rehearsals of both main and string orchestras concluded the day.

Day Two was the first meeting of the combined orchestras, a key feature of the week with string orchestra members joining Chamber Orchestra string players to rehearse the Elgar. Finally day two ended with the 'hotly' anticipated barn dance which everyone got involved with - some spectacular original interpretations of the term 'barn dance' being witnessed in the sauna of the sports hall!

Day Three was the day of the first informal concert with furious preparations of small ensembles dominating free time with woodwind sectional tutors leading wind chamber music, another treat of the Bryanston experience. In the afternoon players also got the opportunity to rehearse Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet, with string and main orchestra all together for the first time. Brass players asserted their macho credentials at this point as woodwind players in close proximity of the brass section put their fingers in their ears and ducked for cover! The informal concert itself featured the wide talents of members with wind quintets, songs from Jonny and Sophie and a magic display from Tom Guyer à la Peter Bryant. The slave auction also raised a total of £66 for the orchestra with Gideon the prize lot.

Day Four saw the girls of the orchestra whipped up into a frenzy with the arrival of Phil Handy, cello soloist and fit list 2010 victor, to play the Shostakovich Cello Concerto. Also, for many Wednesday was the pinnacle of their orchestra year - the Bryanston 2010 football tournament. To some individuals in the orchestra, who shall not be named, this is the reason they auditioned and the single most important aspect of the orchestral year as a whole. Or so it seemed. Eventually, it saw heartbreak for many due to a display of sheer brilliance, particularly on the part of female members of the teams, which saw Alan's Angels snatch victory. Spartan F.C. incidentally finished in a disappointing fourth.

By Day Five everyone could fully appreciate the true development of the standard of playing of the orchestra which makes the Bryanston week so worthwhile. This was particularly evident this year and the standard by the final concert was remarkable. Thursday also saw the traditional combination of the disco and leavers party; this year focused on a poker theme - no money changed hands! Everyone enjoyed the event immensely with some senior members proving to be a "fountain of knowledge" in the art of poker and partying!

Day Six, Friday, stands out as the most enjoyable day for many in the orchestra, as the final informal concert saw a number of performances which will live long in the memory of all. Firstly, a modern interpretation of the story of Scheherazade starred an extremely important special guest who dominated on stage in an intoxicating performance according to Ieuan. Another modern adaptation of Romeo and Juliet featuring a starring performance by Gareth Murphy as Juliet. True class as the heroine! A performance of 'Don't Stop Believin' by the percussion section was also thoroughly enjoyed and the house staff performance of the Hallelujah Chorus concluded proceedings.

Finally, Day Seven saw the fruits of all the hard work displayed in two fantastic concerts in the Coade Hall. In the final concert Tom commented on the problem of having so much repertoire to get through due to the great efforts of both orchestras. Thanks to everyone involved, particularly to Tom, Spike, Adam, Holly, Gabrielle and the music and house staff who made this Bryanston so enjoyable and memorable for all concerned. One of the best!

Alex Louch

