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Friends of Southampton Youth Orchestras Newsletter

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Welcome to another year in the orchestras

A warm welcome to all players and parents new and old. Some of you will just be beginning your musical journey in Purcell or Finzi; we hope you have a great time learning to play with a conductor for the first time. Others of you may be moving up into a higher ensemble, which will bring new challenges as well as more excitements. Still others may be staying in the same group, but perhaps moving up a part or becoming a section leader. Whatever stage you are at, though, the musical journey through the Southampton Youth Orchestras will be one of the most worthwhile things you do. We would like to invite parents to become involved with the Friends - we would really like to have a representative from each ensemble on the committee, and are seeking people with particular skills or contacts who may be able to help either regularly or occasionally. We are always keen to learn of people who feel they can contribute in any way, from baking cakes, helping sell raffle tickets, helping set out chairs at rehearsals - in fact anything you can think of! Please contact any of the committee members if you can offer any help.

Jane Warren and Sally Boxall



New year, new committee, and another AGM

After three years I shall be standing down from the committee and resigning my role as newsletter editor. This has been an enjoyable way to support the orchestras and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to have fun with MS Publisher. However, a family, full time job, musical commitments of my own and imminent doctoral studies conspire against my continuing. Please would anyone who would be interested in taking over this role come along to the Annual General Meeting and volunteer their services. One newsletter per term is all that is required.

The **AGM** will take place at **Cantell School** on **Saturday 3 November** at 10 am, during the Sinfonietta rehearsal. Coffee will be available from 9:30. We hope to see as many as possible of you there, especially if your child is new to the orchestras. With two committee members standing down this year, we will be seeking new volunteers. It is not very onerous to be on the committee; monthly meetings during term time plus attendance and help at some of the concerts is all that is asked.

Even if you are unable to attend the AGM, we would urge you to **join FSYO**, whose incredibly reasonable subscription charge of £10 per year per family has been frozen for at least five years. The more members we have, the more your children will be supported in their musical development.

Don't forget to log on to the website, www.fsyo.org.uk. One useful idea is the lift share directory of families offering or requesting lifts to and from rehearsals. As yet, take-up is low but this could be a useful and environmentally-friendly way of reclaiming the occasional Saturday morning for those ever-present household chores. To register offers or requests, simply complete an online form: click on the **Lift Sharing** link on the FSYO homepage.

Jane Warren

Outgoing committee

POSITION	NAME	ENSEMBLE(S)
Chair	Sally Boxall	SYO
Treasurer	Miyuki Archibald	SYS
Vice Chair	Ann Smith	SYO
Secretary (inc. membership)	Sue Wilkins	SYO, SYS
Newsletter Editor	Jane Warren	SYCS, SYS
SYO Transport	Peter Gosney	ex SYS
SYO Librarian	Linnet Evans	SYO
Assistant Librarian	Eun-Ha Kang	SYCS
	Richard Boardman	SYO
	Anne-Marie Zimmermann	SYO, Elgar

Ensembles and Directors 2007-2008

Ensemble	Director	Venue	Time
Purcell Strings	Bev Geen (Helen Bullas is on maternity leave)	Sholing Junior	Wednesday 4-5 pm
Finzi Strings	Vanessa Jarvis	Shirley Warren Primary	Monday 4-5 pm
Holst String Orchestra	Zoe Hunting	Shirley Junior	Monday 4-5 pm
Elgar String Orchestra	Christa Porter	Sholing Junior	Wednesday 5:15 - 6:15 pm
Southampton Youth Sinfonietta	Karen Hatton	Cantell School	Saturday 9:30 – 11:45 am
Southampton Youth Concert Sinfonia	Martin Felton (mgr. Joy Tricklebank)	Regent's Park School	Saturday 9:30am -12 noon
Southampton Youth Orchestra	Jane Higgins	Taunton's College	Saturday 9:30 – 12:30

Come and sing Messiah!



A new departure for the Friends this autumn is a 'scratch' Messiah to raise funds for FSYO. Please see the enclosed flyer, book your tickets and have some fun. It's a rare chance for us parents to experience being conducted by Jane Higgins, while SYO Chamber Orchestra will provide accompaniment. There will be young local soloists and the day promises to be extremely enjoyable.

Jane Warren

Concert Diary 2007

Date	Orchestra	Venue	Time
2007 Friday 19 October	SYO/Youth Choir/SYJO	Turner Sims	7.30
Saturday 24 November	Come and Sing <i>Messiah</i>	Avenue St Andrews	7.30
Monday 26 November	Finzi*	Shirley Warren School	tbc
Saturday 1 December	SYS	Avenue St Andrews	7.30
Wednesday 5 December	Elgar*	Sholing Junior School	tbc
Monday 26 November	Holst/Consort!*	Shirley Junior School	7:00
Sunday 9 December	SYCS	Cantell	7:30
2008 Saturday 19 January	SYO	Turner Sims	7.30
Wednesday 20 February	SYCS	Okehampton College, Devon	7:30
Saturday 15 March	Pyramid Concert	Central Hall	7.00
Saturday 29 March	SYCS Wind Band/ A Touch of Brass	TBA	tbc

*Parents and friends only please

SYS news - A double farewell

At the end of the summer term we said 'goodbye' and 'good luck' to Joan Male after 37 years' involvement with youth music in Southampton. As well as directing SYS for nearly 30 years, Joan has accompanied SYO on 18 tours and has always been actively involved with FSYO.

On 16 June, past and present parents, friends, colleagues and players filled the Turner Sims to hear Joan conduct SYS in her last formal concert with them. The orchestra and soloists gave excellent performances and the audience enjoyed the Chinese music played by our guests - Southampton Phoenix Arts Group. Tributes were paid to Joan and gifts presented from many well-wishers. After the concert, Joan had an opportunity to greet many friends, old and new.

Two weeks later, the orchestra had their own chance to say goodbye at their informal concert at Netley Abbey. The rain prevented us fully appreciating the waterside setting but everyone enjoyed the music, good food and company and the audience were encouraged to participate in the evening. Karen Hatton and the parents thanked Joan for all her work with SYS and the players presented her with their own gifts.

We wish Joan well in her new ventures and look forward to seeing her at concerts and we welcome Karen as she picks up Joan's baton.

Sue Wilkins

Committee contacts:

Chairman: Sally Boxall

- sallyboxall@hotmail.com

Vice-chair: Ann Smith

- ann_smith@lineone.net

Secretary: Sue Wilkins

- sue@wilkinsfamily.plus.com

We would be delighted to hear from local business people who would be interested in advertising in our concert programmes. Enquiries about options and rates should be addressed to Ann Smith, FSYO Vice-chair.

- Email: ann_smith@lineone.net

FSYO website:
www.fsyo.org.uk

Did you know about Southampton Music Awards?

If you feel that your child is getting a bit beyond group teaching, it could be worth applying for a city music award. These means-tested awards support individual tuition and development for promising young players. Parents apply on behalf of their children, and in some cases loan of an instrument is included. Now is the time to apply for this academic year, so log on to

<http://www.southamptonmusic.org.uk/award/> to find out more.

The aims of the award scheme are to:

- Support, nurture and develop children and young people with outstanding musical potential.
- Provide a package of support to meet the needs of each individual.
- Ensure that the widest possible range of musics are supported.
- Make most effective use of limited available resources.
- Be consistent and fair.

Jane Warren

Walk the Test Way and support FSYO

Ann Smith and the committee invite you to walk the Test Way on Sunday 14 October. This Rotary Club event starts and ends in Romsey Memorial Park, and walkers need to be sponsored. Please check out http://www.walkthetestway.co.uk/About_the_Event_2007.html for full details. 75% of proceeds raised by FSYO walkers will go to FSYO, with the other 25% going to the Rotary Club. There are several options for walks of various lengths and difficulties, from a 26 mile marathon to a 2.5 miles stroll.

- Also, Ann Smith would like players to collect milk bottle tops to support the Rose Road Centre, the local foundation for severely disabled children. For more details please email Ann, whose contact details are at the top of this page.

Jane Warren

