



Friends of Southampton Youth Orchestras Newsletter

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Spring Awakening

The Pyramid Concert on Saturday 17 March in the Central Hall was as delightful as ever. It's always my favourite concert because it's so inspiring to hear the progression from the most junior ensembles right up to Southampton Youth Orchestra. The level of performance from all of them was excellent and every player, conductor and parent should feel very proud. So much is heard in the media these days about the problems of 'youth culture' but I feel that our 'cultured youth' are bucking that trend admirably! Orchestral playing is great fun but it also builds team spirit, self-discipline and alertness, essential attributes for 'real life'. The concert raised over £3000, which should give all the orchestras a much-needed financial boost. For photographs from this concert, log on to the Yahoo group <http://southamptonmusic.snapfish.co.uk/jessops> which has been kindly set up for the purpose by Philip Robinson, and use the password 'Philip'. This enables parents and players to view the photographs while they remain password-protected.

Jane Warren

SYCS Goes North!

I hoped for traditional 'Yorkshire Moors' weather, but what we got was mild, spring sunshine - much of the time anyway. 56 members with 8 staff (plus Martin's brother who acted as 'roadie', brass coach and even conductor at times), set off by coach at half term and enjoyed a very intensive 4-day programme. We stayed in the YHA at Haworth, West Yorkshire, which was excellent in all respects - lots of rehearsal and socialising space, very good food, good location, very helpful staff. We spent one afternoon in and around Haworth village taking in all that 'Bronte' atmosphere, we walked up onto the moors and enjoyed the fresh air and views, but sadly the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway wasn't running that day.

Each morning and evening was spent in rehearsal, either squashed into various corners at the hostel, or in the Victoria Hall in Keighley (a great performing space where we enjoyed the birthday cake that Anne's mum thoughtfully sent), and we mustn't forget the evening entertainment. The musical side of the trip culminated in a memorable concert with the Bradford Youth Training Orchestra providing part of the programme and most of the sizeable audience. Such a pity we didn't have more time to mingle and get to know them better, but they may travel south sometime so...

We also fitted in a trip to the Bradford Industrial Museum where we saw demonstrations of spinning and weaving, and about half the group got to travel on a horse-drawn tram. Then on the way back we managed a quick walk along the canal at Saltaire (no-one fell in!) Some also managed an unscheduled flying visit into the David Hockney Gallery in the Mill, much to the dismay of the staff there! On our last morning we stopped off in Bradford at the National Media Museum and I think everyone enjoyed what was on offer. About half the group visited the IMAX cinema, others tried out their hand as Newsreaders - personally I think Caitlin has a future there - directors and cameramen. It was a long, but comfortable journey up there, our playing improved, we all got to know each other better and all in all it was a very successful trip, and I don't think we ever lost anyone!

Joy Tricklebank



Committee members 2006-2007

POSITION	NAME	ENSEMBLE(S)
Chair	Sally Boxall	SYO
Treasurer	Miyuki Archibald	SYS
Vice Chair	Ann Smith	SYO
Secretary (inc. membership)	Sue Wilkins	SYCS, SYS
Newsletter Editor	Jane Warren	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 2006-2007

Ensemble	Director	Venue	Time
Purcell Strings	Helen Bullas	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	Joan Male (asst. 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

SYO Leukaemia Busters Concert and Ischia news

On Saturday 3rd February SYO played to a packed house at the Turners Sims concert Hall. The very appreciative audience heard the orchestra, led by Paul Fenner and Jon Visanji, play 'Spitfire' Prelude and Fugue by Walton; The Sorcerers Apprentice by Dukas; Piano Concerto No 2 in F major by Shostakovich and Symphonic Suite Sheherazade Op35 by Rimsky-Korsakov. Ina Charuashvili was soloist. This fantastic afternoon event (which included superb homemade cakes and tea in the interval) was very well supported and raised £750 for local charity Leukaemia Busters. Further generous donations meant that over £1000 will go to support the vital work of the charity. It is hoped to present the money to the charity at the next SYO concert on Saturday May 5th at 7.30 at Thornden Hall, Chandlers Ford.

SYO will also be taking a mini-trip to **Ischia** in the Bay of Naples this summer at the very kind invitation of Lady Walton, widow of Sir Wiliam. This is a tremendous honour for the orchestra and a great opportunity for the players. *Sally Boxall*

Concert Diary 2007

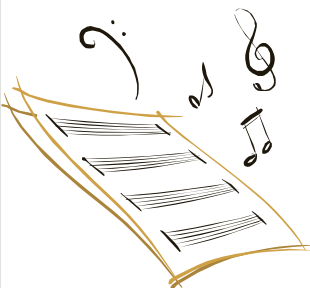
Date	Ensemble	Venue	Time
5/5/2007	Southampton Youth Orchestra	Thornden Hall	7:30 pm
16/6/2007	Southampton Youth Sinfonietta	Turner Sims Concert Hall (see below)	7:30 pm
30/6/2007	Southampton Youth Sinfonietta*	Netley Abbey (with American supper)	7:30 pm
2/7/2007	Finzi and Holst Strings Joint Concert*	Shirley Warren Primary School	7 pm
4/7/2007	Elgar and Purcell Strings Joint Concert*	Sholing Junior School	7 pm
7/7/2007	Southampton Youth Concert Sinfonia	Turner Sims Concert Hall	7:30 pm
11/7/2007-15/7/2007	Southampton Youth Orchestra trip to Ischia		
7/9/2007	SYO Leavers' Concert	Winchester Cathedral	7:30 pm
	*parents and friends only		

Joan Male is retiring this year after many years of service to the orchestras, especially SYS. June 16 at the Turner Sims will be her final formal concert and the Friends would like to wish her well and thank her for all her hard work.

Bridge Teas—help still needed please

Ann and Michael Fenner have been providing teas to a bridge club in Romsey which has raised lots of money for the orchestras. However, from September 2007 they are looking for volunteers to replace them. The commitment is for four or five teas a year (Sept-June) on a Sunday at the Crossfield Hall, Romsey. Ann would like to work alongside new volunteers for the last two teas of the 2006/2007 season to 'show them the ropes.' Please contact Ann to find out more:

email ann@wfenner.freeserve.co.uk

**SYS at Avon Tyrrell**

SYS enjoyed its now annual trip to Avon Tyrrell near Ringwood from 26-28 January. As usual, conductor Joan Male, assisted by Karen Hatton and a number of volunteers, achieved an amazing feat of organisation, even ensuring the provision of a birthday cake for the two players whose birthdays fell during the weekend. Events such as the popular Night Walk offered a diversion from the main emphasis, on developing orchestral playing. Sectional rehearsals were included: in the case of the solitary percussionist this became a much-appreciated individual lesson! The results were definitely audible during their next outing at the Pyramid concert. *Jane Warren*

Committee contacts:

Chairman: Sally Boxall

- sallyboxall@hotmail.com

Vice-chair: Ann Smith

- ann_smith@lineone.net

Newsletter editor: Jane Warren

- jane@squirle.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

- Tel: 07973 167914



FSYO website:
www.fsyo.org.uk

Website goes from strength to strength—do check it out!

The FSYO website is now well-established. Please do log on to www.fsyo.org.uk and bookmark it for reference. You can access a list of forthcoming concerts, contact details for the committee, small ads for instruments etc and information about the Friends of Southampton Youth Orchestras. More importantly, you can help FSYO raise funds at no cost to yourselves! We now have special arrangements with certain retailers and suppliers of goods and services for both players and their families. If you visit the retailers' sites from a link on the FSYO website, and then make a purchase, FSYO will get a 'commission', usually anything between 1% and 8% of the purchase price. In each case the link takes you to the 'normal' retail site with exactly the same goods and prices as if you had navigated there direct. **To earn the commission however, you must access the retail site via a link on this or another fsyo.org.uk page.**

The site is www.buy.at/fsyo and participating retailers include Hertz and Carrentals for car hire, Amazon, Blackwells, CD WOW, Cotton Traders, HMV, Joe Browns, John Lewis, M&S, Mothercare, Novatech (computers) and Tesco.

Another new idea for the website is a 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.

The website has been set up and the buy.at link developed by committee member Linnet Evans, who is a mine of innovative fundraising ideas. We are grateful for her drive and commitment—please help to make it all worthwhile by using the website and the links. Although the Youth Orchestras continue to receive generous support in many ways from Southampton Music Services, we also need extra sources of income, for example:

- to help with the costs of specialist sectional support at rehearsals
- to buy or hire additional music or instruments
- to subsidise workshops and residential courses

The healthier our funds are, the more support we can offer to all of the children in all of the orchestras.

Jane Warren