



Newsletter

Issue no.25

June 2010

Concert Diary:

13 June – Summer concert
Our Lady & St Michaels
Church, Pen-y-Pound.
Please note the venue

Bernstein – Overture Candide
Rodrigo – Concierto de
Aranjuez
Beethoven – Symphony no 6

Dress code: coloured tops,
black skirts/trousers.

Conducting this concert will be Frank O'Connor, our second guest conductor of the year. Frank is pursuing the philosophy of our being a true community orchestra by engaging the help of students from King Henry school (more below).

Our soloist in the Rodrigo will be Nils Klöfver, a 27 year old Swedish guitarist who studied at the Royal College of Music and is now based in London. (www.nilsklofver.com)

28 November

The autumn concert (in OLSM) will be conducted by Ken Woods (www.kennethwoods.net). The first rehearsal will be on **12 September**.

The programme will be:

Wagner – Overture to Die Meistersingers
Elgar – Cello Concerto
Dvorak – Symphony no 7

The soloist will be an American, Parry Karp, who has played over here for Ken before. "He is one of the best cellists in the states – we are lucky to get him". You can see him at http://www.music.wisc.edu/faculty/bio?faculty_id=38

If you have already checked out Ken's website you will see he is a busy man so there a few rehearsals he will be unable to conduct. We haven't arranged the deputy conductors yet, but we'll have the AGM during one such evening.

Rehearsal Diary:

Every Sunday **except**:
30 May (Bank Holiday)
20 June - 5 September
19 September (Food Festival)

18 April – Workshop

Brian wrote:
"It was great to join up for the day to complete another workshop. And it was great to see some faces who I had not met before. The Symphonic Dances from West Side Story are, we all know, not straight forward but I was really pleased that, once again, you

all threw yourselves into the "have a go" mentality we need for such a venture. With a work that crosses the 'classical v jazz' border, you need to let yourself go a bit and let the music take effect, and we managed that during several sections. I don't think we will be looking to programme West Side Story in the coming 12 months (!) but it was a work which did not leave me with tremendous trepidation should we consider it in the future. That is a credit to how far we have come as a society, so thank you. See you at your concert in June.

Recordings online

The last concert in March (Hamilton Harty, Sea Pictures, Brahms 1) is available to download from our website – from the Members page or the Events page.

In case anyone is as new to this as me, if you right click on the track, select 'Save As' ... then you have to have somewhere for it to go. My computer has a file called 'Downloads'. Hope this helps!

New Members

We were joined at the beginning of this term by Adam Dibble in the flutes. Adam is a peripatetic teacher

in Torfaen but has missed several rehearsals through illness. We hope he will be fit to play the piccolo parts in the concert.

Though not members as such, we will be joined at the concert for *Candide* by young percussionists from King Henry school, namely Anna Cox on tuned and Katie Baker on the kit. Anna's mum, Helen, is also playing. Its great to have more young people playing and we are grateful both to them, for helping out, and to Frank for giving extra time to coach them in what is not a straightforward piece!

The Cambrian Quartet

This newly formed quartet includes Adrian on 1st violin. They are giving their first public performance on **Saturday 26 June** at 7pm in St Peter's, Llanbedr. The programme includes:
Beethoven Op 74 'The Harp'
Britten Alla Marcia (1933)
Waltz from 3 Divertimenti
Brahms Adagio from Op 67
Haydn Op 33 'The Bird'

Proceeds will go to the Mid Wales Music Fund which promotes concerts and supports young musicians in mid-Wales.

Dolphin Quintet CD

If you missed Hal Hutchison's jazz concert at the Borough Theatre, you might be interested in purchasing a CD (£10) of the concert (from Bernadette). The profit from sales will be split between 3 charities – Diabetes UK, Gt Ormond St Haematology and

DELTA (supporting deaf children).

Abergavenny Concertgoers

Abergavenny Concertgoers organise an average of two trips per month to a variety of cultural events – orchestral concerts, drama, opera, ballet – travelling by coach to Cardiff, Bristol, Stratford etc. If you want to know more, please contact Anita Saunders (01873 857853) or Margot Seabourne (01873 853806)

New Piano at King Henry

There is a new Yamaha grand piano at King Henry's school hall (where we did the 'Summer Prom' a few years ago). The committee are investigating the possibility of another concert there as it would give us the opportunity to programme a piano concerto. Any suggestions always gratefully received though I'll bet you are itching to do the Grieg which we had to abandon at the eleventh hour several years ago! Also, any advice on organising a concert in the hall would be welcome.

Prize for King Henry's School

The committee agreed to continue connections with the school by again awarding a small prize to be given to a music student.

Free Music Downloads

I have recently been introduced to the International

Music Score Library Project (<http://imslp.org/wiki/Category:Composers>) from where you may download, for free individual parts for many (out of copyright) orchestral and chamber works. I'm hoping this will save me spending time over the photocopier in our local Spar!

If you know of other useful music sites, let me know and I'll share the information with members.

Wedding Bells

It can hardly have escaped anyone's attention that Brian and Jen will be married in August. On behalf of everyone connected with the orchestra, I would like to wish them a very special day and many years of happiness thereafter.

Committee posts in October

Lastly, may I encourage you all to think about what you might do for the Society (in addition to playing regularly, of course!). At the AGM in October a number of committee positions come up for election, including Secretary, Publicity Secretary and 3 Floor Members. I said at the last AGM that I would not stand for re-election, so there is certainly the Secretary's post to be filled. I have been giving thought to how the role of Secretary can be divided into discrete functions and think it can easily be split in two. If you think you might give something back by taking on an administrative function, please chat to Peter, me or any committee member – even if you fancy a role not up for election, please let us know.