

Summer Term 2011

Forthcoming Events

**Reminders – Music Centre starts back on 30 April
No Music Centre activities week beginning 30 May and
week beginning 6 June
Including No Music Centre for 3 Saturdays,
28 May and 4, 11 June**

Mini Maestros Weekday Session Dates:

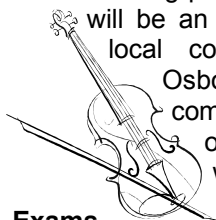
Tuesdays April 26 • May 3, 10, 17, 24
June 7, 14, 21, 28 • July 5



1 May	BrassFest at Reading Concert Hall – Beiderbecke and Hazlegrove
21 May	The Friends Association Quiz Night Youth Jazz will be playing Tickets on sale after Easter
9 June	Tour meeting for parents of pupils in Youth Brass, Corelli Orchestra and Youth Wind Band
18/19 June	Concert Wind Band to Devon
21 June	In2Music Brakenhale
23 June	In2Music Sandhurst
24 June	In2Music Garth Hill
25 June	Sunny Saturdays at the Market Place, Wokingham. 2 – 4pm Groups playing: Samba Group, Senior Saxes, Training Wind Band, Hazlegrove Brass Band.
25 June	Mini Maestros Certificate afternoon Open Learning Centre, 2-3pm
26 June	Charity Concert – Wargrave, 6-9pm Concert Wind Band
2 July	“Bands in the Park” South Hill Park All Bracknell Wind Bands, Brass Bands and Jazz Bands to take part afternoon and evening
10 July	String Gala – Bracknell Sports Centre All string groups to take part
14 July	“Have a Go” Open Learning Centre, 5 - 7pm The teachers will be on hand to give advice and retailers will be there for the students to have a go on the instruments.
19-July	Pre tour Concert for Corelli Orchestra, Youth Wind Band and Youth Brass Venue to be decided
22-July- 28 July	Wokingham and Bracknell tour to Cologne, Germany -Youth Wind Band, Corelli Strings, Corelli Orchestra and Youth Brass Band

STRING GALA CONCERT

The biannual Bracknell and Wokingham String Gala Concert will take place at Loddon Valley Leisure Centre on Sunday 10th July at 4pm. The concert will feature performances from all of the String Orchestras (Paganini, Mozart, Purcell, Vivaldi and Corelli) that rehearse in Bracknell and Wokingham, together with the Electric String Quartets. Two hundred other local string players who have been taking part in school Wider Opportunity Projects will also be taking part and one of the highlights of the concert will be an exciting performance of Frere Jazzer by local composer and Maestros teacher Tony Osborne who wrote the work especially for the combined forces of the Corelli Orchestra and our youngest string players. Further details will be available after Easter.



Exams

Closing date for Associated Board Exams is 13 May
Closing date for Trinity Guildhall General and Percussion is 6 May.

Recorder Club

We will be starting a brand new recorder club this term. Children do not need any prior experience to join and will learn to play music with other children. As part of the session they will play musical games, learn how to read music and learn about being part of an ensemble. All this for £20 for the first term starting on Tuesday 3 May at 5-5.30 at the Open Learning Centre. If you would like to give it a go, contact Mary Childs on 01344 782970 or email: marychilds@berkshiremaestros.org.uk

New Staff

We are extremely sad to say goodbye to Stephen Joy after 39 years. Stephen started with Berkshire Maestros formally Berkshire Young Musicians Trust as a peripatetic string teacher. His IT skills were soon recognised and Stephen was one of the main instigators in setting up our computer system and has continued to support the IT for Berkshire Maestros. We are deeply indebted to his outstanding contribution over the years and wish him all the best for a very happy retirement. Unfortunately Roger Proctor left at the end of last term. Our best wishes to Roger and his new baby Yolanda. Also our best wishes go to Minor Atabek and we look forward to seeing her back this term.

We welcome back Sarah Wagstaff who is returning from maternity leave and Emma White who will be joining the string team after Easter.

Beginner Brass Band

Last November we launched a new beginner brass band which is going really strong. If you have been playing a brass instrument for 2 terms to Grade 2, this band is ideal for you. It meets on Saturday mornings at 9.15am. If you are interested in joining this band, please come along and give it a go. The band is growing all the time and there are now approximately 21 players. Next term we are offering a special fee of £20 for the term for new players.

Beginner Sessions for just £20 for the Summer Term

Beginner Brass Band	9.15 - 10.00	Saturdays
Paganini Bracknell	16.10 - 16.50	Fridays
Banditos Bracknell	9.00 - 10.00	Saturdays
Junior Voiceworks	10.25 - 11.10	Saturdays
Whistling Woodwind	11.30 - 12.15	Saturdays
New Recorder Club	17.00 - 17.30	Tuesdays

All take place at the Open Learning Centre, Bracknell
Try all these sessions for just £20 per term

Sorting Music

One of the most time consuming jobs at the Music Centre is sorting music. We have been donated quite a pile of music but need it sorted. If anyone can help, please let us know, even if it is just for a few hours.

Theory Lessons

We have now been running Theory classes since September and they are proving to be really popular. The classes are as follows: Grades 1 to 3 from 6.00pm to 6.30pm and Grades 4 to 5 from 5.10pm to 5.40pm. Both classes are at the Open Learning Centre in Bracknell. If you are interested please ring 01344 782970 or email: marychilds@berkshiremaestros.org.

Bracknell and Wokingham Community Band

Since January 2008 BWCB has provided opportunities for adult brass, wind and percussion players to come together as a musical community. BWCB have become very successful fund raisers as well as players and are supporting Brass for Africa, sending brass instruments to the Good Shepherd home in the slums of Kampala, Uganda. April 2011 sees the vision taken one step further with the rehearsal of a new beginner wind band for adults with little or no musical experience and those who wish to learn a new instrument. Lessons can be arranged with Berkshire Maestros. If you have any wind or brass instruments in the loft, why not join one of the bands or if you don't want to play, please donate your instruments to BWCB and they will be shipped off to Uganda. We also raise money by selling second hand books, donations welcome to Bracknell Music Centre.

Beginner Band 7-8pm and Senior Band 8-10pm both starting back after Easter on 27 April. For more details email: gillian.leather@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Are you a UK taxpayer?

We can claim Gift Aid on donations and ensemble membership fees - tax relief on every pound you give. To qualify for Gift Aid, you must pay an amount of UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that Maestros reclaims on your donations or eligible membership fees in a tax year (6 April one year to 5 April the next). If you qualify and wish the tax to be reclaimed on any donations or membership subscriptions that you have ever made or will make to Berkshire Maestros, please complete the relevant section on the payment slip at the bottom of your enclosed invoice.

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Change to Berkshire Maestros' Annual Reporting Procedures

From summer 2011, Berkshire Maestros will be changing the way in which we report pupil progress to parents. There will be no formal written annual report this year. Instead, during the second half of the summer term, all teaching staff will write a short comment in the back of the pupil's practice diary - either in the teacher comment box or on the 'notes' page. This comment will refer to the pupil's progress and attainment and highlight expected targets for improvement in the usual manner. From September 2011, it is intended that teacher assessment comments will be completed termly in the student practice diary to help children become aware of their own strengths and weaknesses and to be involved in identifying, with their teacher, what they need to do to improve.

Parents are asked to contact Maestros by email at reports@berkshiremaestros.org.uk if they have not received teacher comments in their child's practice diary by the end of June or with any queries.

The Friends Association

The Friends have had a busy few months supporting the New Year and Spring Concerts with refreshments and percussion vans, sweets at the Easter courses, as well as regular Friday, Saturday and now established Thursday tuck shops at band rehearsal times. A special thank you for all involved with maintaining the high standard of this service, the proceeds of which are helping with the music centre's investment in new instruments, sheet music and workshops - all to the benefit of the students.

Our Quiz Night will be on Saturday 21 May so please join us for the traditional questions, drinks, nibbles and live interval music. These are very enjoyable evenings and are open to all - first timers and quiz novices included.

A warm welcome to our new committee members, Gill, Colin and John who are already actively supporting the work of the friends.

We would very much welcome more help, so if you would like to get involved or have any spare time, please let myself or any of the volunteers know how you can contribute.

Philip Klesel
Vice Chair FSBMC

Music Services for...



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