



Friends of Skipton Music Centre

Newsletter October 2014

A warm welcome to both new and familiar faces for this academic year.

The 'Friends' is a small group of parents/relatives/friends of Ensemble members. Our numbers are small, and we would appeal to anyone who has a small amount of time to get involved and help out. Whether it's selling raffle tickets or making a cup of tea at one of the end of term concerts, or supplying a particular service that would benefit SMC in any way, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Updated Website

We have continued to make further progress on the website.

We have added additional information regarding the various ensembles including a brief musical biography for each of the ensemble directors.

Whilst we keep adding our new information, can we remind you that if anyone has any photos or information that they feel would be of particular interest please e-mail them to davidaloud@virginmedia.com.

The site itself can be located at: <http://skipton-music-centre.org.uk/>

Instruments for Hire

At the moment, SMC have a number of instruments available for hire. If you want to try out a second instrument, or know someone who wants to break into music then please enquire about what instruments SMC can provide. A small fee to help towards insurance will be required. Please speak to Pip or your ensemble director for more information.

Polo Shirts & Hoodies

We have now finalised the colours and logo for the polos. Order forms will be sent out in the next week. All members will be issued with one free polo shirt, however additional polo shirts and hoodies will be available to buy at the same time. May we ask that you all return your completed forms by the stated date to ensure we can order items in good time for the upcoming end of term concerts etc. Samples of the various available sizes, colour etc will be displayed at the tuck shop over the next few weeks.

Drop-In for Refreshments

We know that many parents utilise their time between dropping off and picking up to do the essential shopping and various other 'chores' that can't be done during the week. Some however can find themselves at a bit of a loose end and would appreciate the opportunity to have a warm drink and a friendly chat with other parents of members of SMC. The 'Friends' provide tea/coffee facilities in the main hall, and it is our intention to open this up to parents, carers, etc during normal weekend rehearsal sessions. We will partition the back of the hall off and create a small café area. Not only will you have a warm welcome, and a hot drink, but also an opportunity to exchange ideas about everything at SMC. It would be our intention to open the rear door of the hall to remove any disruption to the ensembles using the main hall for rehearsals.

Facebook

The 'Friends' update and maintain the SMC website. We are mindful however that the members/players have little time during rehearsal to interact with each other, particularly across the various ensembles. Social media seems to be the platform that our younger members prefer in this technological age. We are canvassing parents' opinions about starting a Friends of Skipton Music Centre Facebook page that will be open to all members. It would be our intention to moderate the site—any content posted would have to comply with the standards expected of members whilst at SMC. The page would be a 'private' page and only open to members of SMC.

Please send any comments or concerns to davidaloud@virginmedia.com