



Friends of Skipton Music Centre

Newsletter December 2014

Hello again from the Friends of Skipton Music Centre

The 'Friends' is a small group of parents, relatives and friends of Ensemble members. Our numbers have swelled this term from two to five, but even with this huge increase, we would appeal to anyone who has a small amount of time to get involved and help out, or anyone who can provide a positive contribution or service that enhances the ensemble members' experience. 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.

Website Bits

We continue to try and keep the website as up-to-date as possible. We include details of all the up and coming events both at Music Centre and for performances that specific ensembles are involved in outside of the normal Saturday morning rehearsals. Your continued support for these external events is very important in making sure that the events are successful, and helps provide a real boost for those players that are directly involved.

We would appreciate your feedback on any issues or suggestions for the website. We're not website developers so please be patient and we'll see what can be done.

Unfortunately we can't get to every performance, so if anyone has any photos, or content that they feel would be of particular interest, please e-mail to davidaloud@virginmedia.com.

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

We have had some discussions about putting together a Facebook page for the members, to provide them with a platform to share their thoughts and ideas. The time on a Saturday morning is very limited and we feel that members would benefit from the opportunities of interaction through Social Media. We have a few things to iron out over ownership, moderation, conduct and safeguarding but we hope we have the support of all parents to deal with these matters in a common sense way.

Polos & Hoodies

As promised at the end of last term, we have managed to provide every member with a free polo shirt with the music centre logo proudly displayed.

We hope that the members are happy with these. At the summer concerts we did try to pool opinion as to the colour. Lime Green was an early favourite but was very quickly dispensed with by severe objections, in particular by those members with blonde hair. We are really pleased by the very positive response we have had since changing to Royal Blue, and are even happier that we managed to get them handed out in time for the end of term concerts.

Moving forward, additional polo shirts or hoodies will still be available to buy. The forms will stay on the website for you to download. Orders will be placed periodically depending on the level of demand. We will hold a small amount of stock of polos but the hoodies will have to be made to order.

Music Stand Covers

We are in discussions with a manufacturer and may have a sample in time for the end of term concerts. Unfortunately sorting out the polo shirts has taken longer than expected so we had to delay this. Fingers crossed we'll have this sorted in time for the Spring and Summer concert programme.

Folk Band Workshop & Ceilidh

The 'Friends' supplied the funding for the recent workshop and evening Ceilidh.

All members gained enormous experience in playing with a touring Ceilidh Band. Over 70 members, family and friends enjoyed a fun evening at Cracoe Village Hall rocking and 'reeling' the night away. Of particular note was our present Music Centre Manager's dance with his predecessor's—but who ended up on the floor? The night was topped off with a Pie and Pea supper, again supplied by members of the 'Friends' catering section!

Finally we would like to wish all staff, members, their families and friends seasonal greetings and hope that you all enjoy a thoroughly musical Christmas and 'note'worthy New Year.