

Glossop Concert Band and Training Band

IMPORTANT NEWS – Please read carefully

Dear Players and Parents,

Dark Peak Who? After a year of deliberations, an independent review of music provision in the area and the appointment of a new Area Leader for Instrumental Music, we are finally in a position to announce some major changes affecting the way the ensembles are managed and structured.

Under the re-organisation of ensemble provision, the Glossop Concert Band and Training Band will now be administered by the Dark Peak Music Trust. The Trust has already taken over the management of the Glossop Youth Orchestra, now renamed to “Dark Peak Youth Orchestra”. With the support of Derbyshire Music Partnership, the Trust will also be taking over responsibility for the Wind Bands, more local control enabling us to develop the groups in the most effective ways possible for this area. We are extremely grateful to PDMC for being our parent organisation for our first eight years, and are looking forward to a continuing relationship with them as our neighbouring music centre.

WE BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT SINCE OUR FOUNDATION, AND IT PRESENTS US WITH EXCITING NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP THE BANDS TO THE HIGH QUALITY THAT OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS DESERVE. Central to this will be the expansion of the Concert Band, developing it into an area wide ensemble for the New Mills, Chapel and Glossop district. A second Training Band has already started in New Mills. To reflect this new geographical structure the bands will be adopting new names, which will be announced in January.

Another huge development is the formation of a community wind band ... more about that below.

How will this affect us?

You should notice little difference in the week to week running of your group, except that it will become bigger, better and altogether a more valuable experience for you.

- **Rehearsal Venue**
The Concert Band will continue to rehearse at Bradbury House.
- **Concerts**
We will no longer be playing in the Opera House concert in May, but still intend to do the concert in the Octagon in February– our first joint event with PDMC (please note that the date of this event has changed to 7th February). Plus we will be organising more regular concerts throughout the area and beyond including the return of “Kaleidoscope”.
- **Spain**
Well, it's ‘pie in the sky’ at the moment, but we have been invited to take a group to the Alpajurras Mountain Festival in the Sierra Nevada National Park in the Summer of 2010. Discussions have started and it all depends on how everything develops.....watch this space!

Enrolment/Subscriptions

Subscriptions will now be payable to “Dark Peak Music Trust” and an updated registration form is attached with this newsletter. It is imperative that we have all children properly registered as soon as possible and we would be grateful if you could return this form (with any necessary corrections) together with payment at the next rehearsal.

We are offering two alternative methods of payment – a single sum due by 21st November or two instalments on 21st November and 30th January. The fees are based on 32 sessions per year and cover all costs of tuition, music, equipment and venue hire. I'm sure you will agree that the price per session represents extremely good value for money.

Dark Peak Music Trust

Musical Director: Jeff Snowdon

Chairman: Chris Marriott Treasurer: Graham Roberts

Tel: 01457 853137

Email: info@derbyshiremusic.co.uk

Correspondence: 78 Church Street Old Glossop Derbyshire SK13 7RN

In special cases we are able to waive or reduce the fee if your financial circumstances make it difficult to pay for membership. Normally this would be for families in receipt of Income Support, free school meals or Job Seekers Allowance. Requests for a free place or reduced rate should be referred to Anne-Marie Buckle (email: a.buckle@manchester.ac.uk Tel: 01663 747201)

Payment method	When due	Per session (approx)
CONCERT BAND – 2 hours – 32 sessions		
Single Payment of £85	21 st November	£2.60
Two instalments of £42.50	21 st November and 30 th January	
TRAINING BAND – 1 hour – 32 sessions		
Single Payment of £55	21 st November	£1.70
Two instalments of £27.50	21 st November and 30 th January	
Cheques are payable to Dark Peak Music Trust NB. Players joining part way through the year will be charged pro-rata.		

Wind Band Workshop Days

Dark Peak Music Trust is launching a completely new project for this area – The “Dark Peak Symphonic Winds” - a community wind band for the Peak District. This will be open to all ages and is aimed at students, keen amateur musicians, semi-professionals and families. The inaugural event will be two single-day workshops leading to a concert on 5th April. Brochures about this are enclosed and we hope that all you musical parents will come along and play alongside your talented off-spring.

This project is independent of the weekly wind band, but we hope very much that members of the Concert Band will take this opportunity to be part of something much bigger – the whole event should be great fun and we are sharing the concert on April 5th with the internationally acclaimed soloists, saxophonist Rob Buckland and percussionist Simone Rebello.

Winter Cabaret / Open Evening – 5th December

Our traditional end of term Cabaret/Party/Open-Evening will be on 5th December at Bradbury House. Please bring your family along to enjoy the performance ... and any friends who might like to join us in January. And remember to bring plenty of food for the party.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS WILL RUN FROM 4.30 TO 6.30PM (NB. The Concert Band will be playing at 5.45 to accommodate those who can't arrive earlier).

Octagon Concert – change of date

Please note that the date of this event has been changed to Saturday 7th February. This is one of our most important performances of the year and it is vital that we have a full ensemble. I would ask that you let me know straight away if there is any reason you cannot be involved in this.

Attendance

Attendance has been excellent for most of this term (except for a disappointing turnout just before half term for various perfectly legitimate reasons). We are thrilled with how much the bands have achieved in just a few sessions, particularly the Concert Band which is progressing much faster with proper length rehearsals.

Ambitious plans are all very fine, but the success of any group depends on something much more basic – player commitment. We are well aware of the hectic lifestyles of children and families but we hope that the band will be high on those priorities, and would ask that if for any reason you are unable to attend a rehearsal or concert, you do let us know in good time.

Concert Band Players Committee

Senior ensembles within the Trust will each have their own players committees which will meet each half term. These will have an input into many aspects of the running of the bands and orchestra, including programming, concerts and social events. Notes of their meetings will go to the Board of Trustees. The volunteer committee for the Concert Band is Ben, Holly, Maria, Richard, Rachel and Jack (representing the younger players).

Best wishes

Jeff Snowdon

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Autumn/Spring Rehearsal Schedule

Ensemble	Half Term	Nov					Dec	Christmas	Jan				Feb	Half Term
Glossop Concert Band and Glossop Training Band		7	14	21	28		5		9	16	23	30	6	
New Mills Training Band		6	13	20	27	4	5		8	15	22	29	5	

Dates for your Diary 2008-09

This will be updated regularly
Where concert dates are confirmed please could you regard these as firm commitments and let me know straight away if you are unavailable

DATE	CONFIRMED	VENUE	EVENT
Thursday 6 th November	Yes	New Mills School	The launch of New Mills Training Band
Saturday 29 th November	Yes	New Mills	COMMUNITY WIND BAND WORKSHOPS Parents, Teachers, Students, Random people who have instruments – The first event of its kind in the Peak District Brochure included with this newsletter
Friday 5 th December	Yes	Bradbury House	CHRISTMAS CABARET AND OPEN EVENING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The annual Christmas Party – bring food and drink A chance to run our repertoire before the big concerts Invite new players along to find out what we're about. NB. The Chapel & New Mills Training Band will be taking part in this event
December – some time before Christmas	Day to be confirmed	Either Glossop or Sheffield Meadowhall Centre	CHRISTMAS BUSKING
NB: PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE Saturday 7 th February	Yes	Buxton Octagon	PEAK DISTRICT WIND BANDS CONCERT
Date tba	Not confirmed yet	Glossop	KALEIDOSCOPE
4 th / 5 th April	Yes	New Mills School and Glossop Parish Church	COMMUNITY WIND BAND WORKSHOPS AND CONCERT With guest artists Rob Buckland (Saxophone) and Simone Rebello (Percussion)
Sunday July 5 th Afternoon	Not confirmed yet	Glossop Parish Church	SUMMER CONCERT AND BARBEQUE
August 2010	Not confirmed yet	Sierra Nevada National Park Spain	SPAIN 2010 SUMMER TOUR

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