

Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of the DASP Music Service Newsletter. We hope you will find the information and reports useful and interesting. The aim is to provide a reflection on past events from different perspectives together with a calendar of events to come. See page 4 for more on where to send details of next year's events.

Amongst the many events in the Summer term perhaps none display the combined talents of DASP students better than the annual Marquee Concert. This will take place on Saturday 2nd July at the Thomas Hardy School and promises to be a superb event that should not be missed. The theme this year will be 'Film Music'.

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Music in Dorchester schools

Music Tots

Pre-school music classes

In January 2011 DASP launched the MUSIC TOTS programme.

MUSIC TOTS is a series of exciting and stimulating Pre-school Music sessions in which groups of pre-school children, with the help of Ziggy the Zebra and his friends, begin to learn about pulse and rhythm through song, dance and musical games.

Each of the three 10 week sessions follows a curriculum and sees Ziggy encouraging the children, through story telling, to develop their inner musicality, gaining confidence in singing as a group and also individually.

Research has proved that all children are musical and that music plays a vital part in nurturing a child's cognitive, social, language and physical development. If you are interested in having a Music Tots Session in your Pre-School, or would like further information.

Please contact James Baker at

jamesbaker@dasp.org.uk



Pre-school children begin their musical journey



Come and Try!

Please urge anyone curious to try out an instrument to come on Thursday, 9th June 4pm - 6pm to Thomas Hardy School. Teachers will be present with lots of instruments! The guidance of teachers and the opportunity to try a wide range of instruments can help to ensure the best choice and ensure a positive start for new pupils.

News from the Middle Schools

A highly successful Spring term

Middle Schools
Orchestra joining
forces with
Durnovaria Band



Middle Schools Orchestra will be joining forces with The Durnovaria Silver Band for a concert of film music. The programme will include favourite themes from Jungle Book, James Bond, The Lion King, Shrek, The Muppets and much more!

Tickets will be £3 and available from the DASP music office at The Thomas Hardye School and from the directors of the ensembles. Booking ahead is advisable; with so many performers there will be limited room for the audience!

17th June, 7.30pm at the Corn Exchange, Dorchester

Artwork: www.lisaprisk.co.uk



Pupils
from DASP
Schools
join James
Baker at
the Thomas
Hardye
School

Boys from St Osmund's recently participated in a choral recording of a DVD for the National Trust, to be used as an introduction to the local Thomas Hardye residences of Hardye's Cottage and Max Gate.

On the 22nd, 23rd and 24th March, fifty St Osmund's pupils energetically performed the comedy musical 'Oh What a Knight!' (based on tales of medieval knights and chivalry) in the School Hall.

On Saturday 26th March pupils from St Osmund's and St Mary's Middle Schools sang Faure's 'Requiem' and 'Pavane', together with 'Panis Angelicus' (Ceser Franck) in St Mary's Church. They combined resources with the Dorchester Choral Society under the direction of Christine Page, and were enthusiastically received by a packed audience.

On Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st March around five hundred pupils from the DASP Partnership performed an excellent First Schools' Concert at St Osmund's Sports Hall.

The theme was 'A Celebration of African Music' and 'Rights Respecting Schools', and items were included both from individual schools and from the complete ensemble.

Tuition

Application forms (and reapplication forms) for tuition next year will be sent with this half-term's bills. Please pass the word to any potential beginners who may wish to start in September!

Further information from music@dasp.org.uk

DASP Music Groups

Further information from music@dasp.org.uk

Middle Schools Orchestra (MSO)

DASP Middle Schools Flute Choir (MSFC)

DASP First Schools Orchestra (FSO)

Middle Schools Brass Ensemble (MSBE)



Flute choir

The Amazing Dorchester Flute Experience

To celebrate the fact that there are such a large number of budding flautists in Dorchester this amazing one day event has been organised for Saturday 25th June at Thomas Hardy School.

We are delighted to welcome back to Dorset celebrated flautist Jon Cherry who worked with us back in 2006.

The day will be packed with many varied and inspirational sessions. Jon will be taking master classes and large group work, supported by DASP flute teachers, taking us on a whistle-stop tour of Jazz flute playing and delighting us with his own brand of learning and playing. Jon's ability to work with and engage students of all ages and abilities is a delight to experience. The day will end in a concert showcasing amongst other items, an ensemble involving every single student!

We would like to encourage all flautists from MFA students upwards to come along. The sessions will be divided into 4 ability groups:

Beginners, including MFA students:
(afternoon only)
Grades 1~3 (All day)
Grades 4~6 (all day)
Grades 7~8+ (all day)

As a result of this fantastic day, the whole group items will perform at the DASP Prom Concert the following Saturday, 2nd July.
A letter with all the details of the event will be issued shortly.

St. Mary's Catholic First class join Dorset Chamber Orchestra with Martin Clunes

The Year 4 'Music for All' string class from St. Mary's Catholic First School took part in the first performance of 'Dave the Musical Caveman', a new work written by Liz Sharma for Dorset Chamber Orchestra on 12 March. Every year the orchestra present a concert for young people featuring young soloists but this year almost 30 children were featured. In the performance Jane Bultz directed the class whilst Robert Jacoby conducted the orchestra. Martin Clunes narrated the story and the performance was a great success with audience and performers alike. A DVD of the concert will be available in due course. Details of this will be available in the next Newsletter.

Staff profile

Charlotte Storey



Influenced by the swing bands of the '20's and 30's Charlotte began playing clarinet in her early teens. Later, a chance meeting with musician and songwriter Harvey Brough of Harvey and the Wallbangers introduced her to the saxophone, in particular the baritone, which became the hallmark of her work from that point. As a trained actor and singer, Charlotte has appeared in numerous West End musicals to include 'In the Midnight Hour' at the Young Vic, 'Four Steps to Heaven' at the Piccadilly and Sam Mendes' award winning production of 'Cabaret at the Donmar Warehouse' starring alongside Jane Horrocks and Alan Cumming.

Charlotte has also worked extensively as a musician with artists such as Van Morrison, Rod Stewart, Natalie Cole and Ben Waters in addition to forming an all-girl trio Sax in the City (www.saxinthecity.biz) and performing with jazz pianist and songwriter Julie Dunn. With DASP, Charlotte offers contemporary singing lessons with backing tracks and instruction in musical theatre performance.



Students of all ages join together in a concert to highlight the oppressed

On Saturday 13th November, students from across the DASP (Dorchester Area Schools Partnership) pyramid joined together with the Orchestra of Imperial College, London, to perform a programme that included works about oppression, by composers who themselves faced prejudice and bigotry. The concert took place in the Theatre at the Thomas Hardy School to a sell-out audience that included the Mayor, Head Teachers, and Governors of the various DASP Schools.

The Choir was made up of around 130 singers from the Thomas Hardy School, Dorchester Middle School, St Osmunds Middle School, St Mary's Middle School, and other members of the local community. Together, they sang spirituals (songs originally sung by African-American slaves) taken from Michael Tippett's *A Child of Our Time*.

Instrumentalists from the Thomas Hardy School, St Osmunds Middle School, and Manor Park First School joined members of the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Tchaikovsky's Polonaise from his opera *Eugene Onegin*. The Orchestra was conducted with great panache by the Director of Music at Imperial College, Richard Dickins.

The Thomas Hardy Singers also performed Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*, accompanied superbly once again by the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra. The concert concluded with Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5*, performed by the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra.

James Baker, DASP Music Coordinator, and Director of Music at the Thomas Hardy School, said 'I was delighted that students from the age of 8, right up to the age of 28, were able to join together in a musical performance of such high quality and scope. All the students performed brilliantly, and we were truly privileged to host the Orchestra of Imperial College London. I know that performers and audience alike, thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and benefitted from performing and hearing such powerful music.'

Contact details and dates for your diary

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June

9th - DASP Music 'Come & Try' [for all students wanting to try out a new instrument], Thursday, 9th June 4pm - 6pm, Thomas Hardy School

16th - DASP Music General Meeting. Thursday 16th June, 4.30pm - 5.30pm, Thomas Hardy School

17th - DASP Middle Schools Orchestra Concert with Durnovaria Brass, Friday, 17th June, Corn Exchange

24th - Middle Schools Flute Choir & Brass Group - School Performances - Friday, 24th June

July

2nd - DASP Prom Concert, Saturday 2nd July, Marquee, Thomas Hardy School field

**DAS
MUSIC**
Making Music Together