

## Welcome

Welcome to the second issue of the DASP Music Newsletter. This issue features events from the end of last year together with details of key events taking place this term. The next issue will also be available as an ePub document suitable for reading on Kindle, iPad and other tablet style devices. Please keep your articles and event details coming!

## DASP Music

### Prom Concert

The concert opened, as always, with the National Anthem. However, this quickly moved into the famous 20th Century Fox Overture and we were off! A Brass Ensemble made up of students from the three DASP Middle Schools and Thomas

Hardye played the theme from Summer Holiday. Tracey Green then led the First Schools Orchestra in a marvellous version of Henry Mancini's Pink Panther. Highlight of this was the lead cello, provided by 9 year old Hannah McFarlane from Manor Park First School. The concert then took a seaward's turn as 'Saxophonics' performed some Sea Shanties, a theme continued by the DASP Flute Choir with the Sailor's Hornpipe.

Next it was back to the movies, with Monty Norman's famous James Bond theme, played with enthusiasm by the Middle Schools' Orchestra. It was Middle School students again, this time from St Marys, Puddletown, who made up 'Millie and the Peeps'. They both looked and sounded the part, with their rendition of 'Everybody Needs Somebody' from the classic 'Blues Brothers'. Perhaps the surprise hit of the night were the children of DASP's smallest school, Cheselbourne First. They chose to dance some traditional Polka and Morris and had the audience enthusiastically clapping along. The performance was a fitting tribute to retiring Headteacher, Anne Herridge, herself a keen Polka dancer. A more contemporary feel was provided by the Harmony Group who performed Jesse J's 'Price Tag' and Alicia Keys 'Empire State of Mind'. Then it was movie themes again, as the DASP Concert Band performed 'Pirates of the

## Music in Dorchester schools



Caribbean' accompanied by two dancers from Thomas Hardye. There was a brief interlude from the music as the annual DASP Citizen prizes were awarded to children who had made important contributions to life in their schools. The Awards were made by the Mayor of Dorchester, introduced by Mr Paul Chadwick, Head of Dorchester Middle.

With Union Jacks waving unashamedly, the Thomas Hardye Orchestra, conducted by James Baker, launched into Rule Britannia. Soloists were Bronte Kirby and Martin Weston; they were however accompanied by a 'choir' of hundreds as the audience joined in. When the music finished, the crowd went outside to see a fine firework display from Anytime Fireworks. This could be seen from the hills all around Dorchester. James Baker, is Head of Music at Thomas Hardye and also DASP Music Coordinator. He said " I was absolutely delighted with this year's Prom Concert. The standard of playing really was exceptionally high, and it was inspiring to see students of all ages, from 6 to 18, making music together. The enjoyment felt by students and audience alike was obvious to see, and the firework display was a spectacular end to a spectacular evening. Well done, and thank you, to everyone involved!"

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## First Schools Music Showcase

### Culmination of year long whole class instrumental music

On a Tuesday in July, nearly 400 excited Year 4 children gathered at Thomas Hardy School for two Showcase Concerts.

They had all been learning their instruments for less than a year as part of the Wider Opportunities scheme, and were about to show off the skills they had acquired during that time. There were recorders, flutes, violins, violas and cellos and each class had prepared pieces and compositions to play to each other.

The concerts started with some massed singing and each class then performed their chosen piece and composition. There was a wonderful variety of material which their teachers had helped them to prepare and innovative compositions based on pieces of art work from the class. These linked into the National Curriculum and topics studied through the year

The parents were not excluded either as they had to sing Frère Jacques accompanied by all the children playing the tune on their instruments.

The concert was attended by the Mayor of Dorchester, Councillor Tess James and Head Teachers and Music Co-ordinators from DASP. I would like to give special thanks to my colleagues who helped to organise the day, Aidan Fisher, Tracey Green and Rachel Greenwood and to James Baker for hosting the event and providing transport.

Jane Bultz



Wider Opportunities lessons are now a feature of instrumental music teaching across the UK. The programme began in earnest around 4 years ago in answer to a government pledge to offer all children of Primary School age the opportunity to play an instrument. Across 3 years £32 million was invested into delivering this across the nation. In Dorset the programme reached every child in Year 4 and some schools in disadvantaged areas had lessons throughout the 3 years.

The work goes on this year through funding distributed by The Federation of Music Services. Schools are now awaiting the publishing of the National Music Plan in November in order to learn if and how this will continue.

### Wider Opportunities

Dorchester is benefitting from a further year of whole class instrumental lessons across all First Schools. These lessons aim to give children in Years 3 or 4 a head start with an instrument and to help develop their general musicianship.

This year most schools will receive a free term of tuition from Dorset Music Service. Some schools are also buying in this service for a full year from newly formed 'Strawberry Music'.

In November a National Music Plan should be published that will clarify the future of this important work in schools across the country.

### DASP Music Groups

Further information from [music@dasp.org.uk](mailto:music@dasp.org.uk)

Middle Schools Orchestra (MSO)

DASP Middle Schools Flute Choir (MSFC)

DASP First Schools Orchestra (FSO)

Middle Schools Brass Ensemble (MSBE)





*A relaxed moment with the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra*

## DASP Music Concert

Saturday 12th November will see the return of the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra under their conductor Richard Dickins. They are joined in a concert at St. Mary's Church, Dorchester by singers from all 3 Middle Schools together with The Thomas Hardye Singers. Conducting honours will also be shared with Peter Oakes and James Baker in a diverse programme ranging from Bruckner to Bartok. Memories of the Royal Wedding should be stirred by the inclusion of Parry's masterpiece, 'I Was Glad' and all sections of the orchestra are set to show their paces in Bartok's fascinating Concert for Orchestra.

The concert also features music by Hope, Bruckner and Walton. Tickets are available at £12 and £2 for students from the Thomas Hardye School Office, the DASP Office and Nicholl World Travel.

## Musical news from St. Osmund's Middle School

St. Osmund's musicians have a busy time this term beginning with the Imperial College concert detailed above, also featuring the other Middle schools, The Thomas Hardye Singers and, of course, the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra.

The St. Osmund's Singers are also featured in a joint concert with Purbeck Choir and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at the Lighthouse, Poole, on Saturday 17th December.

This year's school Carol Services are on Thursday 15th December at St Mary's Church, Dorchester.

### Fact file: Richard Dickins

Richard Dickins, conductor of the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra, began his musical studies at school in Hampshire. After several years as a clarinettist in Hampshire County Youth Orchestra he gained a place at The Royal College of Music where he studied conducting. He is now a well known face on television and has conducted many of the country's leading professional orchestras

## Staff profile - Jane Bultz



Jane started the violin at the relatively late age of 10 and progressed quickly, taking Grade 8 at 16. After sixth form, Jane studied for 4 years at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Suzanne Rozsa and Isabelle Flory, gaining Diplomas in Performing and Teaching.

After leaving the Guildhall, Jane became a Professor of Violin at the Junior Guildhall School of Music and pursued a career in teaching and freelance playing.

Jane has taught extensively in both the independent and public sectors with pupils gaining success in examinations. Some students have gone on to pursue a career in music as teachers and professional musicians and most recently two of her pupils were successful in gaining places at the world famous Yehudi Menuhin School.

Jane plays regularly in chamber music recitals and symphonic concerts and leads a local amateur orchestra with whom she has performed solo works. Being a practising musician is important to Jane as she considers that the experience gained as a performer is invaluable to good teaching practice.



*Young flautists rehearse at The Thomas Hardy School*

## Middle Schools Brass Ensemble and Flute Choir Tour

In the last half of the Summer term The Middle Schools Brass Ensemble (MSBE) and Flute choir (MSFC) went "On Tour"! On two separate mornings these two groups performed to their peers in some of DASP's Middle and First Schools. The aim of the tour was not only to show the skills and musical ability of these young people, but to introduce the groups to the schools, hopefully to excite other players into wanting to join us this year and in the future. The concerts were punctuated with informative sessions where

the audiences learned how the instruments were blown, what each of them were called and sounded like, and much more. Both groups had prepared their own little programmes, which were performed beautifully on all occasions, and the final item of each concert was a fun jazzy piece involving all of the students.

The concert "Tour" was a huge success, fun was had by all, and we hope to repeat this activity next year.

If you would like further information please contact the DASP Music Office

## A Year With the First Schools' Orchestra by Abigail Otter

This was my second year playing the flute at the First Schools' Orchestra. It's very exciting and a really good experience. The Christmas concert was very exciting. We all made our own Christmas hats and there was even a prize for the best one. We performed on the stage which was enjoyable but a little bit scary.

The Weymouth Music Festival in March 2011 was really good. We played The Wallace and Grommit Theme Tune which was fun. I loved the proms concert in the summer. It was so exciting performing 'The Pink Panther'. Everyone played in a huge marquee on a stage. Near the end we all sang and waved flags. After the concert everyone went outside and watched some beautiful fireworks.

The end of year disco was great fun. It was fancy dress and I dressed up as a Spanish dancer! There were some awesome costumes! The First Schools Orchestra is a great experience and its good for any young musicians. It's made me more confident to perform and I have now joined the Middle Schools Flute Ensemble.

## Contact details and dates for your diary

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**November**  
**12th** - DASP Music Concert featuring singers from all Middle Schools and The Thomas Hardy Singers together with The Imperial College Symphony Orchestra

**December**  
**1st** - Dorchester Christmas Cracker  
**13th** - Middle Schools Orchestra Concert  
**13th** - DASP Christmas Concert - THS Theatre  
**15th** - THS Carol Service - St Peter's Church 7.00pm  
**17th** - St. Osmund's Singers - Joint Concert in the Lighthouse, Poole with Purbeck Choir and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

**June 2012**  
**3rd** - DASP Marquee Concert - THS Playing field.

