



Registered charity No.1157262

NEWSLETTER WINTER 2016

Now that our first half term is nearly over, I would like to take the opportunity of saying that I do hope you've enjoyed either your first few weeks at Workshop, or returning for more of the same! I'm sure we're all doing lots of practice, refining solo and ensemble skills and having fun making music. If there are any problems please don't hesitate to mention them to me, either on a Saturday morning, by email or give me a call on 07918 165450.

How Duxford Saturday Workshop works

Workshop was set up in 1972 by a lady called Jill Steinberg, (who incidentally still lives in the village) with the express purpose of giving youngsters the opportunity of doing something useful and creative with their time on a Saturday morning. She raised a good deal of money, bought some instruments and cajoled various people into volunteering their expertise and time to run classes. From the early beginnings of expressive poetry and recorder lessons we now have a full morning's activities with over 20 different classes and tutors. However, the principle has not changed - of allowing all ages and abilities the opportunity of coming together and having fun with music. Please do bear in mind that all of your tutors do this simply for love (!) and take good care of them. For example, do try to let them know if you can't attend.

Website

<http://duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk/>

Huge thanks to Graham Denton who is a brilliant webmaster! This is regularly updated and contains all sorts of useful information - forms, dates, pictures, events and much more. Please do check this out if you need to know things and have internet access at home.

Facebook Group

This now stands at around 50 members - about a quarter of Workshop's families. Do let me know if you'd like to join it and I'll add you. All information comes out via email in any case, but those social media addicts amongst you, (like me!) may like to use this too.

EVENTS

AGM - Saturday 19th November, 11am in the Hall. All members welcome.

Christmas Carols - Saturday 10th December, 11.30 in the Hall, (no normal 3rd session).

All welcome, especially for the mulled wine and mince pies afterwards!

WORKSHOP ENTERTAINMENT - Saturday 18th March, 2017

Oh yes, it's back! Better, newer, funnier and more bizarre than ever! On the 18th March Workshop thespians will be putting on 'The Sound of Musak', written by our own esteemed playwright, Martyn Postle. From characters such as Captain Boris von Claptrapp, Rene, (of 'Allo 'Allo fame) to Obergruppenfuhrer Darth Voldivader, the famous von Trapp children - Gaz, Daz, Baz, Chelsi, Bianca and Chardonnay there will never be a dull moment. And WE NEED YOU!! Actors, singers, stage managers, lighting people, costume, bar, catering - this is a big undertaking and all members, (from age 18+) are welcome to get involved. Rehearsals will begin in the Spring term, and are kept to between 1-2 hours after the end of Workshop. Watch out for posters with more information appearing next half term. Round 1 of auditions to be held publicly at the AGM. No, not really - just turn up and get involved - it's FUN!!!

PRIVATE INSTRUMENTAL TEACHERS' DATABASE

I am regularly asked for information both by workshop members and "outsiders" (!) about private instrumental teachers in the area. Not being local to Duxford, I don't feel particularly knowledgeable about who's around and who's good. Given that Workshop very much exists only to get people started, I have created a database of members' recommendations for teachers. Please do keep me updated if you can - a rough idea of where they live and contact details is also useful.

Please feel free to check if they are happy to be 'advertised' in this way before responding!

SCHOOL ISSUES

For all members, please be aware that children should be supervised at all times!!! They should not be allowed in classrooms without an adult present, or unsupervised during sessions. Problems are thankfully rare and we have generally a very good relationship with the school. I'd like to keep it this way!

EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST

If you are on email, you should be getting fairly regular emails from me, including this newsletter. If you are not, please let me know ASAP as I do like to think that a few trees are saved each time I communicate with the membership!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Half Term	Saturday 22 nd & 29 th October
Workshop recommences	Saturday 5 th November
Start of Spring Term	Saturday 7 th January
Children's Music Theatre	Saturday 24 th June 2017 5pm
Instrumental Audit	Saturday 2 nd September 2017 10am

www.duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk

email: wynken74@gmail.com