

## tutor news

**Steve Verge** was involved in a head on collision driving back from a gig in early October. He suffered a dislocated and fractured pelvis and was moved to Derriford hospital, where he underwent an operation to repair the right pelvic socket. The long and difficult operation was successful, so he is now on the road to recovery. Phill Eccleston has taken over the acoustic guitar group for now, but we are not intending to continue the electric guitars until Steve returns.

**Catherine Quinlan** is our new flute teacher, but she also teaches saxophone and recorder. She has some space for new students, so now is the time to sign up. See Lewis or Rachel on the desk.

## website [www.samstotnes.org.uk](http://www.samstotnes.org.uk)

We have a new SaMS website, thanks to Andrew Morrow, using Sue Snell's graphics. We heartily thank them both for their work, and we will try to keep it up to date with newsletters and other SaMS stuff. Do let us know if you have any suggestions or further useful information to include.

## concert saturday 5 december 1pm

Our usual end of term concert will take place in the Ariel Theatre at 1pm on Saturday December 5th, and include most of the SaMS groups. After discussing it with the committee and a selection of SaMS students, we have decided to again make the retiring collection for CLiC Sargent, the children's cancer charity, and the money will be added to the fund started in Harry Wilson-Deane's name.

## student rep on our committee

Harriet Riley will be standing down at the end of the year, having been student rep for five years. We thank her for all her contributions in this time. If any students would like to take over from her, they should see Harriet or Lewis. Perhaps there is room for two student reps?

## concert health & safety

A sub-committee has been formed to deal with the health and safety issues of staging SaMS concerts, with growing concern about their efficient audience management. Fire regulations demand that we have precise audience numbers and ensure that there are plenty of trained stewards in attendance. All audience will be issued with a (free!) numbered ticket to keep count, and we will need adult volunteers to help as stewards. Lewis, Fiona Senior and Polly Morrow will be meeting to finalise details, and perhaps approaching parents to ask for help on the three concerts we hold during the year.

## fire drill

We had a very successful fire drill near the beginning of term but, since then, KEVICC have asked us to use the same policy as theirs, and all assemble together on the car park at the front of the College.

This new fire plan should have been publicised to all students and tutors by the time this newsletter appears.

## sign up for groups

Many groups are almost full, but we still have some space in both the Sing & Play groups for 5-8 year olds (please contact Jane Lopresti 01803 862587), the Senior Folk Group and the Brass Group.

Please see Rachel or Lewis on the desk.

## fund raising

Now that SaMS has established its charitable status, we would like to explore the possibility of applying for funding - this could be used in a variety of ways to enhance what we are able to offer at SaMS.

We would be very interested to hear from any parent or friend who has experience in this area and who may be able to offer advice; compile a list of possible charities or funding bodies to approach or perhaps make an application on our behalf. Please speak to Lewis.

## agm

The date of our second AGM will be Saturday 30 January at 1pm in Room 25 (the Sing & Play room) at KEVICC. This wasn't a long meeting last year and, by coming, you can help us be sure that SaMS is offering *music making for all young people*. All are very welcome.

We would like to hear what you have to say.

*Lewis Riley*

## tutor biography .. megan beadman

I am very excited to be part of SaMS from September as I was very impressed with the standard at the concert in July – well done to everyone!

As well as working at SaMS, I teach private singing, piano and music lessons to adults and children as young as three years old, and I freelance as a Vocal Advisor for *Sing Up* (The Music Manifesto's national singing programme). I lead an adult and two separate children's choirs and I am a singing tutor for *Torbay Academy for Performing Arts*. I regularly sing and play the keyboard in a rock band (*The Usual Suspects*) and as a soloist. I also teach curriculum music in a primary school. I have worked for Dartington Summer Youth Programme as a Vocal Coach for the *Rock Music Course*.

I teach singers from beginners to advanced how to use their body to sing in a safe and healthy way. I believe everyone has a voice, and I help to find it either in individual lessons or groups. I can help to improve breathing technique, posture, diction, tone, timing, phrasing, pitch range, part singing, harmonies, rhythm and improvisation. I teach many musical styles but I specialise in popular and rock music. I believe there is no such thing as 'tone deaf' and our current Western society has squashed our instinctual need to sing in many people, sometimes being told at an early age that they can't sing!

I have an Exmoor pony called Merlin, and a Spanish Andalucian horse called Alvaro who I rescued from Spain in August 2007. He is very happy in his new home eating lots of grass and going out for a ride twice a week!

## kevicc christmas carol concerts

The KEVICC Carol Concerts this year will have a theme of *A Festive Celebration of our Family and Friends*. The concerts are on:

Monday 14 December in the Great Hall at Dartington at 6pm and  
Wednesday 16 December in St John's Church, Bridgetown, Totnes at 7pm.

Please note: admission will be by ticket only this year in **both** venues.

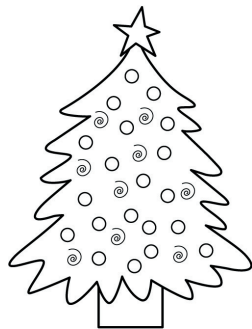
For Monday 14th, tickets are only available from the  
Dartington Box Office 01803 847070

<http://www.dartington.org/arts/arts-contact-details>

For Wednesday 16th, tickets are only available from  
KEVICC Reception 01803 869200

£2.50 full / £1.50 concs / 50p 18s & under

Many KEVICC ensemble groups will be performing,  
and of course these will include many SaMS students.



## Practical Musicianship Workshops

With Helen Deakin GRSM LRAM ARCM

Players of orchestral instruments and pianists are invited to take part in 2 exciting linked sessions which explore all the skills essential for musicians. Do you need some new ideas and suggestions as to how to improve your playing? Do you need an incentive to play again after a break? As a soloist, accompanist, ensemble or orchestral musician, this is an opportunity for new ideas and a new angle on your playing as well as a chance to meet other musicians in a friendly and supportive environment. From Grade 3 to Diploma level; you will be both comfortable and challenged!

Helen Deakin studied piano, clarinet and conducting at the Royal Academy of Music. She is an Associated Board examiner and, in this role, has worked extensively throughout the UK and around the world, including Europe, Hong Kong, Singapore, New Zealand and the USA. Helen has also presented seminars for the Associated Board and is a CT ABRSM mentor. Helen is a very experienced teacher and has run a flourishing private teaching practice for over 25 years, working with all ages and stages, children and adults, from beginners to diploma level. She is much in demand, giving presentations on all aspects of performing and teaching, with particular specialisms in chamber music and practical musicianship, and is becoming increasingly busy as an Adjudicator. Helen is on the adjudicator panel of the British and International Federation of Festivals, and regularly works for the National Festival of Music for Youth.

The Ariel Centre  
KEVICC  
Ashburton Road  
Totnes TQ9 5JX

Wednesday 20th January  
Wednesday 3rd February  
7- 9.15 pm (including coffee break)  
£20.00 for the 2 sessions

**Advance booking by Monday 11th January is essential.**



For further information about these workshops  
please telephone Helen Deakin on 01803 835882

Enrolment forms can be obtained from the front  
desk at the Ariel Centre or direct from Helen Deakin.