



saturday music school



website
www.samstotnes.org.uk

newsletter Summer 2010

SaMS is (nearly) 10 !!!

As mentioned in the last newsletter, it is our tenth anniversary in November, and we are planning various ways of celebrating this event. See over for more details ...

end of year concert saturday 3 July

Our usual end of term concert will be held at 1pm on Saturday July 3rd in the Ariel Theatre. The retiring collection will be for SaMS funds, and most SaMS groups will be showing their work, as well as a guest appearance by the Peninsula Clarinet Choir led by Marina van E Kummer.

dates & fees for next year

We are recommending a small increase in the fees paid for individual lessons up to £27 per hour (30 minutes £13.50; 20 minutes £9) as from September, in line with national rates.

We are also having to review our subscriptions for the groups, as our core funding from KEVICC does not include an annual increase. These will be £55 for the first child and £20 for each additional child in the same family for the whole year, going down to £40/ £15 for those starting after Christmas and £20 /£10 for just the summer term.

As usual we are offering a **£5 discount** for the first child for payments in advance, and booking for this will start on **19th June**, but please **not after the July 3rd concert!** Do take advantage of this offer – it saves a rush in September and can also help in guaranteeing a place in some groups.

There is a slightly revised registration form. Can parents please read it carefully, particularly in relation to Health and Safety issues that we take extremely seriously?

2010	2011	(short Summer term)
September 11/18/25	January 8/15/22/29	April 30
October 2/9/16	February 5/12	May 7/14/21
November 6/13/20/27	March 5/12/19/26	June 11/18/25
December 4 (concert)	April 2 (concert)	July 3 (concert)

SaMS is 10 .. anniversary celebrations

Firstly a Jazz Concert was held on 27 May, featuring both SaMS jazz bands and small groups of players. These included ex-SaMS members who were at the first ever SaMS, and who are now going off to College and University in the Autumn. The concert was a joint promotion with KEVICC, including their Big Band and small groups, many of whom also attend SaMS.

The concert was raising money for ShelterBox, the Cornwall-based emergency relief charity and we managed to raise £563 for them, which buys a whole box, and part of another. A Big THANK YOU to everyone who took part or supported the event.

In September we hope to run a couple of SaMS Roadshows, funded by our Gift Aid money, to go round some of the Primary schools to publicise what we do and give our young musicians more performing experience. At the moment we are hoping that Peter Scott will take a JaM band, and that Jane will be able to take the Choir. If your children are involved in either of these, we hope that you can support a day or two out of regular school to do this. They will have to work hard to build up a short repertoire over the first few weeks of term. The roadshow will also publicise our 10th anniversary day, November 6th, when we are planning to put on an Open Day with extra workshops and events – more details to follow in the Autumn.

ensemble & tutor news

Steve Verge is now running both the Electric and Acoustic Guitar Groups again. We are so glad that he is back to his full timetable.

As well as teaching sax, flute and recorder, Catherine Quinlan is now running the grade 5 theory sessions, and now is the time to join, in preparation for taking the exam next year. See her or contact Lewis or Rachel on the desk if you are interested.

Sam Massey has now expanded the brass group to be a Wind Band, and has already got some saxophones involved. There are still spaces for other woodwind as well, including flute and clarinet.

Some of the other groups are still full and have waiting lists. Make sure that you sign up in good time for the Autumn term.

summer holidays

Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you all in September.

NB Next Summer term is short as Easter is late.

Lewis Riley

student views of SaMS

Lewis asked some former SaMS students to tell us a bit about their experience of coming on Saturday mornings - and what it might have led to. This is what they wrote:

I joined SaMS after learning the Bass guitar for three weeks. Within a month I was playing in my first concert in the Junior Jazz group.

SaMS has given me the best introduction to music I could have had. I doubt that anybody could say the same things of any other music organisation for young children in Devon. Going to SaMS every Saturday morning was the activity that got me well and truly hooked on music. It is a fantastic opportunity for young players to be enjoying music and progressing, as well as meeting other musicians. The foundation that SaMS gave me enabled me to be the Bass player for both the Devon Youth Jazz Orchestras, and to take part in National Youth Jazz Collective, as well as playing for the Montreux Jazz Festival in 2007. I loved SaMS, the atmosphere, the music and the people I met are fantastic. I thoroughly encourage any young musician to attend and make the most of the opportunity that they have there to become truly great musicians and, most importantly, to have fun.

Sam Roberts .. former Bass player to both SaMS Jazz Bands

It seems hard to believe SaMS has been running for ten years, having attended the very first one, aged 7. I played the trumpet in the Junior Jazz session with Lewis, and remember having my first experience of improvising on 'Oh When the Saints'! During my time at SaMS I also played in the brass group and later Senior Jazz, in which my sister Jenny now plays.

Ten years on I regularly perform with several small bands – many of the members I met through SaMS: Sam Roberts, Harriet Riley and Lizzy Eames to name but a few. The skills I developed on Saturday mornings - ensemble playing, performing to an audience and improvisation – have given me opportunities to play music around the country and abroad: a couple of years ago I played to an audience of 5000 in the Royal Albert Hall with the Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra – a pretty amazing experience! Later this summer we are playing at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland – headlined by musicians such as Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea and Pat Metheny!

The SaMS Shelterbox concert before half term was a really great chance to see how the jazz groups are getting on: I especially enjoyed the collective performance of 'Sway' as the finale! SaMS has certainly progressed a long way over the past ten years and I'm sure it will continue to do so.

Chris McMurrin .. trumpet & piano player to both SaMS Jazz Bands

DARTINGTON SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME



2010

Summer festival of creative courses – book now!

1st – 13th August

Five-day courses for 11–18 year olds will take place at the University of Exeter this summer, with three-day workshops at KEVICC for 8–12 year olds. PLUS... the phenomenal Family Sing Day!

This is the first time DSYP courses are happening in Exeter – a move that means we can offer the supervised accommodation so often requested! To ensure these courses are still accessible for our dedicated local young musicians and photographers, we are also running a subsidised coach service from KEVICC.

So, 'What are these amazing courses?' I hear you ask. Well...

Week 1 2nd – 6th August

Gospel Choir & Exploring Your Voice / Songwriting / Documentary Photography / Jazz with 6PAC / FolkWorld

Week 2 9th – 13th August

South West Youth Jazz Orchestra / Exeter Sonic Postcards / Mastering the Piano / Wind & Strings Chamber Music / Creating Music for Film / Music Theatre & Music Theatre Band

@ KEVICC 4th – 11th August

Stringworks 4th – 6th August / BandiT 9th – 11th August

PLUS...Family Sing Day Saturday 7th August

Further information and online bookings are available at www.dsyp.org

Or contact Sophie Swainger dsyp@dartington.org / 01803 847011

We're very excited about DSYP 2010 and hope you are too!