

## MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

No. 29    March 2020

We hope you are enjoying your music-making with Abingdon Music Centre this term. In this newsletter we give further information about upcoming events.

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For regular updates from Abingdon Music Centre, please follow us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/AbingdonMusicCentre](https://www.facebook.com/AbingdonMusicCentre)

### Our 'Bring A Friend' Offer

We have been asking new contacts about where they heard about Abingdon Music Centre. As we had previously suspected, our best publicity for what we do is YOU, our wonderful members. With this in mind, we would like to invite you to participate in our latest 'Bring a Friend' scheme where you can earn a voucher for a free session. Blank vouchers will be available from your class teacher.

Our 'Bring a Friend' scheme works like this:

- Invite a 'friend' (or family member/colleague/neighbour who is not currently a member of Abingdon Music Centre) to attend a FREE taster session (ideally booking this through the AMC Office)
- If they enjoy the session and decide to enrol in the class/group, you are credited for a FREE session (we usually deduct this from your payment due for the following term).

Please ask your class teacher for leaflets for your groups to share with your contacts.



### New Website: testimonials needed

We continue to work on our publicity and have a new website in progress, hopefully coming soon. On the new website we are hoping to include some testimonials from our members about our activities. If you are willing to write something about the class or group that you participate in to share on our website, and ideally be willing to include your first name with it, that would be very much appreciated. Please let the Ali or Gareth in the AMC office know if you are able to help with this.



**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>  
March 2020**

## Spring Members' Event

For baby & pre-school music members  
and their families and friends:

# Teddy Bears

## *Introducing the Euphonium*



- 10am Toddler/Pre-school music (babies welcome)
- 10.45am Refreshments
- 11.15am Toddler/Pre-school music
- 11.15am Ukulele taster for pre-school families

Venue: Abingdon Music Centre, Larkmead School

Cost: **FREE**, but please pre-book

We will be running **two toddler/pre-school** music sessions during the morning (10:00-10:45 or 11:15-12:10). These will include singing known and new songs, learning action songs, playing instruments and listening to instruments together, with activities based on a 'Bear/Teddy Bear' theme. There will also be, within the session, a short instrument

demonstration of the Euphonium.

Other members of the family are very welcome to attend to see what we do. In particular, within the second toddler/pre-school music session (starting 11:15), there will be a **ukulele taster session** offered to older siblings (school-age) and 'additional adults'. The aim will be to learn simple chords to accompany some of the songs that the children are learning and put it all together at the end!



These events also include a '**Bring a Friend**' option where other friends and their families are able to join in – please indicate any 'friends' when booking.

**All the activities** are free of charge, although donations are very welcome. Refreshments will be available. If you/your family wish to be involved with any of these events, please complete the **booking form** overleaf and return to the AMC office (or your class teacher) by **Friday 13th March**.

*Please note: For health and safety reasons, there are limits to the number of participants in some of these events. Please book early to avoid disappointment.*



## Activities for Babies & Pre-schoolers:

### Music Makers Together @ Bridge House Care Home



Our special intergenerational sessions at Bridge House Care Home, run by Gillian and Helen, take place once per month on Fridays, 11.40-12.25. These are **FREE** pre-school music sessions for children under 5 with their parents, carers or grandparents and residents of Bridge House Care Home. This is open to members and non-members of Abingdon Music Centre.

Recent themes include Colours, Jungle, Teddies and Things That Go. We enjoy sharing traditional songs and rhymes together and encourage children and adults to join in with actions, props and instruments. We aim to get the children interacting with the residents, whether through playing peek-a-boo or sharing out scarves and instruments.

The final session for the Spring term (11.40-12.25 at Bridge House) is:

### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Pets**

Dates for the summer term to follow soon (usually a Friday in the middle of the month, re-starting in May). Please let us know if you are coming via the link on the Abingdon Music Centre Facebook events listing, or contact the AMC office in advance.



*Coffee and light lunches available before and afterwards at the Riverly Club (small charge for non-members).*

### Dates for your Diaries:

#### **Sat 14<sup>th</sup> March**

AMC Spring Event

- Various FREE sessions for baby & pre-school members and their families throughout the morning @ AMC (Larkmead Music building) (see page 2)

#### **Sat 14<sup>th</sup> March**

AMC Teacher Members' Concert

- St Nicolas' Church, 4.30pm

#### **Sat 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Music @ The Manor

- Abingdon Community Orchestra concert, 3.15pm (see page 4)
- ACCord concert, with Swingtime, 7pm (see page 4)

#### **Mon 6<sup>th</sup> April + Weds 8<sup>th</sup> April**

AMC @ The Community Freespace

- Various FREE sessions for babies, pre-schoolers in the morning plus all-age pop-up choir at lunchtime (Monday only) (see page 5)

#### **Sat 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Fun in the Park event

- Various AMC groups performing during the day; free workshops for babies, pre-schoolers, school-age and families (members and non-members)

#### **Sat 4<sup>th</sup> July**

AMC Summer Festival @ The Manor School Hall, 3-8pm



Music for Everyone

# Abingdon Music Centre

[www.abingdonmusic.co.uk](http://www.abingdonmusic.co.uk)

## *Music at The Manor*

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020

3.15pm: Abingdon  
Community  
Orchestra



7pm: ACCord  
(Abingdon Community  
Choir) & Swingtime

Venue: The Manor School  
Faringdon Road,  
Abingdon

Cost: £5 per adult ticket  
Children FREE  
(Tickets available from AMC office)  
+ Pay bar



We are hoping to raise funds through this to support the work of our charity, specifically supporting people to participate in music who would not otherwise be able to afford to do so and supporting our outreach activities, e.g. music for people suffering from dementia, music for vulnerable young people.



Music for Everyone

# Abingdon Music Centre

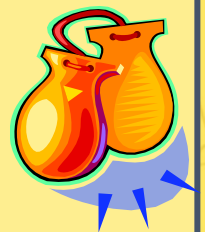
[www.abingdonmusic.co.uk](http://www.abingdonmusic.co.uk)

## Holiday Music Workshops @ the Community FreeSpace

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April



### For babies & pre-schoolers:



Music-related craft from 10am (both days).

**Music sessions: 10.15-10.45am** (both days)

**11.15-11.45am** (both days)

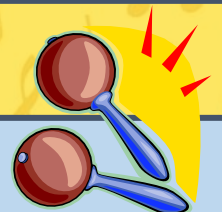
### For all ages (adults / children 5+):



**Pop-up Choir (Monday only): 12 noon – 1pm**

Join in with a group sing. No prior experience needed. All welcome.

**Cost: FREE**



**Venue:** Community FreeSpace, Bury Street Precinct

**Parents/carers:** Please stay with your child during the session.



## Our current groups and classes:

\*The pre-school and baby classes show the age ranges for the current term; these will adjust each term to cater for the children already in the classes and there may be changes after the sign-up sheets have been completed. New classes, including for babies from 2 months, start each term based on demand.

Group	Age Range*	Focus	Day	Time	Venue
Pre-school and Baby	New baby	Mini Music Makers	Weds	10:20	Abbey Baptist Church Checker Walk
Pre-school and Baby	2mths-crawling (Drop-in class)	Mini Music Makers	Tues	10:45	Christ Church Northcourt Road
Pre-school and Baby	6-12 mths	Mini Music Makers	Thurs	11:15	Music Building, Larkmead School
Pre-school and Baby	1-1½ yr	Mini Music Makers	Fri	10:20	Abbey Baptist Church Checker Walk
Pre-school and Baby	2-3yr	Mini Music Makers	Mon	09:30	Music Building, Larkmead School
Pre-school and Baby	2½ -3½ yr	Mini Music Makers	Fri	11:00	Abbey Baptist Church Checker Walk
Pre-school and Baby	3 yr & over	Mini Music Makers	Weds	09:40	Abbey Baptist Church Checker Walk
Pre-school and Baby	3 yr & over	Mini Music Makers	Weds	11:00	Abbey Baptist Church Checker Walk
Pre-school and Baby	Mixed age	Mini Music Makers	Thurs	10:15	Music Building, Larkmead School
Pre-school and Baby	Mixed age (Drop-in class)	Mini Music Makers	Tues	10:00	Christ Church Northcourt Road
School-age	Age 4-6 yrs (Reception/Yr 1)	Mini Music Makers	Tues	16:00	Music Building, Larkmead School
School-age	Age 6-13 yrs (Years 2-8)	Recorders & Musicianship: Beginners Intermediate Advanced Descant Advanced Treble	Tues	16:00 16:00 16:45 16:45	Music Building, Larkmead School
School-age	From 6+yrs	Guitar Club: Beginners Established Group 1 Established Group 2 Intermediate Advanced	Mon Mon Weds Weds Weds	16:45 17:45 17:00 18:00 19:00	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Ladies' Choir - 3 part SSA	Tues	13:45	Abbey Baptist Church / Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Ladies' Choir - 3-part SSA	Tues	10:00	Abbey Baptist Church
Adult	Adult	Guitar Class	Thur	17:45	Music Building, Larkmead School

*continued on next page...*

*Our current groups and classes continued...*

<b>Group</b>	<b>Age Range*</b>	<b>Focus</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Adult	Adult	Guitar Class	Thur	18:45	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Guitar Class	Thur	19:45	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Beginner Guitar Class	Mon	18:45	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Beginner Guitar Class	Wed	9:45	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Ukulele	Thurs	14:30	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	ACCord Community Choir	Tues	19:30	Thomas Reade School
Adult	Adult	Community Orchestra	Wed	19:15	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Recorder ensemble (fortnightly)	Thur	19:30	Music Building, Larkmead School
Adult	Adult	Singing for Pleasure	Fri	11:40	Abbey Baptist Church

Occasional workshops run in addition to these classes – please check our website for more details.

- **New classes and groups:**

### **New Baby Music Class:**

We have just started a new baby class on Wednesday mornings. FREE for babies up to 4 months old. A great way to meet other families with little babies as well as start enjoying and learning about music together from an early age.

### **Community Band:**

We are hoping to start a Community Band, for children in Years 4+ up to adults. This would be in conjunction with Yamaha, to learn a woodwind instrument within a band setting. More details to follow but please contact the AMC office to register your interest.

### **Guitar Beginners:**

We still have spaces for beginners in the school-age Guitar Club and our adult classes.

*Please contact the AMC Office for further details.*

The AMC office is open on Mondays to Fridays in term time.  
9am-1.30pm on Mondays to Thursdays, and 9am-1pm on Fridays.

## Hosted groups and classes:

We also host the following musical opportunities, run by our teacher / musician members:

- **Jazz Ensemble Playing Course** (Wednesday evenings)  
The emphasis of the course is on playing in a band and will cover playing well-known standards as well as some theory and ear-training along the way. For: those with little or no experience of playing jazz in a group; any instrumentalists or singers with reasonable technical ability; over 16s.
- **Abingdon Strings** (Alternate Saturdays 10.30-12.30 / 1-2pm)  
This is a fortnightly class, led by Marion Crombie and Valerie Findlay, for adult string players who want to play in a group primarily for pleasure rather than for exams. There is also a beginners group who meet at 1pm.
- **Abingdon Junior Orchestra / SOYS / SOYPA – see below**
- **Instrumental Lessons**  
Through our teacher members, lessons are offered in keyboard, woodwind, strings, brass, guitar, percussion and theory. Please contact the Abingdon Music Centre office, or see pages 13-14, for further details.
- **Rehearsal Space**  
If you want to play with a small group of musicians 'for fun, not for exams,' or simply need a practice space, that's possible too.

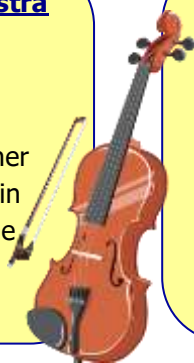
*Please contact Abingdon Music Centre for further details of these musical opportunities and we will put you in touch with the organisers.*

## Hosted Activities for School-aged children:

Abingdon Music Centre is delighted to work in partnership with Oxfordshire County Music Service to bring musical opportunities to school-aged children in Abingdon. We now host the Abingdon Junior Orchestra, SOYS and SOYPA at our music centre (Music Building at Larkmead School).

### Abingdon Junior Orchestra

Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm  
This mixed instrument orchestra is for primary school players from beginner to grade 3. Free for those in the First Access programme (tuition through primary schools).



### South Oxfordshire Young Singers

Wednesdays 4.30-5.30pm  
SOYS is a group for enthusiastic and able primary aged singers in Y3-6 looking to challenge themselves beyond school choir and improve their vocal technique and musical ability by singing an exciting range of pieces in up to three-part harmony. There are performance opportunities at prestigious events and venues throughout the year including the Sheldonian and Oxford Town Hall.

### South Oxfordshire Young Performing Arts

Wednesdays 5.30-7pm  
SOYPA is open to young people in year 7, 8, 9 and 10 with an interest in performing arts. We welcome all abilities and you don't need to be able to read music. Singing is varied, covering a wide range of styles and part singing. Movement is for all abilities, developed through creative ideas as well as dance techniques. Pupils work on developing dramatic expression through improvisation.







## Our teacher / musician members:

*Please see our website for email links to all teachers*

### **Piano/Keyboard**

Claudia Martin, M Music Performance, Dip. Piano Teaching: Piano

Sally Mears: Piano, Singing, Theory, Workshop leader, Conductor, Accompanist for exams and festivals  
phone: 01235 534018

Oliver Nicholls: Piano, Saxophone, Composer, Performer, Accompanist  
web: <http://olliedn.com>

Glyn Rowlands: Piano, Guitar, Drums

Dorothy Shaw, *DipMusEd (Rockschool 2011)*, *ABRSM Grade VIII & theory: Pianist, Piano teacher (beginners to Grade 5, classical or jazz, children and adults)*, keyboard  
phone: 01235 523230 / 07518 915492

Marianna Hanischne Szentesi , *BMus in Piano, BMus in Music, QTS*: Piano, Theory  
phone: 07943 962363; web: [dsvmusic tuition.wixsite.com/kodaly-music-school/](http://dsvmusic tuition.wixsite.com/kodaly-music-school/)

### **Strings**

Marion Crombie: Strings, String groups  
mobile: 07595 627476; web: [www.CherwellChamberMusic.com](http://www.CherwellChamberMusic.com)

Ben Heaney, *GmusRNCM PGCE: Electric Violin*, Strings & Music Educator  
mobile: 07773 051162; web: [www.deltaviolin.com](http://www.deltaviolin.com)

Becky Ramsurn, *BMus(Hons) PGCE: Singing and Cello teacher (children and adults, beginner to advanced)*  
mobile: 07886 830540; web: [www.musicteachers.co.uk/teacher/a9f3837e0512edb0e227](http://www.musicteachers.co.uk/teacher/a9f3837e0512edb0e227)

### **Woodwind**

Sally Allsop: Flute, Recorder, Theory  
phone: 01235 525158

Oliver Nicholls: Piano, Saxophone, Composer, Performer, Accompanist  
web: <http://olliedn.com>

### **Brass**

Abigail Perrow: Brass (Beginner to Grade 4)  
Phone: 01491 200789

### **Guitar**

Steve Gower: Acoustic and electric guitar (all ages, beginners to advanced)  
Phone: 07792 557554

Glyn Rowlands: Piano, Drums, Guitar

### **Percussion**

Glyn Rowlands: Piano, Drums, Guitar



## Voice

Sally Mears: Piano, Singing, Theory, Workshop leader, Conductor  
phone: 01235 534018

Becky Ramsurn, BMus(Hons) PGCE: Singing and Cello teacher (children and adults, beginner to advanced)  
mobile: 07886 830540; web: [www.musicteachers.co.uk/teacher/a9f3837e0512edb0e227](http://www.musicteachers.co.uk/teacher/a9f3837e0512edb0e227)

## Theory

Sally Allsop: Flute, Recorder, Theory  
phone: 01235 525158

Sally Mears: Piano, Singing, Theory, Workshop leader, Conductor, Accompanist for exams and festivals  
phone: 01235 534018

Marianna Hanischne Szentesi, *BMus in Piano, BMus in Music, QTS*: Piano, Theory  
phone: 07943 962363; web: [dsvmusic tuition.wixsite.com/kodaly-music-school/](http://dsvmusic tuition.wixsite.com/kodaly-music-school/)

## Accompanist

Sally Mears: Piano, Singing, Theory, Workshop leader, Conductor, Accompanist for exams/festivals  
phone: 01235 534018

Oliver Nicholls: Piano, Saxophone, Composer, Performer, Accompanist  
web: <http://olliedn.com>

Robert Thomas, B.Mus., ABRSM Grade 8: Individual and group accompanist  
mobile: 07814 578798

Matthew Winkworth: Conductor/director, accompanist, composer/arranger  
mobile: 07816 355232

## Conductor/Director

Marion Crombie: Strings, String groups  
mobile: 07595 627476; web: [www.CherwellChamberMusic.com](http://www.CherwellChamberMusic.com)

Ben Heaney, *GmusRNCM PGCE*: Electric Violin, Strings & Music Educator  
mobile: 07773051162; web: [www.deltaviolin.com](http://www.deltaviolin.com)

Sally Mears: Piano, Singing, Theory, Workshop leader, Conductor  
phone: 01235 534018

Matthew Winkworth: Conductor/director, accompanist, composer/arranger  
mobile: 07816 355232

## Composing/Arranging

Chris Howarth: Arranger  
Mobile: 07917 287059

Oliver Nicholls: Piano, Saxophone, Composer, Performer, Accompanist  
web: <http://olliedn.com>

Matthew Winkworth: Conductor/director, accompanist, composer/arranger  
mobile: 07816 355232

Abingdon Music Centre Trust is a registered charity (no.309181)  
Donate via the CAF Donate link on our website: [www.abingdonmusic.co.uk](http://www.abingdonmusic.co.uk)

## Help needed!

Abingdon Music Centre would not be able to run without extensive volunteer support. We are extremely grateful to everyone who gives their time in order to support our work.

In particular, we are looking for help with the following:

- Support at Members' Events and concerts, e.g. help with set-up/pack away, helping to serve and tidy refreshments
- Support at other events in the town, e.g. setting up gazebos at Fun in the Park
- Support with fundraising:
  - Raffle prizes
  - Useful contacts who may be able to offer financial support for our activities, e.g. outreach
  - Join our fundraising group
- Support with Publicity:
  - To display a poster(s) at work, church, other groups you have links with, etc.
  - To put out flyers at work, church, other groups you have links with, etc.
  - To deliver flyers to addresses in Abingdon

If you have any other links through which you may be able to further promote us we would be ever so grateful to hear from you.

If you are able to help with any of the above, or are interested in getting involved in another way, please contact the AMC office.



Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AbingdonMusicCentre](http://www.facebook.com/AbingdonMusicCentre)

### **Abingdon Music Centre**

Music Building, Larkmead School,  
Faringdon Road,  
Abingdon, OX14 1RF

(Sat Nav – use OX14 1BE)

Phone: **07934 364940**

Website: [www.abingdonmusic.co.uk](http://www.abingdonmusic.co.uk)

Email: [admin@abingdonmusic.co.uk](mailto:admin@abingdonmusic.co.uk)

You have been sent this newsletter because you gave us your contact details and permission to contact you. If you would rather not receive e-mails or other information from Abingdon Music Centre please send an e-mail to us at [admin@abingdonmusic.co.uk](mailto:admin@abingdonmusic.co.uk) with the word unsubscribe in the subject line.



# Music for Everyone

## Abingdon Music Centre



www.abingdonmusic.co.uk

### Spring Members' Event Booking Form

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Contact name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: *(including alternative/emergency contacts during the workshop)*

*For planning and catering purposes, please indicate the numbers of your family attending the sessions below and return to Ali and Gareth in the office by **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020**. Thanks very much.*

#### For baby & preschool music members and their families and friends:

			Under 1 year	Age 1-4	Age 5-18	Adults
A	Preschool Music Session 1	10:00-10:45				
B	Preschool Music Session 2	11:15-12:10				
C	Ukulele Taster Session <i>(within Preschool Music Session)</i>	11:15-12:10				

\* If bringing a friend to the Music Session, please provide a contact name and phone number/email: \_\_\_\_\_

We must hold basic data on you so we may act appropriately in case of need. Please sign the form to confirm that you agree to the data being held. We hold the data ONLY for use in Abingdon Music Centre and will never give it to any third party. For further information please refer to our Privacy Policy which is available on our website. We shall keep this information and use it to keep you up to date with activities which we hope will be of interest to you. We shall do this even after your child has attended this workshop (for example we shall send you details of other future workshops but we will do our best to send you only information relevant to your child's age). If at any time after your child has attended the workshop you wish us to delete the data then please write or email the Centre and we shall delete your records.

#### Please delete the following as appropriate to show your consent:

I **give / do not give** permission for AMC to use photographs, video recordings and audio recordings for the purpose of documentation and publicity

Parent / contact (signature) ..... Date: .....