



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2007

Now that Workshop has run for a couple of sessions I would like to take the opportunity of welcoming back 'old' members as well as those of you who are new to Workshop. We have a membership database of 250+ people and the buzz and energy around, even early on a Saturday morning is obviously being generated by many, many people! I hope that everyone has settled in to their various classes and are enjoying the tuition and ensembles offered by our tutors. If there are any problems please don't hesitate to mention them to me, either between 10.15 and 11.30 on a Saturday morning, (I teach sessions 1 and 3) or give me a call on 01480 432956.

MATERNITY COVER!

Many of you who have seen me around at Workshop over the last couple of weeks will have realised that I am about to be having a short leave of absence due to having twins! I am hoping to last until the 13th October, and then have some time off, returning after Christmas. During this period, I have a number of people who have gamely volunteered to take on some extra responsibility. On Saturday mornings during Workshop the people manning the front desk will endeavour to answer as many of your questions as possible. They are:

Session 1 – Kate Davies and Cath Byers, (already in post and doing a valiant job!)

Session 2 – Janet Macleod and Margaret Kerry

Session 3 – Valerie Catton

In addition to these people, Kate Wood will be assuming a 'deputy-director' position and will be the point of contact during the week. There will be a book available for queries for Kate on the front desk should you need to speak to her for any reason.

MANAGERS:

These are a group of people whose work is a little more 'behind the scene'. They help with essential organisational aspects such as the hiring of instruments, finance, catering and without them, Workshop would undoubtedly not run as smoothly. This group decided that it would be useful for members quickly to be able to identify them and so they have started wearing badges. Some of our managers have specific roles and others are simply people who wish to get more involved in the running of workshop by taking on responsibilities at specific points and events during the year.

Those of you who have been members of workshop before will know that Faith Paulding left at the end of last year. One of her jobs was that of instrument manager. This has now been taken on by Peter Rice and many, many thanks to him for agreeing to this! If you need to speak to him about any instrument hire-related issues, he is around at the break or alternatively, there is a red book for you to write down queries on the instrument table in the entrance area. Ideally, Peter would like just to do this job for 1 year, and so if you have a little spare time on your hands and would like to get more involved in workshop, please speak to me, Kate or any of the other managers. The time commitment for the instrument manager is realistically fairly big around the beginning of September when all the instruments come back to be checked and then re-distributed to members but at other times during the year, it is minimal. Do have a think about it!

SHOP:

This has now moved to near the new Workshop office at the end of the junior corridor! It is run by Angela Bould and is open all Saturday morning for purchases such as reeds, strings, pencils, valve oil, music books, music cases etc, etc! If we do not have what you require, it can be ordered and ready for the following week. This is a really useful resource for members - thank you to Angela for running this.

TUTORS:

Many of you will know that one of the most special aspects of Workshop is the sheer amount of voluntary, (i.e., unpaid!) time our tutors give to making it such a success. Please look after them by *notifying them of absence when known*, and obviously practising furiously in between sessions in order to impress them with your commitment, motivation and skill!

DOOR REGISTERS:

Please ensure that you are conscientious with regards to initialling against your name each week. I'm afraid that a tick won't do for as well as a fire record the register forms part of the audit trail for Gift Aid. Many thanks to all of you who have completed a Gift Aid form, whilst this costs individuals nothing it last year resulted in Workshop being able to claim £1800 back from the Inland Revenue – a not insignificant sum.

CAROLS AND MINCE PIES

The annual Duxford Saturday Workshop Carol Singing this year takes place on 8th December when Christmas really is beginning to be just around the corner. All members, their families and friends are most welcome and the singing is followed by mulled wine and mince pies. There is no charge but if you can donate some mince pies, we would be most grateful.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Workshop Carols	Saturday 8th December 2006	11.30a.m.
Members' Concert (compulsory for all members)	Saturday 15th March 2007	2 p.m.
Tutors' Entertainment	Saturday 3rd May 2007	7.30 p.m.

Arwen Gilbert (Director)

www.duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk
email: director@duxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk