

The Newsletter October 2001

The occasional newsletter for members of BYA and their parents

Meeting

There will be a meeting about the Christmas concert during the next BYA rehearsal on Sunday 11th November at 4.15pm. It will be in the room on the left off the entrance hall.

All parents willing to help organise, fund raise or help on the day at this year's concert will be very welcome to attend this meeting. If you cannot make the meeting but are willing to help please sign up on the noticeboard or call Jane Gregory on 020 8653 6509, or email her at jane@startrekv.freemove.co.uk.

Mea culpa

A good many people have pointed out that this newsletter left out any reference to Arthur Mitchell's excellent cello solo during the summer concert. He played particularly well, and his solo was one of the most notable points of an altogether excellent concert. On the plus side, although his performance was left out of the reviews, it was so memorable that a number of both parents and orchestra members were able to point out that it had been left out when the newsletter appeared some eight weeks later.

Competition

As usual there will be a drawing competition to design the cover of the coming concert programme. Sharpen your pencils and look out for forms at the next rehearsal.

Christmas concert

**St Anne's Church
St Ann's Hill
Wandsworth SW18
Saturday 15th December**

Timetable:

- 1.30** Senior Strings rehearse
- 2.45** Intermediate Strings rehearse
- 3.30** Junior Strings rehearse
- 4.30** Christmas tea for all BYA children
- 6.00** Concert followed by post concert reception for orchestra and audience

If anyone has any problems with this date or these timings please advise Andy or Julie asap.

See if you can find 25 hidden composers

T A C D T R E B U H C S V W P
B C C P O U L E N C T R S A D
A A H O L T G T G R I E G G B
M B O A Z S A K B R F L J N E
A L P S I E R A R O K O B E E
H O I V E K N R A M E L A R T
L L N Q D U O O H I G R C I H
E C W E B E R V M E N U H T O
R T U N W O C D S E B Y R D V
P R O K O F I E V K U Q S H E
T A R X N E P X U Z Y G L O N
E Z N I K S W A L S O T U L D
Z O S C H U M A N N L C M S X
I M O N T E V E R D I P I T A
B N S A Y S S U B E D E B U B

Advvertisements

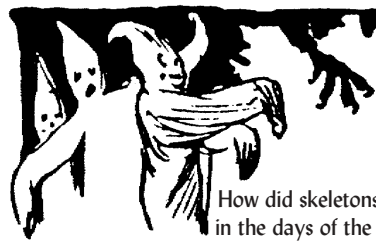
This newsletter is willing to take 'for sale' and 'wanted' ads for concert clothing, musical accoutrements etc

Parent Helper Volunteers wanted

Are you a whizz at stacking and unstacking chairs? Fancy using or developing your skills as a music librarian? If you can spare 15-20 minutes before or after one or more rehearsals a term and would like to help BYA please volunteer on the notice board in the entrance hall. You'll be made most welcome!

We are introducing a system of recording the lending and return of BYA music to enthusiastic members of each orchestra. We want to encourage members to work on BYA pieces in between rehearsals if they would like to do so but at the same time avoid the inevitable loss of music when it is taken away. Ideally we'd like one parent per orchestra to take this job on.

Cups of tea guaranteed!



How did skeletons send each other letters in the days of the wild west ?

By bony express!

Who has the most dangerous job in Transylvania ?

The dentist.

What do you get if you cross a vampire with Al Capone ?

A fangster ?

Q: How do skeleton's keep in touch?

A: They use mobile tele-bones!

Q: What instrument does a skeleton play?

A: The trom-bone!

Q: Why didn't the skeleton go to the disco?

A: He had no-body to go with!



A Cautionary Tale

We left the violin on the train, actually I did it, the Mummy. I went to help Nina on Friday because Orchestra is that day and dirty games kit comes home as well. We both had lots to carry and I was carrying the violin and put it up in the overhead rack to free-up my hands.

never, never, NEVER, NEVER

USE THE OVERHEAD RACK

because a violin just fits in the curve, out of sight and thus out of mind. We were enjoying ourselves, chatting, getting in the mood for a relaxing weekend. We even got on a bus and I then realised what I had done. Back at the station I pushed the information button on the round call box on the platform. This gets you in contact with a special office that deals with emergencies and problems. Nina and I stayed on the platform for one and a half hours while the special branch of trouble shooters had the train searched twice. It seemed the precious violin was going to Reading and I kept thinking of T.E. Lawrence who left his manuscript of The Seven Pillars of Wisdom on a platform, on his way to his publisher. The manuscript was never found and he had to write it again! I realised once we walked off the train and the doors closed and the train took off the matter was out of our hands, fate was deciding the outcome.

We eventually were advised to go home. Very often passengers try to help and since most stations have no one on duty they bring the missing item home and hand it in days later. I had envisioned us hopping on a train to Reading and back, late but relieved. Instead we had to go home and cry some more. The train was searched two more times, at the end of its journey and when it got back to Waterloo. I was called back twice at home, the special team really did take it seriously and they told me tales of retrieved flutes, clarinets and a horn from the Philharmonic, all forgotten in the overhead rack. They also told me laptops are stolen regularly right from under the noses of the owners. I just could not believe that I had been so careless and started to worry about thieves trying to sell an expensive violin at a market. I also was upset that I had just started a musical instrument insurance policy and it would look so bad to have such a loss three months later. The guilt of it all was the worst part and kept me up that night. Poor Nina cried so much at the prospect of losing her close friend.

Nina always believed her violin would come back. It did, the next day we finally got the call at 3pm from the depot in Southfields, Durnsfield Road. It had been found on Friday night when the trains were cleaned and they didn't want to wake us (as if I was sleeping!). Ordinarily lost property goes to Waterloo and it would have taken days, but the case had a huge label (bought from Andy's shop) with Nina's name, address, phone and school written on it in indelible marker. It was all very irregular, the public is not allowed in the depot but a large, jolly man came out and told Nina she had to do double practice for losing it. Oh, slap Mummy's wrist, she is the one who put it up there!

Thanks to Diane Mikula for this tale (and confession!)

Rehearsal dates

November 11th & 25th

December 9th

At St Michael's Church, Bolingbroke Grove, London SW11, 2.30 - 5.00. Please aim to arrive 10 minutes before start of rehearsal to allow time for tuning etc.

Christmas concert: Saturday December 15th

Answers to the Very difficult Competition

Well done to those who entered last month's very difficult competition

Well earned prizes go to Charlotte Wright and Sophie Dannreuther in the junior orchestra, and to Zoë Clarkson and Imogen Long in the Seniors (who sensibly did a joint entry).

There is also a small prize for Fabienne Crocket in the juniors who very nearly got them all right. The answers can be seen on the right

Congratulations

to Arthur Mitchell of the Intermediates who has just been promoted to play the cello in the second orchestra at his school, Dulwich College. As he is only 10, this is an immense achievement. Well done.



* = merit
** = distinction

Exam results

Alex Mitchell	Grade VI	violin**
Joshua Borin	Grade V	violin**
	Grade V	piano**
Nina Gilbert	Grade V	singing *
Hannah Tottenham	Grade IV	piano
Harriet Smith	Grade II	violin *
	Grade II	piano *
Connor Tann	Grade II	piano *
Helen McMahon	Grade II	violin
Elizabeth McCarthy	Grade I	piano
Sophie Marschner	Grade 1	violin

Well done!

We want your letters and comments, pictures, ideas, photographs, puzzles, jokes, competition entries, exam results (music, karate, ballet, anything!), reviews, FOR SALE notices etc. Let us know what you would like to see in this newsletter. The more ideas we get the better it will be. Please send them to us: by email: bys@fingerpost.co.uk by telephone to : 0207 723 1594 or by the ever reliable post to : Lucy Taylor, 26 Brendon Street, London W1H 5HE

For information about Battersea Young Strings please ring Andy or Julie Staples on 0207 228 3901.



Brahms



Gluck



JS Bach



Haydn



Wagner



Beethoven



Mozart



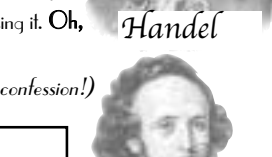
Liszt



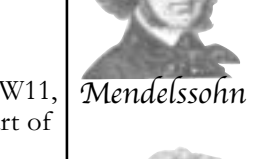
Verdi



Schubert



Handel



Mendelssohn



Berlioz

