

Donors

Aberbrothock Charitable Trust
 Aberdeen Bach Choir
 Aberdeen Buchan Association
 Aberdeen City Council
 Aberdeen Rotary Club St. Machar
 Aberdeenshire Council
 AMEC, Oil and Gas
 Armistead Trust
 Amy Barnett Skea Trust
 Binks Trust
 Caithness, Orkney and Shetland Association
 D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
 David Gordon Memorial Trust
 Dutch Society Aberdeen
 Enterprise Engineering Services
 Esmee Fairbairn Foundation
 Friends of NESMS
 Garfield Weston Foundation
 George Cadbury Trust
 Golsongott Foundation
 Gladys Jones Charitable Trust
 Hobart Trust
 Hugh Fraser Foundation
 Inches Carr Trust
 Innes Trust
 Jamieson and Carry
 Jennie S. Gordon Memorial Foundation
 Lynn Foundation
 Marliffe at Pitfodels Hotel
 Martin Connell Charitable Trust
 McGlashan Charitable Trust
 Mearns and Gill
 P F Charitable Trust
 Privy Purse
 Radcliffe Trust
 Shell Exploration and Production
 Skene Group
 Tay Charitable Trust
 Thomas Primrose Trust
 Turriff Rotary Club



Keynotes is produced for the North East of Scotland Music School

EDITOR

Neil Jones
 Cairnstone Limited
 Tel: 07050 259859
 email: neil.jones@cairnstone.co.uk
 www.cairnstone.co.uk

ARTWORK

Catriona Duncan
 Graphic Designer
 Tel: 07984 233 866
 email: info@catduncan.co.uk

PRINTER

Prontaprint
 Tel: 01224 582258

Youngest 'One-a-thoner' scores highest marks



Edward Lanaghan

Eleven-year-old Edward Lanaghan, the youngest of the 38 people who participated in the Grade-1-athon, stunned the examiners, fellow participants and himself to score the highest marks of anyone.

"It was really nerve-racking and I just wanted to pass", says Edward. "I never realised that I might get the highest marks but I am pleased and it is really good because I was the youngest. I'd certainly do another one on a different instrument if one were organised."

The event, on 19th November last year, was the first time that the fund raising concept had been tried in Scotland. The Grade-1-athon



The successful Grade-1-athoners

challenged anyone who was already well established as a musician to start playing a new instrument to a high enough standard to take a Grade 1 exam. And to make it harder, the participants were offered only one hour of group tuition on their new instrument, after which they had a mere ten weeks to learn to perform pieces, scales and sight reading before the exam day itself.

Held in association with CHILDREN 1st as well as NESMS the event exceeded all expectations by raising over

£10,000, which will be split equally between the two organizations.

It was noticeable on the day that the more experienced participants were even more nervous than their younger and less experienced counterparts. Solicitor Ian McLennan, a violinist in the Newhills Trio (who are tutored at NESMS by James Halsey) opted to try his Grade I on the piano. "My rehearsal in the morning was fine," he recalls. "But when I walked into the exam and saw that the examiner was Donald Hawksworth - who used to teach me years ago - I just about died on the spot! Thankfully, I managed to pull myself together and got through it with a merit, but it seemed to me that the youngsters had nerves of steel."

Ian also donated a further £1,000 to the funds from a speaking engagement he undertook for the Royal Bank of Scotland. "I was one of three customer speakers at an RBS leadership conference and although there was no personal speaking fee, they asked each of us to identify a charity. NESMS is a great institution that has certainly helped my musical education and CHILDREN 1st does excellent work as well. It wasn't a difficult decision as to where the money went!"

CHILDREN 1st has been working for over 120 years to give children in Scotland a safe and secure childhood. It supports families under stress, protects children from harm and neglect, helps children and young people recover from abuse and promotes children's rights and interests.



The all new Aberdeen Solicitors' Property Centre in Chapel Street now makes finding your new home even easier than ever!

Touch screen searching so easy
Help and advice when you need it
Relax with a coffee and take your time no pressure

As the leading source of information on homes for sale in the north-east, **40 Chapel Street** is the only address you need to know when you're looking for your new home.

aspc your new home!

40 CHAPEL STREET ABERDEEN 01224 632949
 aspc.co.uk

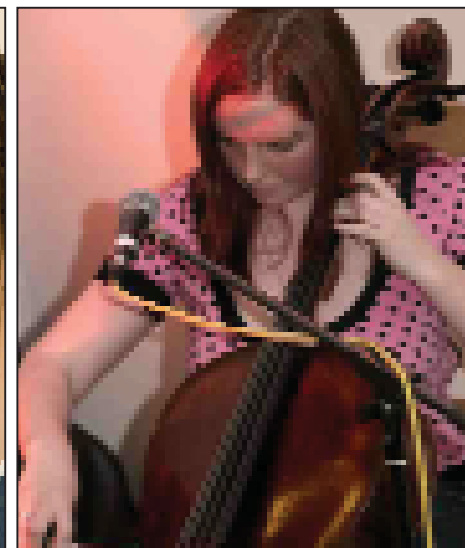
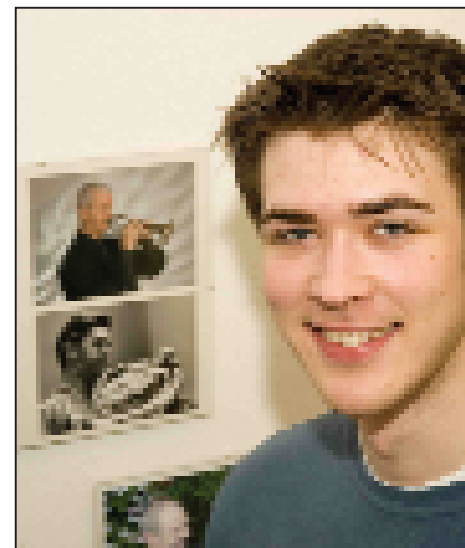
keynotes

The Newsletter

of the North East of Scotland Music School

Issue No 11 • March 2007

Whole year scholarships



Colin Brockie, Rachel Lind and Jeremy Coleman.

Following the School's scholarship auditions in November last year, three whole-year scholarships have been awarded, where each of the recipients receives free tuition at the School for 2007.

The Ellie Pirie Bach Choir Scholarship has been awarded to Colin Brockie. This is the second time that Colin has received the Scholarship; he was the first recipient of this award three years ago. Colin has just completed a BA in Design & Craft from Gray's School of Art in Aberdeen and is currently taking a year out, spending part of the time at NESMS as an assistant administrator. "I've applied to take a BMus at Aberdeen University and I'm hoping to be accepted straight into the second year on the basis of my singing diploma from Trinity - which already qualifies me as a singing teacher," he says. "My ultimate ambition is to sing professionally." Colin is

taking lessons at NESMS with Ruth Black and Alan Watt and sings with the University's Chapel Choir.

The Dorothy Hately Scholarship has been awarded to Rachel Lind. The Scholarship is a new one, anonymously funded, to be awarded to 'an outstanding musician of any discipline'. Rachel is a cellist who has been studying at NESMS for about six or seven years. Rachel says that she originally harboured ambitions to play professionally but changed her mind just before she needed to select a university. "I'm now studying medicine and am in my third year of a five-year medical degree at Aberdeen University," she says. Rachel is currently the lead cellist in the University Symphony Orchestra and also plays in the cello section of the Aberdeen Sinfonietta.

Thanks to the generosity of Doctor and Mrs. Murdoch

Shirreffs funds are available to finance the Tom Johnston Scholarship in memory of Tom Johnston who died last year. The Scholarship is to support an outstanding pianist and was awarded to 17 year-old Jeremy Coleman, who has been studying piano at NESMS for about two years, although he was a trumpet pupil for a year or two prior to that. Jeremy has a conditional place at Cambridge to study music and is very much looking forward to this. He says: "I'm still unsure as to what the future holds for me, but it could possibly be a career in academia or teaching."

Joan Thomas, NESMS's administrator, says she's delighted that the School has attracted funding to award two more year-long scholarships. "It means we are better able to support two more of our talented pupils."

The North East of Scotland Music School is sponsored by:



In this issue

Pupil profile - Samantha Pearce	2
Auction Lunch	2
Tutor profile - Paul Anderson	3
Youngest 'One-a-thoner'	4

About the School

Providing the highest standards of advanced tuition for promising musicians

The School provides a centre where young people of outstanding musical promise can obtain tuition which is not available within their existing framework of study.

Any musically talented child, student, teacher or lay person living in Scotland may apply for an audition to the School.

TUITION

Internationally acclaimed professors and teachers are brought to Aberdeen on a regular basis from all over the British Isles and Europe.

COURSES

The School offers one-to-one teaching together with occasional workshops and masterclasses.

There is a close relationship with the University of Aberdeen, through the Director of Music, and also with Aberdeen City Music School in Dyce.

FINANCE

Finance is generously provided by trusts, commercial organisations and individuals. Continued support is essential in order to maintain the high quality of the teaching programme. The Administrator will be pleased to assist with all enquiries about donations, sponsorship or scholarships.

FEES & SCHOLARSHIPS

Students pay their own fees, although scholarships are available and are applied for annually. Any award is made on a balance of musical potential and financial need.

DOROTHY HATELY

Dorothy founded NESMS in 1975 with the support and encouragement of Lady Aberdeen. Thanks to Dorothy's dogged determination over the years, the School has greatly increased its teaching disciplines, tutors and pupils. Sadly, Dorothy died in 1996, before she could see the School in its own premises in Huntly Street. However, we strive to maintain the high standards she set and intend to take the School from strength to strength.

NORTH EAST OF SCOTLAND MUSIC SCHOOL

Dorothy Hately Music Centre
21 Huntly Street
Aberdeen AB10 1TJ
Tel/Fax: 01224 649685
email: nesms@dsl.pipex.com

Chairman: June, Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair

President: Dr Neil Mackie

Administrator: Joan Thomas

Assistant Administrator:
Reg Pringle

Wide choice for Samantha



Samantha Pearce

Samantha Pearce, who many readers will recall was a flute pupil at the School until last summer when she moved to Surrey with her parents, has garnered an impressive number of offers from music colleges and universities all around the country.

She had just left Robert Gordon's College at end of her

sixth year with six highers, three advanced highers and a Dip ABRSM on flute. She had auditions for several music colleges and received offers from the Royal Academy of Music (with scholarship), the Royal College of Music (with scholarship), the Guildhall (with a James Galway Scholarship), the Royal

Northern College of Music (with scholarship and another scholarship awarded by Leverhulme Trust) and the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. She was also offered places at the Royal Holloway, Kings College and Edinburgh Universities!

"I was obviously extremely pleased to be offered such a huge choice of places," says Samantha. "It made choosing where to go quite difficult but in the end the Royal Academy of Music seemed the best place for me."

Samantha played with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain at New Year in St. Paul's Cathedral and in Birmingham playing Britten's War Requiem conducted by Richard Hickox. She will be playing with them again at Easter and in the summer including a concert at the BBC Proms.

She is also participating in an exchange through the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland with Young Sinfonia (based at Gateshead) and played with them in February - and will again in the summer - as principal flute.

Samantha is currently studying with Karen Jones and Peter Lloyd, respectively professors at the Royal Academy and the RNCM. On top of all that she is currently taking a gap year and will be travelling to Madagascar in May for a month to teach English.

'Happy' atmosphere at auction lunch

A happy atmosphere prevailed at the Keynotes auction lunch in November at the Marcliffe at Pitfodels Hotel, writes Nicky Bradford, chair of NESMS's Fundraising and Development Committee.

Many people commented on what a happy day it was - maybe it was the fact that the sun was shining. But, whatever the

reason, the fact is that there is clearly a growing support for the School, which shows itself right through the year but especially on our biggest fundraising day.

Tutor and renowned concert pianist Nigel Clayton entertained everyone with a musical story quiz, co-starring Peter Mitchell and our very own

Joan Thomas in the title roles. The auction also went well, with Peter Mitchell on top form as usual.

We were pleased to be able to give the School a substantial donation, which will amply cover the cost of Keynotes and contribute to the running costs as well.

Tutor profile - Paul Anderson

Working for future generations



Paul Anderson

Last year NESMS appointed Paul Anderson as their traditional fiddle music tutor and, in so doing, emphasised the importance of traditional Scottish music in a school that had previously focussed exclusively on western classical music.

And in appointing Paul, NESMS arguably could not have found anyone better qualified - or more enthusiastic - to teach this aspect of the musical firmament.

As well as being an accomplished fiddle player, Paul is a little over one year into a project for the Elphinstone Institute which, as well as what Paul describes as: "Taking the financial pressure off," involves him in a number of duties including recording interviews with an older generation of fiddlers, composing new tunes for a collection and developing a tutoring DVD (together with Douglas Lawrence, another

Scottish fiddle music stalwart who played with Yehudi Menuhin and the RNSO). "We're also gathering material for a book of traditional music that is currently out of print," reports Paul.

"The overall objective is to ensure that traditional Scottish music isn't lost in the North-east of Scotland. We're making sure that young people appreciate the genre and participate in it - for example by workshops in a number of schools throughout Grampian.

"There used to be - maybe there still is in some quarters - a feeling that traditional music wasn't as 'proper' as classical music and even that playing traditional music would ruin your ability to play classical music. Try telling that to Clare Telford, who played for the Banchory Strathspey and Reel Society and is now viola teacher at the Yehudi Menuhin School!" As well as his work at the

Elphinstone and for NESMS, Paul is still teaching privately and playing extensively; he has played concerts as far away as Argentina, the USA and Brussels in the past few months, as well as locally in the Hogmanay concert at Aberdeen's Music Hall (one of his favourite venues) and, memorably, on the balcony of His Majesty's Theatre on the 100th birthday celebration in early December.

Paul was brought up on a farm near Tarland and still lives in the area. "At one point last year I was working on the farm one day a week to give my father and brother a day off but it was very stressful and I've stopped that now to focus full time on music. Paul turned professional in 1998 although, prior to that, he had been semi-professional with one of his regular gigs being a weekly slot at the Aberdeen Arms, Tarland. "That's somewhere which I feel is a very comfortable environment - so comfortable that I still do it and go there anyway on other nights for a pint or two and some decent conversation."

'There used to be a feeling that traditional music wasn't as 'proper' as classical music.'

His other interests include hill walking and photography and he is delighted with his new digital camera. "I also enjoy watching rugby, soccer and shinty although, sadly, can't remember the last time I went to a match," he says.

"I seem to be very busy indeed, which is good. I think as you reach a certain level at anything - but particularly music - you have a responsibility to pass on that knowledge to other people. That's why such a large proportion of my life is spent teaching and working on archives and recordings."

Tutors at the School

as at January 2005

STRINGS

Violin Gillian Findlay
Viola Michael Beeston
Cello James Halsey
Double Bass David Inglis

WOODWIND

Flute David Nicholson
Flute Catherine O'Rourke
Oboe Anne Rankin
Clarinet Alison Waller
Bassoon Lesley Wilson

BRASS

Trumpet John Gracie
Horn Lizzie Davis

PIANO

Nigel Clayton
Joseph Long

SCOTTISH FIDDLE

Paul Anderson

SINGING

Raimund Herincx
Alan Watt
Ruth Black
Alison McDonald
Jean Webster

STAGECRAFT & PERFORMANCE

Donald Maxwell

Forthcoming events

Friends' Gourmet Night

This popular annual event will be held on Thursday 15th March, at 6.30 p.m. at the William Dyce Brasserie in Aberdeen College. Book early to avoid disappointment! Phone Jenny Shirreffs on 01224-321998 to make sure of your tickets.

Top Brass

The Friends of NESMS are delighted to present an evening of horn music on Saturday 28th April at 7.30 p.m. at Craigiebuckler Church. This will be the first outing for our recently formed Ifor James Horn Ensemble and they will be joined on stage by the Scottish Vienna Horns. (Find out more about this group by visiting www.svh.org.uk.) This promises to be a terrific evening, so get in touch with Jenny Shirreffs (01224 321998) or the school office (01224 649685) to book your tickets.

Scholarship Winners Concert

In the summer term, the Friends of NESMS will host a concert which will feature this year's three special scholarship winners. They are Jeremy Coleman, piano, Rachel Lind, cello and Colin Brockie, singing. This is your chance to hear the very best of NESMS young students, so do please try to come along and support these three young musicians. Details of date and venue will be circulated to you nearer the time.