

SOMERSET RURAL MUSIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2010

Revised dates for this term

“Without wishing to tempt fate, can we remind you of the arrangements should bad weather be a problem” (SRMS Newsletter December 2009)

Clearly we did tempt fate! But we hope that the arrangements set out in the last newsletter did ensure that everyone knew that January 9th sessions were cancelled. If anyone has any comments on the working of the arrangements (good or bad!) we should be happy to hear from you.

There will be no Saturday morning activities for the next two weeks, and we resume on Saturday 27th February. We can also confirm that this term will now end on March 27th, as provided for in the SRMS booklet, to make up the time lost last month.

Staff changes this term

At the beginning of term we welcomed Inna Tideswell to take over Becky Perks' teaching on piano and keyboard, and to assist as necessary with theory and aural. Inna is an experienced music teacher, not only with Somerset Music for 6 years but also in Moscow, Manila and Singapore; and has also had private pupils. We believe that she will be a valuable addition to the staff and hope that she enjoys her time with us.

The teaching of music theory will be shared between Nick Burbach (9.30 to 10.30) and Julia Gauler (10.30 to 11.00); and Julia will also teach aural as required from 9.00 to 9.30 and after 11.15. We hope that students will take advantage of these sessions, as they form an essential part of their musical education.

The Gwilym Simcock Trio

Can we also draw your attention to the concert being given by this trio of piano, bas and drums, in **Taunton on Sunday 28th February at 7.30pm in the Queen's Hall, Queen's College, Trull Road**. Tickets cost £16 (but £8 for children and students) and can be obtained from Cossington Concerts on 01278 683 777 or see www.cossingtonconcerts.com. There is also a Master Class at Queen's College for young Somerset jazz musicians (3-5pm) and it is open to the public free-of-charge..

P.T.O

Gwilym is one of the most talented of the younger British musicians, and although primarily a jazz artist he incorporates classical music into his writing and playing. He was the first BBC Radio 3 New Generation jazz Artist, and has been the winner of several major jazz awards, including Musician of the Year at the 2007 Parliamentary Jazz Awards (Yes, there are many MPs who do help to support live music and music education).

Listening to a wide range of music can also help develop your musical skills, and this trio should attract everyone irrespective of their instrument!

Finally, most of you will be aware that James Packer's mother died suddenly last month. He wishes to thank those who sent cards and best wishes to him and he is very grateful for all your support at this difficult time. We hope to see him back later this term.