

The Newsletter of The Cobweb Orchestra September 2007

New Cobwebs group on Teesside

Starts on September 24th at Middlesbrough Town Hall, 7.30 - 9.30pm.
Here's a note from Rebecca, who will be running the group.

"Hello. My name's Rebecca Pedlow and I grew up in Eaglescliffe, Cleveland, before going to London to study Music at City University. I was very actively involved in music in my teens, playing with Cleveland Youth Orchestra under the inspiring Edwin Raymond, singing in choirs and then touring with the Northern Junior Philharmonic. After University I stopped getting my Viola out of its case while I was busy trying to find work and develop a career. Before I knew it, 18 years had passed and I was too scared to play in front of anyone. But when I heard of The Cobweb Orchestra, I became really excited about feeling safe to try it out and see if I could still play it. So I came along to a session and had a great time meeting new, lovely people and enjoying playing again. I'm really pleased to be involved with helping to set up a Cobwebs Orchestra in Middlesbrough and am looking forward to seeing who comes along, what instruments arrive and what type of arrangements and pieces we will be playing. I see this as a true collective, with anyone having the opportunity to conduct something, if they'd like to. Thanks to everyone who's made me feel so welcome and I look forward to seeing you at future events."

Leader training and the GPO

New groups need new people to lead them, and I have been busy arranging leader training sessions for people who are interested in taking on this role. The next one takes place in Tebay on 25th November, and there is still room for a couple more people on that, so let Liz know if this appeals.

Even though conducting is only one of the many skills that a Cobweb leader needs, it is the one which it is most difficult to practice on your own, and this is where the wonderful Guinea Pig Orchestra comes in, providing a friendly, helpful group of people for conductors to direct. GPO sessions are always free and open to absolutely everyone regardless of skill, experience or ability, so please keep turning up to these whenever you can.

On 8th December at the Sage Gateshead, there will be a GPO meeting which will give a limited number of opportunities to conductors to work on a piece of their own choice for 45 minutes. Places will be allocated on a strictly first-come basis. Contact Liz if you would like to have a go.

Next year, there will be regular sessions for leaders to get together, discuss the job and hone their skills. The first one is on 19th January, and we will meet about once every two months in different venues so that the same people are not always doing the long journeys.

Andy Jackson

A Great Achievement

August 24th 2007 was a rare day for Cobwebs. On that day we held two different performances, in two different places, with two different conductors. One performance was part of the Tuscany residential week and took place in Castelfiorentino, Italy. The other performance was back home in England and took place in Durham Cathedral. Very different performances, but many similarities. Each concert was wonderful in its own way and greatly appreciated by its audience. In each concert Cobwebs collaborated with other groups of people – Bridie's children's choir who sang magnificently in the Cathedral, and young people from the Music School in Castelfiorentino who played magnificently in Castelfiorentino. Both performances took place in venerable churches, in Durham Cathedral, and the Franciscan-founded 12th century church in Castelfiorentino, and you can't better their very special acoustics!

We should be proud of what we have already achieved together, even as we look for new musical experiences to explore.

Liz Carlile

Which events are right for you?

This is just a reminder, really, that all Cobweb events really are open to everyone. A very few of our events have to be limited to specific numbers because of the size of the venue, and when they are, the first criterion for inclusion/exclusion is that the earlier people enrol, the better chance they have of making the cut. (Other criteria are "Are you a paid up member of the Cobweb Orchestra?" and the need to produce a balanced orchestra if we are performing in public).

Not all events are right for all players, but we do not make that decision, you have to, and I would be very unhappy if people thought that they would not be made welcome at a Cobweb event because they thought that they were "not good enough". So please enrol for any events which appeal to you as soon as you receive the form; it makes it so much easier to plan for events if we have a good idea who is turning up beforehand.

Andy Jackson

[A small change to how you enrol](#)

If you receive your information by email, you are sent automatically an enrolment form for each event we run; please complete and return enrolment forms for the events you want to attend. You don't need to send back a ticklist.

If you receive your information by post, please will you send me a list of the events you want to attend so that I can post out an enrolment form to you for each of those events.

This should reduce paperwork for everyone.

Liz Carlile

Change/update of contact details

Name _____ Instrument _____

Email address _____ Tel. Nos. _____

Address

The Cobweb Orchestra
September – December 2007 Diary (Dates in red are new in this Newsletter.)

September

September 22nd Practice rooms in The Sage Gateshead, 10am – 6pm. Contact Liz to book a room.

September 28th Concert, St. Joseph's Church, Sunderland (£4/£3)
5.30pm – 6.30pm Rehearsal 7pm – 10pm Performance

September 30th Rehearsal for next week's Consett concert, 6pm – 9pm, Dipton Community Centre (£4/£3)

October

October 6th 'Overtures, overtures' at Consett Empire Theatre (£6/£4.50)
2pm – 6pm Rehearsal; 7.30pm Performance

October 13th 11am – 4pm Study Day with Ian Potts on 'Eroica' Symphony, **Dowdales School, Dalton-in-Furness** (£10/£7.50)

October 20th Practice rooms in The Sage Gateshead, 10am – 6pm. Contact Liz to book a room.

October 28th Teatime concert in BATH (Bishop Auckland Town Hall) (£6/£4.50)

November

November 3rd Practice rooms in The Sage Gateshead, 10am – 6pm. Contact Liz to book a room.

November 11th 2pm – 6pm Rehearsal for next week's The Sage concert, Dipton Community Centre (£6/£4.50)

November 17th Concert at The Sage Gateshead, including a performance of Franck's Symphony in D minor (£16/£12)

November 25th Leader training 11am – 1pm **Cross Keys pub**, Tebay (£25)
GPO 2pm – 5pm **Tebay Methodist Church Hall** (Free)

December

December 1st/2nd DIY residential weekend at Ridley Hall.

December 8th GPO for Leader Training, The Sage Gateshead, 3pm – 6pm
Practice rooms in The Sage Gateshead, 10am – 6pm. Contact Liz to book a room.

Advance notice of future events

January 19th Leader Training and GPO Venue to be arranged

April 4th – 6th or March 28th - 30th Residential weekend in Sedbergh We are still discussing which weekend would be available with the School, so please pencil both into your diary if you can. We will notify you as soon as we have agreed the dates with the school.

Autumn Term dates for The Cobweb Orchestra's regular groups

Harelaw

First meeting September 6th 2007
Half term October 25th 2007
Last meeting December 20th 2007

Newbiggin

First meeting September 18th 2007
Half term October 30th 2007
Last meeting November 27th 2007

Tebay

First meeting September 11th 2007
Half term October 23rd 2007
Last meeting November 27th 2007

Middlesbrough

September 24th
October 29th
November 26th

Harelaw – Thursdays at 7pm in Harelaw School, Annfield Plain near Durham

Newbiggin – Tuesdays at 7.30pm in Newbiggin Sports and Leisure Centre, near Ashington, Northumberland

Tebay – Tuesdays at 7.30pm in Tebay Methodist Church Hall

Middlesbrough – last Monday in the month at 7.30pm in the crypt of Middlesbrough Town Hall

Dates for Anthony Sargent's visits to the regular Cobwebs groups

October 9th Newbiggin
October 11th Harelaw
October 30th Tebay

Anthony will be working on Beethoven's 'Pastoral' Symphony with us.

CONTACTS

www.cobweborchestra.org.uk For information and access to the e-mail group.

General enquiries to:

Liz Carlile,

48 South Road, Norton TS20 2SZ.

Phone 01642 873973

E-mail: liz.carlile@ntlworld.com

Specific enquiries about regional events to:

Andy Jackson, 13 West Road, Bishop Auckland DL14 7PP.

Phone/fax: 01388 602436.

E-mail: andy.jackson0@talk21.com

Other useful contacts:

Derek Hobbs (Northumberland Coordinator) 01670817640 derekhobbs@ntlworld.com

Ian Potts (Cumbria Co-ordinator) 01768 351934 musicianpotts@aol.com

Lee Fairlie (Cobfriends Chair) 0191 3847464 Leefairlie@aol.com

Howard Rocke (Chair of the Trustees) 01207 570003 rocke@beeb.net

Trustees

If you have ideas or concerns about The Orchestra, please contact one of the Trustees, whose main areas of interest are listed below.

Howard Roche, Chair, rocke@beeb.net ; overall ethos and direction

Sue Baker, Vice-chair, suebaker@ktdbroadband.com ; overall ethos and direction

Jean Ord, Treasurer, jeanord@excite.co ; finance

Lesley Wearmouth, Secretary, lwearmouth@hotmail.com ; membership

Anita Arris, anita@arris.freeserve.co.uk ; liaison with other bodies

Caroline Dunn, caroline@carolinedunn.com ; fundraising

Andrew Forsyth, andrew@weasdale.com ; overseas trips, overall ethos and direction

Peter Fuller, peterfuller8@btinternet.com ; finance, human resources, programming

Alison Kitson, alison_kitson@yahoo.co.uk ; funding applications

Toby Lipman, tobyipman@btinternet.com ; programming

Ruth Robson, ruth.robson@thebowesmuseum.org.uk ; funding applications, promotion and publicity

David Wood, dave@davewood.clara.co.uk ; marketing, concert promotion, archives

Proms CDs

CDs of the Bishop Auckland Prom, which Andy described as 'something of a success' are available now at a cost £5. Order your copy from Liz, enclosing a cheque for £6.50 which includes a £1.50 charge for p&p. As usual, all cheques for payment should be made payable to 'The Cobweb Orchestra'.

COLLECTIVE LEGAL SOLUTIONS

MAKE YOUR AFFAIRS SECURE AS WELL AS SPONSORING THE ORCHESTRA!

FIRST CONSULTATION FREE

Jean Ord is offering 15% of any commission earned from the following as sponsorship for our funds.

- ✓ Home visits at affordable prices and in your own time
- ✓ Will writing
- ✓ Guidance on Inheritance Tax savings
- ✓ Protect your home significantly from care home fees
- ✓ Enduring Powers of Attorney - allowing someone else to act on your behalf

AND MUCH MORE

You can contact Jean on 07962 071656

or at Harelaw Orchestra regular group on Thursday evenings where she plays violin.
