

## Hello MMC members,

### Welcome back to returnees and a warm welcome to new members.

We have some exciting events being planned for this year; the first being a visit from some NCO tutors on 3rd October and then a workshop for pianists on 10th October (see below for more details).

#### Car parking - 26 September

A reminder that we won't have access to the lower leisure centre overflow car park this Saturday, as the caravan manoeuvring training is running (for the final time this year). We can still use the upper level, and the gate through to the school will be open - but please take extra care crossing the lower level.

### Dates for this year

2026 - autumn term

September 19, 26

October 3, 10, 17

November 7, 14, 21, 28

December 5, 12

2027 - spring term

January 9, 16, 23, 30

February 6, 27

March 6, 13, 20

2027 - summer term

April 17, 24

May 1, 8, 15, 22

June 12, 19, 26

July 3 (summer celebration, pm)



### Staffing

We said goodbye and thank you to Kyran Matthews at the end of last term. We have two new tutors who are taking Synchronised Saxes, Jazz Improv and Big Band

between them - so a big welcome to Ben Jackson and Josh Savage.

And our singing tutor, Sarah Williamson, is taking maternity leave - we're looking forward to hearing her news very soon!

Sue Whitham is retiring at the end of this term and is moving closer to family in Lancashire. She has been with MMC since the very beginning over 32 years ago. Her fabulous arrangements and bags of humour have been enjoyed by hundreds of members over the years and she will be sorely missed. We wish her every happiness in her new home.

## Volunteers

We have a new Designated Safeguarding Lead from this term - Fran Wilkie from the Business Committee. Any concerns can be raised directly with Fran - you'll find her at the info desk/coffee shop every Saturday, or you can email her on [fran.wilkie@maccmusiccentre.org.uk](mailto:fran.wilkie@maccmusiccentre.org.uk) or call 07828585621.

Jason Slack is taking over from Jenny Thorpe as the Chair of the Trustees for this year. Jason has been a trustee for six years so knows MMC very well. We'd like to thank Jenny for all her wise guidance and input over the years.

We are also very pleased to be welcoming MMC member Jane Stephens as a new trustee.

### **There are plenty of opportunities to help out at MMC.**

It's an excellent place for teenagers to undertake the service part of Duke of Edinburgh awards. Maybe you'd like to help in the coffee shop, help set out at the start or pack away at the end of the morning, or help a less experienced player in an ensemble?

Are you an adult member who'd like to help but don't feel as though you can make a regular commitment? We have a rota for helping in the coffee shop and you can sign up for as many or as few weeks as you like. Funds raised by the coffee shop help us offset the cost of running MMC, so helps keep the subs to a minimum.

## Northern Chamber Orchestra project

Our relationship with the NCO is continuing to grow and develop. Several NCO players joined our team of tutors in delivering sessions on the adult classical course this year. Our next Saturday visit from them will be on **3rd**



**October.** They will join the orchestra at 10am and then run strings and winds sectionals at 11am.

They are performing at the King's School at 7:30pm in the evening. For more info and tickets click here

<https://www.ncorch.co.uk/concerts/>.

## Piano workshop

We are holding two piano masterclasses on **10th October**. Amy Wakefield-Taylor is coming in to tutor this.

Advanced players (grades 6+) 9-9:45 and less advanced players (grades 1-5) 10-10:45. If you would like to play in one of these please let us know.

There will be room for 2 advanced participants and 3-4 less advanced participants.

Observers are very welcome to attend.



## End of term performance

Following the success of last year's end-of-spring-term performances of the beginner, elementary and intermediate groups in A18 and the Foyer, we will be running the last Saturday morning of this term (12th December) along similar lines, but giving all groups the opportunity to perform in either the Performance Hall or the Foyer. This will replace the advanced groups Christmas concert.

## Summer courses

Ninety one people of all ages joined in one of our three summer courses this year, including our orchestra of 45 young people. Musical challenges were met and new friends were made.

Next summer's courses will be 26-30 July adult jazz, 2-6 August youth ensembles and 9-13 August adult classical. Check out the website for further details.

Registrations will open in the New Year. The youth course has been fully subscribed for the past two years so if you would like to reserve a place before official registration opens please let us know.



## MMC Whatsapp Community

Don't forget to join our Whatsapp Community, if you haven't already. It's the easiest and quickest way for us to contact you all, especially when we have to make changes or announcements at short notice, for example when we are not allowed on site due to adverse weather conditions.

Once a member of the community you will automatically receive announcements, and you can then also choose to join other groups such as those who like to keep an eye on local musical events that are coming up.

You can join using this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/CY4fdG3QjgND4ccXFdEbbbr>

Or come to the front desk for more info or help registering.

## Be loud and proud about MMC!

We have T shirts, polo shirts, hoodies and tote bags available to order, in a wide range of colours.

Email [info@maccmusiccentre.org.uk](mailto:info@maccmusiccentre.org.uk) for more information or to place an order.



## Contacting us

Please use the [info@maccmusiccentre.org.uk](mailto:info@maccmusiccentre.org.uk) email address to send in any queries and merchandise orders.

