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# Newsletter to Schools 2016 issue 1



Lynne Ellis, CEO

## Dates for your Diary:

**27 February**

[Newbury Music Centre Platform Concert](#)

**4-6 March**

[Big Guitar Festival](#), Newbury

**13 March**

Final of [Wind & Brass Competition](#), Windsor

**14-16 March**

[Newbury Music Centre Junior Music Festival](#), Basingstoke

**19 March**

BYC in [The Voyage](#) concert, Reading

**23-24 March**

Easter courses, Reading:  
[Strings](#) or  
[Brass/Woodwind/Percussion](#)

Find all of our [forthcoming events](#) on our website

## Popular on our website now:

[Current vacancies](#)  
[Lessons in schools](#)  
[Term dates](#)  
[Schools](#)

## Welcome to our new CEO Lynne Ellis

I write as the new CEO for Berkshire Maestros and the Berkshire Music Hub. I hope to visit as many schools as possible during the next year to meet colleagues – if you have any exciting musical news to share with our Hub, or would like me to visit to discuss how the Hub can support music in your school please contact me

[Lynneellis@berkshiremaestros.org.uk](mailto:Lynneellis@berkshiremaestros.org.uk)

## New senior manager appointments

After two days of intense interviewing, we are pleased to announce we have appointed two new senior managers. Our present Head of Guitar **Steve Christmas** will take up the role of **Director of Strategic Hub Development** in April, and **Helen Robertson** (who is currently Head of Music at Kennet School) will become our new **Director of Educational Development** after the summer. We are delighted to have been able to offer these new roles to such outstanding colleagues and we look forward to welcoming them to the senior team later this year.

## Head Teacher Needed for Board of Trustees

Maestros is seeking a Primary Head Teacher or Senior Leader to join our Board of Trustees to advise us on primary school educational matters. It is not a big time commitment but your expertise and advice would be greatly appreciated so if you think you could participate please contact the CEO

[Lynneellis@berkshiremaestros.org.uk](mailto:Lynneellis@berkshiremaestros.org.uk)

**Hub Schools Network meetings** will take place this term as follows:

- **RBWM Primary** music teachers 25<sup>th</sup> February, Windsor Music Centre Dedworth Middle School 7pm

## Music Education in the News:

### Cambridge News 17 February

[Cambridge University to host first academic hip hop conference](#)

### Gramophone 8 February

[BBC Ten Pieces and music education in the UK](#)

### GetReading 1 February

[Berkshire Maestros available to hire as the group raises money for Chinese musical tour](#)

### MI Pro 1 February

[Less than one month to go until the Music Education Expo](#)

### Mirror 1 February

[Music and drama could disappear from state schools and become 'preserve of the rich'](#)

### BBC News 29 January

[Here's how the UK can learn from Melbourne's music scene](#)

### MI Pro 26 January

[Altogether Now: the MU, music teacher co-operatives and you](#)

### BBC News 22 January

[Milos Karadaglic: 'The Beatles are as important as Bach'](#)

### Telegraph 21 January

[Nick Gibb 'The claim that EBacc squeezes out the arts is wrong'](#)

### Arts Professional 18 December

[Music education hub funding maintained](#)

## Recent photos:



- **West Berkshire Secondary** Music teachers – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2-4pm Theale Green
- **Bracknell Forest Secondary** and *Primary* music teachers 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Easthampstead Park
- **West Berkshire Primary** music teachers St Bartholomew's School, 27<sup>th</sup> April 4-6pm

## Academy@Maestros Update:

**Piers Adams Recorder Workshops** involved over 120 children over four sessions and the Purcell School led masterclasses and workshops. We received over 50 nominations for students to join the Register for Exceptional Musical Ability. If you believe you have a student who is potentially a gifted and talented young musician between the ages of 9-14, please contact [carolinewoodhouse@berkshiremaestros.org.uk](mailto:carolinewoodhouse@berkshiremaestros.org.uk).

**Learn it Live! Workshops** took place with nearly 300 Berkshire GCSE pupils. Exploring Rag Desh and Indian Classical Music and Handel's Water Music, pupils and teachers were treated to live professional performances of the music and spent the afternoon creating original 'fusion' compositions with visiting composers. Further workshops for GCSE and A level musicians will be planned for 2017 and in the pipeline..... exciting new plans for KS3 pupils.

Berkshire Maestros Camerata and the Berkshire Youth Guitar Orchestra spent the day preparing for a concert with partnership organisation the Dorothy Croft Trust for Young Musicians. Two Maestros trumpet students took part in a very entertaining and informative masterclass given by **Crispian Steele-Perkins**, the world-class trumpet soloist and exponent of the Baroque trumpet. Maestros' trumpeter Tom Valentine said *"As an aspiring trumpet player, who wishes to go on to music college and play professionally, I found this experience exciting and inspiring. I was given many helpful and interesting points, which will improve and further my playing, and also watching Crispian and listening to the way he performs the music was an eye-opening and amazing experience, and has given me new ways of approaching and exploring the piece. It was a very enjoyable experience."*

## Royal Albert Hall

Preparations for the celebration concert at the Royal Albert Hall

## Learn it Live!



Crispian Steele-Perkins with Camerata and BYGO



Piers Adams Recorder Roadshow



BYC with BBC Singers at Maida Vale

on **1<sup>st</sup> May** are well under way involving children and young people from schools across Berkshire. Tickets are on sale via the [Albert Hall box office website](#). Please note, boxes and seats in boxes are on sale via the [Maestros website](#), but please be aware the boxes and stall seats are selling very fast. We do recommend that you encourage parents to buy sooner rather than later.

### Music Production Holiday Courses

Places are still available on the next Hub **Music Production** course during the Easter holidays. Please contact [dawngarside@berkshiremaestros.org.uk](mailto:dawngarside@berkshiremaestros.org.uk) for further details.

**BERKSHIRE Maestros**  
THE YOUNG MUSICIANS TRUST

@ Kennet School  
Stoney Lane,  
Thatcham,  
RG19 4LL

WINTER 2015	SPRING 2016	SUMMER 2016
Sun - Wed 20 - 23 Dec	Tue - Fri 29 Mar - 1 Apr	Tue - Fri 26 - 29 Jul

[www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk](http://www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk) ENROL ONLINE

**MUSIC PRODUCTION COURSES 2015-2016**

a unique opportunity to learn the key skills required to become a Record Producer and Studio Engineer

**3 courses mentored by experienced professionals** tutoring various aspects of production - using industry standard music software, recording live instruments and learning valuable techniques to mix and produce music effectively

The perfect foundation for A-Level or BTEC Music/ Music Technology students and for those who have an interest in music but may not play an instrument. Take all three courses or just the one, focusing on the aspect which interests you

**Each 4-day course £150  
Or all 3 courses for £400**

**COURSE LEADER : CRAIG TUTTON**  
Drawing from his extensive contemporary background Craig's modern courses help to guide students into the new digital age of music. Before joining Maestros in 2010 Craig worked as a touring drummer performing at major venues and festivals across the UK and Europe. Throughout his professional career he has worked with many top producers gaining a wealth of experience in the art of recording, mixing and producing.

### Ofsted – Subject Specialism

Colleagues may be aware that Ofsted has stopped producing triennial subject reports and that Robin Hammerton is no longer the subject lead for music. In the interim, Ian Middleton, National Lead for art, craft and design, will have oversight of visual and performing arts, including music. Ofsted is currently undertaking an internal review of the roles of all of its subject lead inspectors, which is expected to be completed by April 2016. In addition, Ofsted is already looking to use HMI and Ofsted inspectors in its regional structure to establish 'subject communities' across the regions and to identify inspectors who have particular interest and expertise in music education.

### Hub Music Conference - June 24<sup>th</sup> 2016 at Reading University, London Road.

'The Young Musician' – numerous workshops and seminars for

school music subject leaders and teachers from Early Years to Upper Secondary.

We are delighted to welcome Dr Martin Fautley as Key Note speaker and leader of several key workshops during the day as well as choral expert Lin Marsh. More details can be found on our website [here](#) but book the day out of school NOW!

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### Events to watch out for!

**[The Big Guitar Festival](#)** - A whole weekend of exciting guitar performances, recitals, masterclasses, networking for guitar tutors across the county, course for primary aged pupils with guest appearances by Craig Ogden, flamenco from Rafael y Lola and renowned saxophonist Gerard McChrystal together with *Academy Saxes*. Come and enjoy the flavours of Spain in Newbury 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Finals of the county **[Brass and Wind Competition](#)** will take place at Windsor Guildhall on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm and promise to be a not-to-be-missed display of virtuosity.

The ***Bracknell Forest JMF Along Came Man*** will take place at Bracknell Leisure Centre on 20<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm and 7pm.

***Easter Courses*** for wind, brass, string and percussion players will take place at Leighton Park School on 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> March. All details on [Maestros website](#).

Three **[Junior Music Festivals](#)** in West Berkshire - preparations are starting to sound very exciting – book your tickets now for the Anvil 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> March.

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Finally, the **AGM for Berkshire Maestros** will take place at **St Bartholomew's School, Newbury at 10am on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March** – all welcome.

Lynne Ellis, CEO



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