

Everyone Matters

~ Music for a while shall all your cares beguile ~

Patron: Howard Shelley, OBE

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Website launched

Thanks to the expertise of Stephen Bingham, violinist and conductor extraordinaire and creator of the musicians' website service "Con brio", we have now launched our new website at www.everyone-matters.co.uk This website uses the blogging software Wordpress and we hope to maintain the site with frequent updates. We are also grateful to our associate Laura Allen who has guided the Artistic Director through the mysteries of Twitter and Facebook to enhance our presence on social media sites.

End of Year Review

During 2011-12 the main thrust of activity for our musicians was in special schools. We provided workshops in four schools for children with special needs, launching a major new project entitled "Mood Music" that was especially devised for children with profound and multiple learning difficulties and was then adapted for other youngsters with moderate learning difficulties, severe learning difficulties and on the autistic spectrum. The schools visited were, in Croydon, Rutherford School, Priory Post-16 Centre and St. Nicholas School and, in Surrey, The School for Profound Education at The Children's Trust, Tadworth. The project proved very adaptable to this wide range of needs and age groups and was received with glowing evaluation reports from all recipients. Its success has led to further funding being awarded by the Lucille Graham Trust, our funder in 2012, and has also attracted partnership funding from the Red Socks Charitable Trust. This will enable us to develop our ideas in a new collaborative effort alongside staff at each of the schools.

As part of its mission to provide entertainment in a convivial atmosphere for older people our musicians gave concerts at two Bromley nursing homes to mark the occasion of the *Everyone Matters* AGM in March 2012 and we were also able to offer the Croydon Disabled Christian Fellowship a coffee concert in September thanks to funding from the club itself and from our own Friends' organisation. The Friends themselves were welcomed to the home of our Artistic Director for two concert events, a pre-Christmas concert with mulled wine and mince pies and a midsummer concert with strawberry tarts among the refreshments! Sadly heavy rain prevented anyone enjoying the garden on either occasion.

Everyone Matters continues to employ a core group of freelance professional musicians, experienced on concert platforms in the UK and worldwide, to deliver all our work. Our musicians fully subscribe to the belief that all our audiences are of equal importance, whether they attend the world's major concert halls, or are residents in one of the nursing homes we hope to visit on a regular basis, or are pupils at one of the schools that we feel privileged to serve. Cellist Julia Desbruslais in particular made an immense contribution to our 2011-12 work thanks to her creative input on our "Mood Music" programme for children with special needs.

Editorial Ramblings

18 August 2012 - an exciting date for me and I send out a little flurry of emails to remind the four trustees, and my son and his girlfriend, and some of my musician colleagues, that today is the day that we should be **celebrating the first anniversary of our registration as a charity**. Coming as it does during the summer holidays a lot of people seem to be away and this important date doesn't get quite the acclaim it deserves, and so I dive up the garden to share the news with the tortoise and then get back to the important business of fundraising. I am acutely aware that Everyone Matters can only do its work if funds are raised; the summer is the time to push ahead with this important task and I am galvanised by the support and enthusiasm of my friend Margaret Kesterton who has stepped forward to work as a volunteer on our fundraising effort.

4 November 2012 - it is more than time to compile this newsletter, and I can find no excuse to put it off any longer. I'm sitting on a train home after performing Mozart's Requiem in Durham Cathedral on my period basset horn and a long train journey is just what's needed to provide a good slab of time without distractions. The last couple of months have been very exciting and several of our summer funding applications have been rewarded with success. We are now able to extend our ambitious programme of workshops in special schools for a second year and we are very grateful to:

The Lucille Graham Trust for its faith in our work following the "Mood Music" project that it supported last year.

The Red Socks Charitable Trust for inviting us to apply for the additional funds needed.

Thanks to the two Trusts we are now able to develop our links with three of our partner schools in Croydon and with the Children's Trust at Tadworth to offer a new and ambitious programme of workshops. As a direct result of discussions with each school following our visits between January and May 2012 two new strands of activity have emerged designed to serve the distinctive needs of each group of children. The children with profound and multiple learning difficulties will work with a percussionist; first they will explore textures that create sounds (rough ridgy surfaces, sandpaper, loose buttons in a pot) and we will then help them to make and play their own percussion instruments. The children with moderate or severe learning difficulties and on the autistic spectrum will work with a choreographer, creating movements to music provided by a pair of our musicians. Negotiations are now under way with the schools and with half term just coming to an end I hope that there will soon be a full programme of workshops safely scheduled and confirmed in everyone's diaries.

20 November 2012 - watch this space! A **major announcement** is to come, currently under a news embargo. I can hardly wait! Newsflash to follow shortly!!

Katie and Julia at CDCF

A Saturday morning coffee concert for members of the Croydon Disabled Christian Fellowship has launched our season for two years now, and this year the group welcomed additional audience members from among our Everyone Matters Friends. Among the guests was Cheryl Morris who writes:

Even the sunny autumnal weather could not rival the warmth of the welcome we received from the volunteers at Emmanuel Church, South Croydon on Saturday, 8th September. Tables and chairs for small groups of visitors had been set out in the Watney Room and we were served hot drinks accompanied by plates of biscuits and fresh fruit. Members of the Croydon Disabled Christian Fellowship, together with friends and helpers, formed the audience of about 30 people for the informal morning concert. Katie Clemmow (oboe and piano) and Julia Desbruslais (cello) took it in turns to introduce the music, interspersing their remarks with quips and anecdotes, much to the enjoyment of their listeners. The programme was a mixture of classical and light entertainment works specially transposed for their instruments. One "mystery" piece was quickly recognised as the theme from "Last of the Summer Wine" by one enthusiastic devotee of that programme. An hour of pure enjoyment passed all too quickly. Katie and Julia were given rapturous applause by their appreciative audience, who asked them to return very soon.

Date for your Diary

Saturday 15 December 2012

Entry £2.00

Where: The Green Dragon upstairs

Address: 58-60, High Street, Croydon, CR0 1NA

<http://goo.gl/maps/AfZ2L>

Time: all evening from 7.30p.m.

Music: Everyone Matters home team (Mozart etc)

Blues

Jazz & Dave

The door fee for entry to the pub and bucket contributions will go to Everyone Matters for our work in schools and nursing homes; all the artists are generously giving their services and we are grateful to Esther who manages The Green Dragon for her wonderful gesture in supporting our event by hosting the evening.

The Green Dragon is a CAMRA pub! Food will be available until 9p.m. and a full bar service including real ale will be available throughout the evening for you to enjoy while you are entertained. Our compere for the night will be Laura Allen ("Bunny" to her friends)

People

Patron

Howard Shelley, OBE

Associates

Margaret Kesterton

Ann Morisy

Laura Allen

Rob Archibald

Artistic Director

Margaret Archibald

The trustees

Mrs. Rebecca Bartley

Miss Janet Eggeden

Mrs. Joy Lawrence

Mr. Peter Smith

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