

New workshops for 2005 to put you in the driving seat



Free training courses coming up

- Market your music group..
- Broaden your membership...
- Expand your audience...

book now

details on page 4

The 'just wanna sing' workshop...

- ... Sunday February 27
- ... central London
- ... full details on page 7

Circulation list for

London Harmony

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music director	<input type="checkbox"/>
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all members	<input type="checkbox"/>

Making Music *happen*

Happy New Year! As you will see from this edition of London Harmony, there are lots of exciting opportunities for London members to take advantage of in 2005. There are two more equal opportunities/marketing sessions, and the London training grants scheme is being launched - an opportunity for you to get funding and professional support and advice



Kate Lloyd, Chair, Making Music London

from the training and development officers to provide training or some kind of development project for your society. In June we hold our AGM, which this year will focus on marketing your society (see below). As a committee we want you, our members, to make as much use of your membership as possible - and the best way to do this is to make contact with Heather and Bethany and the committee, and to network with your fellow members by getting involved with the various events and schemes taking place in London this year.

Important diary date: Saturday June 11

This year's AGM will focus on marketing your society. It will take place on the afternoon of 11 June in a central London location. It will focus on different aspects of marketing, with guest speakers and small sessions to brainstorm useful strategies and share good practice. If there is an aspect of marketing that your society is particularly keen to learn more about, please let us know so that we can cater for this at the meeting.

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from the editor



Help us get your details right

Have you seen what we say about you on the Making Music London Website?

Check your entry at:
www.makingmusic.org.uk/london

Our aim is to include relevant information about all our member societies, so if yours is not there or is incorrectly described, please email our webmaster Frances Maxwell with your latest updates:
e: fran@beares.com

If your society rep has changed, please contact Making Music head office with the new details. Getting your data right is important to us - and to you.

I hope you have had a refreshing break and a chance to renew the creative energies over the festive season. A new year of concerts means a new balancing act between performing and organising, especially if you are reading this. It's the purpose of London Harmony and Making Music to make this balance easier to achieve. Whenever you are thinking of doing something new, looking for new ideas or facing new demands, someone else in London may have the answer or know someone who does.

As the visiting programme expands this year, London committee members and other visitors will have more detailed knowledge of the issues facing societies. We're not experts, we just take the time and interest to touch base with other societies and help to find what is needed - often from Making Music central office. If you would like to become a visitor, just contact our chair, Kate Lloyd.

You will see the words marketing and equal opportunities used together this year. That's because they are closely connected - at least that's how Making Music's Robin Simpson sees it. Following on from last year's successful workshops, he is presenting another two in February and March. I went to last November's, and recommend it. Robin guides you through the process of thinking about how to include as many potential members and audiences as possible and to get your fair share of PR mileage for doing so. There's more on page 4. Seize the day.

Andrew Harding

Next issue: May 2005 Deadline: Friday April 8

I like livelines rather than deadlines, so please contact me with ideas and articles if the deadline has passed. Obviously, articles have a live chance of getting in before the deadline.

AH



London training grants scheme 2005



Could your music group benefit from a small training grant?

Is there a special way in which your music group would like to develop?

Would you like to take advantage of specialist training & development advice?

If so, you should consider applying for one of our London training grants.

About the scheme

Making Music represents and supports amateur and semi-professional music groups of all genres throughout the UK. We provide a comprehensive range of artistic and administrative services and development and training opportunities. Making Music also lobbies on behalf of our members to national and local government and other agencies.

The London training grants scheme is a new initiative managed by Making Music and funded by Arts Council England, London. We will be distributing a small number of grants of £500-£1000 each, on a competitive basis but with a simple and user-friendly application process. We are looking to fund a project in its entirety rather than as part of a match-funding scheme, and would particularly like to hear from groups who have not previously applied to us for funding. Activities must take place in Greater London between July and December 2005 inclusive.

Who can apply

1. all amateur or voluntary, i.e. non profit-making, music groups based within the 33 Greater London boroughs
2. all types or genres of music group
3. members or non-members of Making Music

Who can't apply

1. individuals; companies; professional organisations supporting professional musicians.
2. students seeking financial support.

How this can benefit your group

You will receive not only the funds to carry out an

innovative project or activity, but also the dedicated services of the Making Music London training & development officers. We are here to help anyone involved in amateur or voluntary music in London access the resources they need, such as funding, marketing, professional personnel, development advice, or even just to act as a sounding-board for your ideas. If successful, we will also give you one year's free membership of Making Music and we will be available to you as project consultants for the duration. Even if your group is unsuccessful in gaining an award, we may still be able to offer you some dedicated advice, support or professional guidance as appropriate.

Guidelines for your activities

Your proposal should develop your group in a way that is unusual or new for the people concerned: for example, bringing in a language coach to help your choir with specific repertoire; training members of your group in essential skills such as first aid or book-keeping; attending a course in website building and maintenance. These are just a few ideas - we are open to all suggestions.

Preference will be given to groups that:

1. have not received funding from Making Music before.
2. make an effort at outreach work and involvement with the community.
3. form partnerships or collaborations with other music or arts groups.
4. develop cross-arts or cross-borough projects.
5. can demonstrate how their proposed project will have a longlasting effect on the group.

Contact Heather & Bethany for further details

e: tdolondon@makingmusic.org.uk

t: 0870 909 2620

feedback...

Were the equal opportunities workshops useful?

'Will try to persuade my committee to think more creatively about how equal opportunities is linked to marketing and increasing audiences.'

'It was a chance to brainstorm and find the right direction for our society to increase its audience. We will change how we advertise and the ways we promote.'

'It helped me to re-think the organisation and promotion aspects. I realise now that there's lots more we should do, beyond car parking details. It was useful to meet the other attendees.'

'I found the analytical steps and the 'common sense approach enabled me to put the idea for my organisation as regards venues etc, in a better perspective.'

Latest services from training and development

Arts officers

We have now met with arts officers from the majority of London boroughs, to introduce them to the services Making Music can offer music groups in their areas. Impressively, a few have even requested copious supplies of leaflets, flyers and newsletters from us for further distribution.

Induction loops

Our information on visual impairment and portable induction loops has been compiled and will soon be used for new information sheets. In the meantime we are sending societies who enquire about either topic a list of the most pertinent contact details to help them get started.

Two portable induction loops have been ordered for central office, for societies to

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Market your music group...

Broaden your membership...

Expand your audience...

How can equal opportunities help your group? Find out at two FREE events.

When and where?

Please join us wherever is more convenient for you.

Thursday 24 February 2005, 6.30-9pm
Willesden Green Library Centre

Thursday 17 March 2005, 6.30-9pm
Greenwich Theatre

Why?

"It was a chance to brainstorm and find the right direction for our society to increase its audience. We will change how we advertise our concerts and the ways we promote."

"Common sense approach, relevant networking opportunities."

Discover the importance of good equal opportunities practice as a marketing tool.

Use equal opportunities to strengthen your funding applications.

Attract new members and audiences.

Learn about Making Music's positive about equal opportunities award.

Network with other music groups and share ideas.

Who?

The events will be hosted by Robin Simpson, Making Music deputy chief executive.

Everyone is welcome to attend, non-members or members of Making Music, and the events are free of charge. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Access

Making Music will make every attempt to accommodate all delegates comfortably. Please let us know at the time of booking of any special requirements you may have. The venue is suitable for the mobility impaired.

To book

Contact Heather & Bethany

e: tdolondon@makingmusic.org.uk

t: 0870 909 2620

Helping members with access and collaboration

'Member dating service'

Would you like to collaborate with another London group?

It's easier than you might think...

This London training & development project was one day playfully nicknamed 'the Making Music member dating service' - regrettably, the name kind of stuck! The principle is the same - we will put you in touch with other groups in London who may like to work with you towards a shared concert or other event, help you set up the foundations and develop ideas. The London T&D team will be concentrating on this from approximately January to May/June 2005 and are encouraging all things collaborative!

We are already supporting the following pairings:

1. a choir and orchestra
 2. an adult choir with school choir and string quartet
 3. an adult brass band with young brass players for a workshop and joint concert.
- If we are able to match you with a like-minded London group, we will continue to offer you training & development support throughout the collaboration, including advice on marketing, funding, publicity, venues and any other contacts you may need.

The broad aims are:

1. to encourage music groups to work together and be more outward-looking
2. to compare ideas between groups regarding organising, marketing, etc.
3. to prove that collaborating does not have to be a hassle to organise
4. to show the benefits and positive outcomes of collaborating with another group
5. to encourage more groups to experiment with the idea

So what are you waiting for? Get in touch with Heather or Bethany to find out more!

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hire. It is intended that they will also be used at training & development seminars and presentations.

Accessibility

Progress on the arts and disabilities project has opened up a number of possibilities for members including 'mystery shoppers' and a potential collaboration with mental health patients through Islington Music Forum. We are also talking with Attitude is Everything about marketing to disabled audiences and ways in which we can pass their experience in this area on to our members. We have decided that some kind of publication will be the most practical resource for societies at the moment. In this document we will outline the resources available to groups in London and point them to where they can find out more.

Would your group be interested in getting involved in a summer festival in 2005?



Following a meeting with Nicole le Bon, who came along to one of our equal opportunities & marketing sessions (note, there are two more you can attend!), we would like to hear from any London groups who may like to participate. This is still in very early stages, but the enthusiasm is certainly there, so do contact us to register your interest - you will not be committing yourself to anything.

We are hoping to help Nicole set up a festival of 1-2 weeks, maybe smaller to start with, in which Making Music member groups in London could perform. We are looking for groups prepared to give or contribute to pre-concert talks, introductory sessions or similar, as this will be consciously aimed at making the concert experience open to everyone! Depending on when your own concert schedules run, we may simply be able to include one of your existing concerts within the festival, becoming a sort of listings guide for two weeks! If you have any comments, ideas or would just like to express an interest, please get in touch with Heather or Bethany. We'll let you know if plans develop further.

Can we trust the music to continue?

Disability itself presents few barriers to inclusion. The Music for the Blind & Disabled Trust was founded to enhance the life of disabled people through music. The camaraderie generated by our able-bodied and disabled musicians working together gives a good atmosphere at rehearsal time. In 1984 we established a wind band in Barking, Essex. The band has flourished for twenty years, and has about 30 playing members performing 12 concerts a year. Our youngest member is in her mid-twenties, and our oldest member, Danny, is 91!

In recent years our disabled members, (and where necessary their carers), have come with us to visit our twin town of Witten in Germany, where we played with a German band and entertained elderly people in German care homes.

The Trust can provide instruments where necessary, and pays for any modifications or extra equipment needed by people with disabilities or sensory impairment. We have some heavy-duty music stands which will not tip, and an assortment of files and gizmos to hold music in place and facilitate page turning. Advances in technology mean that we can now use photocopiers and computer programs to enlarge sheets of music, change layout, or keep notes to a range in which a disabled person may be able to play.

In similar vein, recent legislation demanding that buildings be accessible to all has made the task of checking the suitability of rehearsal and concert venues much easier.

The band is funded by a Charity Shop situated in the centre of Barking, and staffed by volunteers. The shop raises money for every aspect of the Trust and publicises its work. Its income funds all rehearsal and concert expenses for the band, and allows it to perform free of charge to community groups that include people with disabilities. Such groups are often

"Having Danny coming along to the band reminds us of what the Trust is all about - making music together."
Penny



"I never thought I'd still be playing at my age. It keeps me young. My mates have all given up!"
Danny, 91



poorly funded and would not normally be able to afford live music as entertainment.

However, in common with many societies today, we have recruitment problems. The proportion of disabled and able-bodied members has varied over the years, and both groups have to be actively recruited from what seems to be a reducing pool. We have noted that the mere provision of facilities for disabled people does not mean that they will magically turn up!

If you feel that you would like to know more about us, or better still, join us, please contact Penny.

t: 01708 222804

e: mpalfreyman@btclick.com

Equal opportunities awards: are you reaching a wide audience?



“There is no magic phrase or formula for equal opportunities. It is a mindset and attitude that you bring to all activities, events and funding applications. It is based on sound marketing principles which you can apply to specific areas such as access to buildings, planning events and promotional materials.”

Robin Simpson,
Making Music deputy chief executive

Has Making Music’s ‘positive about equal opportunities’ award helped your group to develop? Would you like it to? Several London groups have found the award very useful - if you are one of them, London Harmony would like to feature your work in the May issue. How can you ensure that you have taken reasonable steps to remove any unintentional barriers? And how could you prove this, for example when you are applying for funding?

Making Music’s award provides a checklist to see if there are further steps you could take with regard to equal opportunities. For those societies who have taken these steps it also provides an indication to others that you are positive about equal opportunities.

Full details about the award and the 9 practical questions are on the Making Music website:

www.makingmusic.org.uk/html/86.shtml

Sing joyfully with Emma Kirkby

Kent Chamber Choir and celebrated soprano Emma Kirkby will perform Alan Vincent’s *Sing Joyfully*, with four choirs, harpsichord and the fine Willis organ of St Michael’s, Croydon, on May 14.

You can be assured of a varied and exciting evening’s entertainment involving 150 musicians.

Emma Kirkby will sing music by Vaughan Williams and Amy Beech, accompanied by Marion Whitehead on Sir Ralph’s very own grand piano.

Alan Vincent’s *Sing Joyfully* was premiered in 2003. Its five movements use texts from the Psalms,

and poems by seventeenth century poets Robert Herrick and George Herbert, which celebrate the joy and magic of music. The programme also features diverse sacred and secular items from our conductor Alan Vincent, Bexley Youth and Intermediate Choirs and Bromley Youth Girls Choir. Kent Chamber Choir encourages youth involvement in music and has very successfully worked with young musicians and professionals. Alan Vincent says: “I’m a great believer in young and adult amateur musicians making music together with professionals. Everyone benefits from the



Emma Kirkby: started singing for pleasure, and built long term relationships with chamber groups and orchestras.

experience. For the composer, the challenge is to ensure everyone contributes at an appropriate level within a coherent and rewarding musical framework.

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A local opportunity to get involved in something **big**



Voices for Hospices (VfH) is the world's largest simultaneous singing and fundraising event where societies perform to raise money for their local hospice care unit. The 2005 worldwide singing day is on October 8 this year - world hospice day. This UK-based event raised money for 150 hospices at the previous day in 2003 and now benefits people in 44 countries.



How to help

Voices for Hospices relies on the help of a few regional representatives to help societies and hospices keep in touch with each other. In the lead-up to this year's event in October, some regional representatives are needed (and deputies for these positions as well).

Regional representatives and deputies are needed for the following areas:

London Central (all Greater London)

London North (home counties north of London)

South Central (Surrey, Berkshire, Hampshire)

South West (Dorset, Devon, Somerset, Cornwall, Avon, Wiltshire)

Representatives act as a first point of call for local VfH event organisers and would need to attend two meetings in London (travel paid) before October 2005

to report on activity in their area and to share ideas. The posts carry a small honorarium.

"This would be a fantastic way for some Making Music members to be more involved with VfH," said Making Music's James Davey, who is helping to organise a fundraising concert. "It could develop into a really good showcase for vocal groups that are members of Making Music and is an opportunity for music societies to have a really important role to play in a national event."

For further details please contact:

Alexandrea Williams

Co-ordinator

Voices for Hospices

vfhuk@lineone.net

www.voicesforhospices.org

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Benjamin Britten's Noyes Fludde is a superb example of this under-represented genre and a hard act to follow. I've attempted it in 2002 with my Magnificat for youth brass, professional brass tentet and chamber choir, and last year with Sing Joyfully. For those with an aversion to contemporary music, I can reassure you that I always endeavour to write music people will enjoy performing and listening to. Sing Joyfully is in a key and has tunes!"

The proceeds of this concert go to St Michael's Music Trust that supports the very active musical life of this beautiful Oxford Movement church.

See the concert diary for further details.

Tickets at £15 are available in advance from Marilyn Scott on 01622 737916 or at ken.scott73@tiscali.co.uk

www.kentchamberchoir.org.uk

www.achurchnearyou.com/venue.php?V=614

Carshalton Choral Society seeks a Principal Conductor from September 2005

This long-established choir comprises over 70 singers (SATB) and performs music ranging from Renaissance to contemporary. Recent works include Pergolesi's "Magnificat", Brahms's "German Requiem", Kodaly's "Missa Brevis", and in a combined performance with another choir, Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius".

Rehearsals take place from 8pm to 10pm on Monday evenings. There are four regular concerts per year (some with orchestra), plus additional events (the occasional scratch concert or perhaps one three-day foreign trip every two years).

Experience of conducting both choirs and orchestras is preferred, and the job also includes a number of ancillary tasks, such as finding orchestral players. A very reliable accompanist is present at rehearsals.

The selection procedure for short-listed candidates will comprise an interview panel during March, and a trial rehearsal with the full choir. Pay rates are to be negotiated, taking into account the level of experience of the applicant. A formal contract will be agreed with the successful person based on the model provided by Making Music. For further information contact:

Doreen Driver (doreendriver@msn.com or 020 8647 2463) or Rick Prior (rikprior@aol.com or 020 8643 8317)

Please submit your CV and a formal application by 25th February 2005.

Carshalton Choral Society is a registered charity, and further details of the choir can be found at www.carshaltonchoral.co.uk

**Just wanna Sing!
choir workshop**

For those who want to sing harmony in a fun choir but haven't the time to commit to regular rehearsals.

**Come and join the fun on
Sunday 27th February 2005**

Time: 2pm to 6pm
Venue: THE DRILL HALL,
16 Chenies Street, London
WC1E 7EX
(nearest tube: Goodge Street)



Cost: £30
All welcome! Places limited.
Booking essential.

concessions available - please contact Aneesa Chaudhry for more details

To book a place contact
Aneesa Chaudhry on **07957 395 293**



**Do you
enjoy
singing?**

Or do you know someone who does?

We are an enthusiastic chamber choir that is actively looking for new members.

We sing a varied repertoire of music and perform three concerts a year. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 pm at Merton Adult Education, Whatley Avenue (off Martin Way, London SW20)

If you would like to join us please contact our Secretary on 020 8644 3794 or visit our website www.hillsingers.co.uk

You can advertise your concert or other event in the Making Music London Diary listing by simply using this form. Cut it out or photocopy it, fill it in, and post it to Phil Morris, 9 Holmesdale Avenue, London SW14 7BQ. Why not do it now? The diary is also posted on our Website at www.makingmusic.org.uk/london. Please send your entry by **April 1**.

Event Date _____ Time _____ Venue _____

Name of society _____ Ticket prices (lowest and highest only) _____

Brief description of event _____

continued over



Making the most of your membership



The second in a regular feature on Making Music resources

This issue: website based features such as the music exchange scheme, programme notes, and repertoire service. Go to: www.makingmusic.org.uk and click on the 'members' link (have your society password ready).

Online music exchange scheme

What is it?

A database of music available for loan from member societies. There are more than 10 000 items available.

How does it work?

You can search for a specific edition, a composer, or a title (or a combination of these) of musical works that can be borrowed from Making Music societies.

The online music exchange scheme will then recommend societies from which you can borrow and the number of copies you should request from each. It is set up to minimize fragmentation of sets, so please follow its recommendations.

The website:

1. provisionally reserves the music on your behalf for 14 days;
2. emails you librarian contact details and a website address to confirm or cancel the loan.

And then?

The borrowing society needs to contact the lending society and confirm the loan, and then return to the website to confirm or cancel the loan.

During the 14 days your provisional loan is active, no other society can pursue a hire of the music you have reserved during the dates you have specified. Please save other librarians' time and effort by confirming or clearing your provisional loans within fourteen days. However, should you experience genuine difficulty making contact with a lending librarian during this time, please email us to request an extension. The lending society will require a small administration fee, which is negotiated directly between the borrower and lender.

These online services are works in progress. So if you notice errors or omissions in the databases, please email us using the link on the relevant page.

The repertoire service

What is it?

It is an online searchable database of specific editions of musical works recommended for performance and promotion by amateur and semi professional musicians.

How does it work?

You can search for a specific edition, a composer, or a title (or a combination of these).

The advanced search allows you to locate works most closely matching criteria such as: composer nationality and/or era, language, duration, suitability for performance by children's or youth choirs, publisher, choral and/or instrumental forces, commissioned by a Making Music society.

And then?

You can easily link from the full details of a work to our bank of programme notes and commissioning notes. You can also link through to the online music exchange scheme to find a society able to lend you copies or sets of the work. If you would like to suggest a work for inclusion, please email: repertoire@makingmusic.org.uk

Programme notes

There are over 3000 notes in our programme note bank ready for use on your next concert programme.

You can search by composer name and/work title.

Alternatively, browse alphabetically by composers' last names.

Notes can be modified as well as used verbatim; just acknowledge Making Music as the source of the notes. If you want to contribute notes or can't find what you are looking for, there is an email contact for Tessa Gould who maintains the note bank.

More information: See Making Music factsheets:

8: Music exchange scheme

9: Programme note bank

9a: Programme notes form

Diary form continued

Society contact name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Website _____ Box Office phone _____