

## Notes from a Newbie

**Paul Mosley cracks open his clarinet case, takes the plunge and discovers the ASO water is lovely**

*Come and play Beethoven's Symphony no3 'Eroica'. Orchestra players of all abilities are invited to join this opportunity to play one of Beethoven's best known symphonies.*

That was the announcement which first drew my attention to the All Seasons Orchestra (ASO) last May. But it aroused a lot of questions in my mind. Could it possibly be true – that I could walk in off the street, without any credentials or audition, and that we could get right through the Eroica, not exactly an easy piece, on the basis of just an afternoon's rehearsal? Yes, it could.

But surely there would be a downside. I would get glared at by fellow-members of the orchestra, and the conductor too, if I played a wrong note, or came in at the wrong time, as was bound to happen given my lack of experience. And if I asked a question, like 'where are we?' (in the score), or worse still suggested that the piece might go a bit faster, or slower, I was bound to get trodden on, hard.

No, none of that happened. Better still, if a particular passage went specially well, people would take the trouble to tell me. And so I have stayed in the orchestra 'happily ever after', still overwhelmed by the fact that such an exciting and original, but also risky, idea as the ASO can actually be made to work.

ASO is an open-access orchestra for adult amateurs. And open-access means open-access. If you have a passion for music, then whether you are a young mum or an electrician, a barrister or a nurse, you will enjoy playing in the ASO.

Come along any term time Thursday evening: you will certainly have a lot of fun, and it may change your life, as it changed mine.

Paul Mosley



ALL SEASONS ORCHESTRA

Welcome back – we hope you've had a brilliant summer break and are ready to play some gorgeous tunes with us between now and Christmas.

We kicked off this term with some of Handel's firework music and I hope I'm not letting the cat out of the bag too soon in saying that I've heard rumours of some of Dvorak's Slavonic Dances coming our way which I'm really looking forward to.

If you've not yet made it along to one of our Thursday evenings, we'd really love to see you as there's something wonderful about the simple pleasure of making music with others. Don't forget that even if you can't come on a Thursday we also have event days to come along to – so don't be shy!

In other news we also have our AGM this term. We promise this will be very quick and we'll slot it into the tea break on October 1<sup>st</sup>. If you'd like to stand for a position on the committee please let us know and also if you have any skills that you'd like to offer us on a voluntary basis we'd love to hear from you. Anything from marketing (popping a poster up somewhere), sticky tape ninjas (we have lots of music to keep organised) to newsletter writing, or anything else you think could do with improvement – we want your skills. Thank you!

Catherine Candlin

All Seasons Orchestra  
Burnholme Community Hub, Bad Bargain Lane,  
York YO31 0GW  
Thursdays (term time) 7.30-9.30pm Cost £5.00

## Diary

### BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH SYMPHONY

**Saturday, 10th October 2015 2 - 6pm**

Naburn Village Hall, Vicarage Lane, Naburn, York YO19 4RS

Playing Fee: £10

### TRANSPOSERS & ARRANGERS GROUP

**Thursday, 29th October 7.30 - 9.30pm**

venue: tbc - probably Tadcaster

The Transposers & Arrangers Group is free to attend, but you do need to enrol in advance please to reserve a place.

### 2 in 1 EVENT: STRING ORCHESTRA & WIND ORCHESTRA

**Sunday, 22nd November 2015 2 - 5pm**

venue: tbc

String Orchestra

Wind Orchestra

Playing Fee: £10

Visit our website for full details and to enrol at  
[www.allseasonsorchestra.org.uk/joinin\\_events.php](http://www.allseasonsorchestra.org.uk/joinin_events.php)

## Volunteer Opportunity

Can you spare a couple of hours a week or more to be a sheet music library cataloguer with York Music Hub at Huntington Library?

York Music Hub is starting to digitise its sheet music catalogue index of over 3,000 items of sheet music and orchestrations. The library will be available to schools, music centres, music teachers, community groups and orchestras as well as individuals.

If you have basic computer skills and would like to be involved please contact Ted Schofield on 01904 554 2752 or email [ted.schofield@york.gov.uk](mailto:ted.schofield@york.gov.uk)

Thank you