

Sunderland Symphony Orchestra

Founded October 1999 Charity registration no. 1082431

Founders & Vice-Presidents - John Lennox, Mark Greenfield, Winifred Lundgren

Musical Director – Paul Judson

Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2014

Next concert

Saturday 14th June - Music from Stage and Screen, 7.30pm. In West Park Church.

The programme will include music from the shows, film and television.

Soloists will be orchestra members **Fiona Preston (Oboe)** and **Jane Boyd (Saxophone)**.

Tickets £8.00 (Full time education and under 16 years £5.00). At the door.

Concert programme 2014

Saturday 13th September, 7.30pm.

The orchestra will play the Opening Concert for the Norton Music Festival in St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Norton-on-Tees at 7.30pm.

Saturday 18th October, 7.30pm. Promenade Concert in West Park Church.

Saturday 13th December, 3.00pm. Christmas Concert in West Park Church.

Christmas concert (December 2013)

Guests at this concert were the Castletown Community Choir (Sixty members), made up of about forty children from the Castletown Primary School, together with parents, teachers and friends.

The concert attracted a large audience.

Resignation of Ray Farr

Ray Farr tendered his resignation shortly before the Christmas concert. Having retired from the University of Durham, his career took a new direction. He has taken up the position of Associate Conductor with the Grimethorpe Colliery Band, in Sheffield.

We wish him all the best for the future.

Ray was presented with an engraved vase at the Christmas concert by John Lennox and Mark Greenfield, on behalf of the orchestra.

New Musical Director

Paul Judson has taken up the role of Musical Director and Principal Conductor of the orchestra.

Paul is a founder member of the orchestra, who has previously been a committee member and assistant conductor. He made his career as a military bandmaster with the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, and latterly was a woodwind teacher with the Tees Valley Music Service.

Spring concert (March 2014) – Popular Concert Classics

Another well attended concert, directed by our new Musical Director, Paul Judson.

Paul has established good rapport with the orchestra members, and was well received by the audience.

The programme included several pieces which had not previously been played by the orchestra, including the Adagio from the Finale of Haydn's Symphony No. 45 ('Farewell'). Several of the musicians are given little solos to play, after which they turn out the lights on their music stands and take their leave; other musicians leave without solos.

Annual General Meeting - March 2014

It had not been possible, so far, to find a major sponsor for the orchestra.

Mark Greenfield agreed to undertake the duties of fundraiser. Other office-holders were re-elected.

Membership subscriptions were held at their present levels for a further year.

Birth – 11th February 2014

Donna Hitcham (Clarinet) and her husband Stuart are now the proud parents of Charlie James.

Fund raising

The Sunderland City Council provided funding to enable the orchestra to purchase three professional quality copper timpani drums and a professional quality drum kit. These replaced the 'entry level' instruments which had been used for many years. A xylophone was also purchased, which will add a new dimension to the music of the percussion section.

The Christmas fund-raising initiative at the Northmoor, Sunderland, branch of The Co-operative Store, raised £420.00.

This was applied to the purchase of a fourth copper timpano drum, which was added to the three drums obtained by the Sunderland Council grant, so completing the set.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of both organisations for their support of the orchestra.



THE SIR JAMES KNOTT TRUST



The **co-operative**

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