



The Newsletter of the Balerno Music Festival Society
www.balernomusicfestival.org.uk

Introducing some of the events & the stars

This year's Festival will allow you to renew old acquaintances and make new ones.

We have some twenty five events in all this year including sixteen ticketed ones. That means that there are at least nine free events! We've got more information on the back of this newsletter about some of them, but we haven't enough space to cover everybody in this issue. We'll be featuring all the events in further issues over the summer, but we start in this issue with some of the ones for younger Festival-goers, since this issue coincides with Balerno Children's Gala Day

Festival funds for local schools

Following a very successful 7th Festival BMF made donations of £250 to each of Balerno's local schools to encourage and assist musical achievement in our community.

At the school's Christmas assembly, Dean Park pupils received a cheque from Fiona Gilroy, Secretary of the Society. Mrs Watson, Deputy Head, said that the money was greatly appreciated and would be put to good use by the school.

On March 30th, 5th year pupils, Fionn Paton, Annabelle McDonald and Struan Paton of Balerno High School, were given a cheque by Margaret Logan of the Society. Ms Duguid, Music Teacher, welcomed the donation to buy new music stands in the music department, and on 31st March Margaret handed over a similar cheque to Neil Squires, Head of Harmeny School.

Writing in this year's programme, Ray Wyper, Chair of the Society says, 'We think this is an important part of our Festival and we hope that to be able to continue encouraging people, particularly young people, to develop musical skills.'

If you'd like to learn more about this side of our work contact Ray on ray.wyper@btinternet.com.



Welcome to **Right Notes** as tickets for the 8th Balerno Music Festival go on sale. Right Notes is the newsletter of the Balerno Music Festival Society and aims to keep you up to date as the countdown to the Festival progresses. We publish in July, August and September with a special edition to coincide with the start of the Festival on 23 September. We hope you will enjoy Right Notes in the run up to the best Festival yet!

Hello Festival 8!

The 7th Balerno Music Festival closed on Sunday 12 October last year and the Society immediately moved into planning mode, preparing a programme for the 8th Festival, and among the first things we do is to design a logo for the Festival. So here it is and we hope you like it.

The Logo will appear on all our posters for this years events, including on the Box Office ones. We'll be running the Box Office at Balerno Farmers' Markets on the second Saturdays in June, July, August and September, and we also hope to run it at Scotmid in Balerno during the second last week in September.

You can also buy tickets by filling in the booking form in the programme (also available at www.balernomusicfestival.org.uk) and then handing it in or sending it to

Balerno Music Festival, % Balerno Parish Church Office, St Joseph's Centre, 2 Main Street, Balerno EH14 7EH. Remember to enclose a stamped addressed envelope!



Purves Puppets are back!

Purves Puppets, the world famous Scottish based puppet theatre company, are making a return visit to the Balerno Music Festival.

The company was founded in 1970 and are is now firmly established as leading professional performers.

Based in the Biggar Puppet Theatre they have also toured the world, visiting France, Italy, Spain, Poland, Germany, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Jordan, Syria and Singapore.

Biggar Pupet Theatre is the first and only fully working puppet theatre of its kind in Scotland, and Balerno Music Festival are delighted that the cpany are able to bring one of their travelling productions to the 8th Festival. Purves Puppets were a run away success on their visit to the Festival in 2013, so if you want to catch them you'll have to book early.

Piuves Puppets show for 2015 is 'Pips and Panda and the Magic Egg', a tale involving a trip to the seaside, camping on the beach and a big sandcastle. Just when they are about to have their tea something odd happens, but to find out what, and what happens next ,you'll have to come along on 4 October to St Joseph's Hall.

St Joseph's Hall Sunday 4 October

Fun Time Harmonies

Come and meet the musical families hidden in the orchestra! As it says in the programme 'Children will be introduced to, and have the opportunity to play, some of the instruments in the orchestra. They will also create their own instruments, have fun with music and form The Fun Time Harmonies Orchestra. The workshop will climax with a "grand performance".

And as Clare says of previous concerts, 'I was pretty busy with a Fun Time Harmonies workshop for the little ones, and two concerts which my pupils were taking part in. They were fantastic. I tried a little experiment of teaching them a piece without music. The fun part is that my pupils learn in individual lessons so I had to then make sure that they would play at the same speed as each other. They did very well on the day - very proud of them.' This is an opportunity for real fun we think. This workshop is aimed at children around 4-5 yrs old.

Saturday 4 October

Big Pete ! is Balerno Folk Club's childrens show at the 8th Festival. The Foljk Club's childrens events are always packed out and the tickets really are hard to come by. So if you might want tickets for Big Pete you probably do have to get in there early!

Big Pete offers a Magic Show for Children from 3 to 8 years of age, and younger children are very welcome also. Big Pete will have them rolling around laughing and gasping with astonishment!

Balerno Bowling Club; Saturday 3 October

Young Musicians Concert

The Young Musicians Concert has been a regular feature of each of the Festivals to date, and it makes a return on this year's programme in its traditional spot on the morning of the 2nd Saturday, which this year is 3 October. The concert is always popular and features children playing a variety of instruments. Entries are normally organised through schools and music teachers, so if you'd like to be part of the event then please ask your school or music teacher to get in touch with the organisers.

Saturday 3rd October.

Have you ever wondered how the Festival actually happens?

Balerno Music Festival is organised by a Festival Society which comprises both individuals and also a number of 'partner bodies' who promote individual concerts and events.

The partner bodies include Balerno Parish Church, Balerno Folk Club, Balerno Bowling Club, Pentland Singers, Balerno Theatre Company and Balerno Village Trust.

Individual members are the Friends of the Festival, and as a Friend you know that you are helping to ensure that music can be at the heart of life in the village. As members of the Society, Friends can attend the Society's Annual General Meeting which is normally held in November. They pay a subscription of £10 per annum and can buy tickets before they officially go on sale at the Balerno gala in May each year. You could help music in Balerno by becoming a Friend.

Why not become a Friend and help to make the Festival!

Friends of



www.balernomusicfestival.org.uk



Festival Busk!

Back for a third year Balerno Village Trust are proud to present **Festival Busk 2015**, and if you missed it in 2013 or 2014 then you certainly want to be there on Saturday 10th October in Main Street, Balerno, during the monthly Farmers Market. We hope that last year's winners, Apple Honey will be back to defend their crown, and we hope to increase the total numbers of entries yet again.

So if you fancy a little street entertainment whether as a performer or as part of a free performance audience put Saturday 10 October in your diary right away!

Thanks to the C&B

Balerno Music Festival are again grateful to C&B News for not only allowing the Music Festival the use of their gazebo at the Balerno Gala on 30th May, but also for making it available at the monthly Balerno Farmers Market throughout the year providing a band stand for the Calerie Buskers, the 'resident' ceilidh band.

Tributes for two extraordinary members of the Balerno Music Festival team

This year as we celebrate the 8th Balerno Music we also remember with gratitude two people whose contribution to the Festival throughout its existence was phenomenal.

Richard Dennis was the visionary powerhouse behind the Parish Church's annual programme of concerts and events for the Music festival. His unexpected and sudden death in October of last year, just after the close of the 7th Festival, shocked us all. Richard led the Church's Fellowship Committee, masterminding much of BPC's programme across a wide range of activities including the Festival and the popular annual Dinner Discussion series. The Society is acutely conscious of his contribution, along with Beate's, to the continuing success of the Festival, and the Church and the Society have designated one of the concerts in the Festival each year as the **RICHARD DENNIS CONCERT** in his memory. His death deprived us all of a true friend and colleague.

Derek Charman was the archetypal back-room genius who ensured that things worked. He organised, co-ordinated, encouraged and cajoled everyone involved with the Festival, especially anyone who was producing a show at any of the Church halls, but he also made sure that things were safe, that buildings opened and were available during the hectic period that is the Festival and that the project was always a success. Derek was a largely unsung hero, because that is the way he wanted it to be, although his influence was critical across the whole range of the Parish Church's activities. Without his contribution the Festival would never have got off the ground in the first place, and his passing in December just before the Christmas Tree Festival left all of us bereft of a colleague and a good friend.

A word for our sponsors - The Festival costs a fair bit to put on, and we are forever grateful to our sponsors for their help and support.

This year we have some new sponsors who join others who have been with the Festival since the start in 2008. C&B News and Scotmid have both been with us since that first festival, and we thank them, and our new sponsors on your behalf also for their support for the 8th Festival.

If you'd like to be a Main Sponsor for the Festival or if you'd like to sponsor a single event, then contact us either through the website address by writing to Roy Cook at Balerno Music Festival % Balerno Parish Church Office, 2 Main Street, Balerno, EH14 7EH