

MUSIC

At the end of Summer Term 2001 we said farewell to Philippa Kerr, Head of Strings, as she moved south on the appointment of her husband, Damon, as Head of Drama at Brighton College. We thank Philippa for her lively and effective presence in the department and send her, Damon and Imogen our very best wishes. Ms Julia Atkinson succeeded Philippa, though retaining her rôle as teacher of violin rather than as a class teacher.

In this academic year alone Julia Atkinson has made a tremendous impact, not only on the string-teaching programme, but also in chamber music. A growing number of groups continue to meet early in the morning and their performances have had an increasing profile in concerts throughout the year. The skills of team-work and listening which are essential to this kind of music-making inevitably enhance the achievements of our orchestral and choral groups, and we hope that more musicians will come forward to enjoy this important part of the school's musical life.

In addition to the visiting music staff who joined us at the very beginning of the academic year (Mr Stephen Thompson, Mr Marcus Bates, Miss Rachel Fryer, Mr David Battersby and Mr Sean Hargreaves), we then welcomed Ms Miranda Clarke to teach piano and Ms Lauren Brant to teach recorder. Mr Luke Annesley succeeded Mr Leslie Wynne-Jones as teacher of clarinet and saxophone, also as director of the Jazz Band, and Mr Benjamin Rous succeeded Mr John White as oboe teacher. I record our deep gratitude to Leslie Wynne-Jones and to John White for their dedicated work at the College over many years. David Battersby moved to the north of England and Sean Hargreaves left to concentrate on his rapidly expanding career as a jazz-pianist. Simon Deacon was appointed to take over as teacher of jazz piano, and David Colquhoun succeeded Adam Lamprell as teacher of electric guitar. We send all our departing colleagues our best wishes for the future, and wish our new colleagues a long and happy association with St Dunstan's.

We also welcomed Angela Johnstone-Robertson in the rôle of administrative assistant to the department. Angela's cheerful presence in the department and efficient hard work helped us enormously, and we were sad to see her leave part-way through the academic year.

It has been our pleasure in recent years to offer placements to students at the University of London Institute of Education, and this year we welcomed Mr Clive Osgood and Dr Dominic Sargent into the department. We thank them for their contributions to the work of the department, both in the classroom and in the extra-curricular programme, and we are particularly delighted that Dr Sargent joins St Dunstan's College to

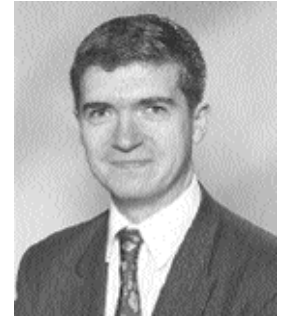
teach Music from September 2002. With Mr Gobey taking on the leadership of the Music Department, there surely cannot be a better team of music teachers anywhere in the land.

Michaelmas Term saw a significant rise in the range of musical ability in Year 7. We have grown accustomed to seeing more and more talented boys and girls in each successive year at St Dunstan's, and indeed Year 8 has had its fair share of fine and committed performers. But the number of truly gifted and versatile musicians joining us in September 2001 was outstanding, as well as the many able and enthusiastic pupils who support the 'stars', forming a healthy and solid pyramid as the basis for a strong music tradition. Given the varied Key Stage 3 music curriculum we have enjoyed in recent years, the music tradition of the College would seem to have taken a huge stride forward; we trust that the curriculum in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be allowed to develop and expand into the future, consolidating what has hitherto been achieved.

The extra-curricular groups made an excellent start to the year, and the Boys' Choir especially was one of the most enthusiastic and accomplished I can recall, with a corporate sense of humour which made rehearsals all the more enjoyable. Three-part pieces and experimental music were no problem, as witnessed in the Michaelmas Concert, though it was sad to see by Summer Term a gradual tailing off as changing voices and, it has to be admitted, peer-pressure to do other things during lunch-breaks, took their toll on numbers. The Girls' Choir also had a successful year, retaining girls in higher age-ranges, though the Year 7 members of Chamber Choir showed a preponderance of boys throughout. Dunstan's Divas continued to be hugely popular under Claire Underwood's inspired direction, and Dunstan's Dudes seem poised to take over from Close Shave as the male counterparts.

Early events in Michaelmas Term included the Jazz Band's appearance in Prizegiving, the annual House Music Quiz and the Sixth Form Concert in mid-October. The Michaelmas Concert took place in November, illustrating how the general standard of music-making continues to rise. Mr Gordon's account of the concert gives the details.

The Junior School Instrumental Concert on 15 November displayed an outstanding level of achievement by a large number of pupils. We continue to count ourselves hugely blessed in having Mrs Sanbrook-Davies as Head of Junior School Music. Her seemingly tireless energy and unerring judgement ensure a thriving music tradition at every level, and her contribution to Senior School music, especially with the orchestral work, is immense.



P.M. Gobey

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols took place at St Barnabas' Church, Dulwich, and the perennial mixture of traditional and new carols made the event as joyful as ever. Katie Musselbrook's *Infant Holy* was among the home-grown offerings and Mr Osgood directed Year 7 in John Rutter's arrangement of the Cornish traditional *Sans Day Carol*.

This proved to be the last time that the College held this event in those magnificent surroundings, since it has been decided to come closer to home, and to add our festivities to those of St Laurence's Church, here in Catford, where there are already strong connections with the College. We are grateful to the Vicar of St Barnabas' Church, the Reverend Dianna Hartley, for allowing us to celebrate Christmas in Dulwich for the past four years, and to the Reverend Charles Pickstone for allowing us to transfer our voices to St Laurence's.

Lent Term saw the annual competitions, which are reported separately by Mr Gobey. The Music Scholars' and Exhibitioners' Concert, now very much part of the Scholarship auditions day, was a grand affair and is given a separate account. Sean Hargreaves and his Trio gave us a delightful slice of Lunchtime Jazz, which many of the audience, myself included, would have loved to continue throughout afternoon school. This was an astonishing display of musical creativity and technical skill, and we are fortunate to have booked the trio while they were still available!

Composing still remains a rich seam in College music, and the composers' concert in late April was an impressive display of work mostly by members of Years 11 and 12, including both live and recorded performances. This event is usually attended by those whose music is being performed, alongside parents and a few friends. It really does deserve a wider audience, especially from a school which can boast one of the Royal Academy of Music's Manson Fellows among its recent ODs, Thomas Hyde by name. Congratulations to all those who took part on some fine and thoroughly enjoyable music.

Musicians and actors came together once again to commemorate Ben Chudleigh in an excellent evening's entertainment. Again, details are to be found in a separate article; likewise for the Summer Concert.

Stanford in C and Handel's *Lift up your heads* were the Chamber Choir's offerings at Festal Evensong at All Hallows by the Tower on Ascension Day, the Handel re-appearing at the Summer Concert the following week (with orchestra) and on Commemoration Day. The summer schedule is getting tighter every year, and we are especially grateful to the indispensable musicians of Year 11, 12 and 13 for continuing to make our summer events possible by organising their work schedules to accommodate rehearsals and performances.

Our farewells to parting musicians include Nadia Messina, who has been an outstanding and loyal member of the choirs ever since she joined the College, and whose jazz singing in recent years has inspired us

all. I am grateful to Nadia for her stimulating presence and continuing dedication, even amongst the onerous duties of Head of School. Nadia shared the duties of Music Secretary with Thomas Dare, to whom huge thanks for his constant loyalty and cheerfulness in his membership of choirs and orchestra. I shall always recall with pleasure Suzanne Li-In-Oy's accompaniments on the piano, whether for soloists or choirs, this was the rôle she seemed to prefer, and she distinguished herself, albeit with great modesty, in the process. George Bird was one of our most versatile of Music Scholars, accomplished on drums, keyboard and trombone and a member of choirs, orchestras, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble and Brass Ensemble. He left during Summer Term with a view to continuing his studies at the Brit School. Adam and David Gray, both Music Exhibitioners, left to go to Whitgift School, and we thank them for their contributions to Jazz Band, Orchestra and choirs, as well as for their frequent solos in assembly. Thanks also are due to Paul Nicholas for his clarinet-playing, to Vishni Bala-Krishnan for her veena solos, and to all those who sang in choirs, and played in various ensembles during their time at St Dunstan's. We wish them all every success in the future.

Boys and girls continue to enjoy great success in the examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. During the past year the following have been recorded, mostly through examinations held in school, but including some which have been notified to us individually.

§ *Pass with Distinction or Honours* * *Pass with Merit*

Grade 1

Janine Robson § (flute) Clare Skinner § (flute) Siobhan Kelly § (flute) Toby Burnard § (saxophone) Edward Davenport § (bassoon) William Bott § (snare drum) Sheiyh Joseph-Loftman § (snare drum) Emma Corbin-McKenzie § (guitar) Junior Oppong-Anin * (drum kit) Kathryn Tremble * (violin & flute) Michael Pratt * (piano) Josie Wong * (piano & trumpet) Ralf Ayling-Miller (piano) Lucy Badminton (violin) Laurel Hill (trumpet) Marc Holmes (bassoon) Alex Nicholson (trumpet) Giulia Spissu (violin) Oliver Vidgeon (violin) Jean-Marc Sookun (piano) Robyn Rhule-Samuel (flute) Edward Sealy § (guitar) Samuel Brown § (snare drum) George Woodhams § (snare drum) Stuart Allford § (trombone) Fred Dowd * (trombone) Matthew Jenkins (trombone) Rose Rowson * (trombone) Ursula Doris * (horn) Jack Train * (euphonium)

Grade 2

James Morgan-Snowley * (violin) Huw Ayling-Miller (violin) Natalie Bartley (piano) Sara Bassey (violin) Laurel Hill (trumpet) Alex Nicholson (trumpet) Molly Robson (flute) Ben Russell (singing) Emily Tildesley (singing) Josie Wong (trumpet) Douglas Butt * (guitar) Charlene Browne-Marke (violin)

Grade 3

Alexander Rush § (double bass) George Holloway * (drum kit) Heidi Carlisle * (piano) Anna-Maria Dixon * (flute) James Morgan-Snowley * (violin) Rose Paine * (flute & piano)

Edward Davenport * (piano) Benedict Glass (violin)
Christopher Velleyen * (drum kit)

Grade 4

Felicity Martin § (treble recorder) Anna-Maria Dixon * (singing) Oliver Kay * (violin) Felicity Martin (trumpet)

Grade 5

Anna Katchinska § (guitar) Shameel Nanuck § (drum kit) Hannah Austin (piano) David Gray (theory) Johnnie Greene (theory) Samuel Hindes (clarinet)

Grade 6

Stuart Pilcher § (trumpet) Sarah De Zoysa * (flute) David Gray (violin)

Grade 7

Katie Musselbrook * (singing)

And finally, my personal thanks to everybody who has contributed in any way to the musical life of the school during my 16 years here, for the kindness and understanding shown to me, and for the many generous gifts and good wishes bestowed over the last weeks of Summer Term. There have been many memorable concerts, services, shows and, believe it or not, lessons; and I shall recall, indeed continue, many friendships.

It is a cause of immense pleasure that Mr Paul Gobey is my successor as Director of Music. Under his expert leadership, and with the excellent support of Mrs Sanbrook-Davies, Ms Atkinson, Dr Sargent and all the visiting staff, I know that music will continue to flourish at St Dunstan's, and my best wishes go with you all for the future. It will be a pleasure to keep in touch. Bless you all.

NAJH

Summer Concert

In the midst of a busy Summer Term, with Years 11, 12 and 13 hard on the heels of examinations (or should that be the other way round?), Ascension Day, Commemoration, final coursework deadlines, it was a wonder anybody could afford the time to have a concert.

And what a very special occasion it was. The Orchestras are developing at an enormous pace, and their performances bore this out, playing challenging pieces with great musicianship and confidence. The String Orchestra, conducted by Julia Atkinson, demonstrated its versatility with *Symphony No 4 in F* by William Boyce and *Surrey with the fringe on top* from *Oklahoma*. The Wind Band, conducted by Sara Sanbrook-Davies, played *Morning* and *In the Hall of the Mountain King* from Grieg's Peer Gynt suite, *Newcastle March* by Johnnie Vinson and the traditional Russian folk-song, *Kalinka*. The College Orchestra played Mozart and Smetana, concluding the main part of the programme with Tchaikowsky's *1812 Overture*. Followers

of Victor Hochhauser, Raymond Gubby and like concert promoters will be familiar with the phrase "with mortar and cannon effects". Well, we couldn't quite run to those, but members of the audience were equipped with paper bags and party-poppers to activate at the climax of this universally famous piece, and a great deal of fun was had, except possibly for the cleaners next morning.

The College Choirs, Choral Society and String Ensemble set the concert on the road with *Lift up your heads, O ye gates* from Handel's *Messiah*, accompanied by organ and strings, a trailer for the anthem on Commemoration Day. Swiftly they changed styles to sing three unaccompanied spiritual arrangements from the excellent new anthology *Voiceworks*, which has enlivened so many aspects of school singing, both in class and in choir rehearsals. The Girls' Choir gave spirited performances of *Everybody wants to be a cat* by Floyd Huddleston and Al Rinker and *Scales and Arpeggios* by Richard and Robert Sherman.

Leavers who took part were Paul Nicholas, playing *Concerto for Clarinet in B flat* by Bernhardt Crusell, Suzanne-Li-In-Oy accompanying on the piano for Adrian Benn's vocal solo *One for my Baby* with Sheryl Wilmot (saxophone) and Stuart Pilcher (trumpet). Stuart neatly switched from trumpet to vocals with his engaging interpretation of *Mack the knife* and the ever-popular Divas returned to their Gospel roots with *If we never needed the Lord*, another Commemoration preview, followed by *California dreaming*.

Kevin Clark led the Percussion Ensemble with two of his arrangements, *Up down march* and *Study for four*. Similarly Luke Annesley directed the Jazz Group from the piano in his own arrangement of *Swift Samba*.

On a personal note, it was a huge and delightful surprise to find an extra item, which somehow had escaped publication in the programme. Thomas Hyde, a very distinguished Old Dunstonian composer and teaching fellow at the Royal Academy of Music, had composed a piece for violin and piano, *Valse pour Norm* played beautifully by Julia Atkinson and Paul Gobey, a perfect leaving present.

A delightful evening of music, then, with a special atmosphere and, for me, a fitting final concert at St Dunstan's. My thanks and congratulations to all who took part.

NAJH

Choral Society

When the slogan 'The Family School of the 21st Century' was coined to describe St Dunstan's College in the mid 1990s, I immediately thought of the Choral Society as the existing, active embodiment of this concept. From well before my appointment as Director of Music in 1986, our major concerts had involved the Choral Society alongside the pupils' choirs and instrumental groups, and on these occasions you would see parents and children, together with teachers, ODs and others, performing together as equals in these high-profile musical events. Two highlights remain for me: the joint performances at the Fairfield Hall of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Handel's *Messiah*, in conjunction with Bromley High School. Some ODs, recalling their statutory Year 7 participation in these concerts, and including people who did not regard themselves as 'serious' musicians, have told me how these huge occasions remained memorable and exciting for them, being one in a cast of hundreds performing together in a national concert hall.

The Choral Society was always run as a non-auditioned voluntary choir, meeting once a week for part of each term where there was a choral concert. As the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols developed into a larger-scale event, the Choral Society joined forces with the Chamber Choir and the Girls' and Boys' Choirs to lend variety and energy to the carol-singing. The rôle was principally to support the College choirs, especially giving confidence to the soprano line in the days when this was otherwise the preserve of Year 7 and 8 boys. It also took part in our recordings: *Carols from the Chapel of King's College Hospital* and *Sounds of St Dunstan's*.

The Choral Society at its biggest was a self-sufficient SATB group, with parents, ODs and members of staff regularly rehearsing and socialising. As the years went by, the tenor and bass sections were reduced in number, and we continued more recently as a soprano and alto choir, nonetheless effective and able to sing upper-voice repertoire to a high standard. Valerie Wilson, a long-serving member of the Choral Society, drew up a chronological list of music performed from 1987 to 2000, and the following is a digest based on that document, giving an idea of the range of music performed by the choirs of St Dunstan's College.

- J.S.Bach Christmas Oratorio, *Jesu, joy of man's desiring*
- J.S.Bach arr. Williams *Breezy Bach* (Air from 3rd Suite)
- Andrew Carter *Benedicite*
- Elgar *Dream of Gerontius* (joint performance at St John the Divine, Kennington)
- Gabriel Fauré *Messe de Requiem, Cantique de Jean Racine*
- Michael Finnissy *Australian Sea Shanties*
- Howard Goodall *The Lord is my Shepherd*
- Percy Grainger *Shallow Brown*
- Edward Gregson *Make a joyful noise* (commissioned

- for the Centenary of St Dunstan's College in 1988)
- Irene Hales *Out of your sleep, Silver, You spotted snakes*
- Handel *Messiah* (in the version by Mozart)
Zadok the Priest, The King shall rejoice
- Haydn *Nelson Mass*
- Thomas Hyde OD *There is no rose, Jubilate* (specially composed for Commemoration 2000)
- Constant Lambert *The Rio Grande*
- Mendelssohn *Elijah*
- Mozart *Laudate Dominum*
- Parry *I was glad, Blest pair of sirens*
- Cole Porter *Let's do it*
- Purcell *Te Deum laudamus, Rejoice in the Lord always*
- John Rutter *A Gaelic Blessing, Gloria, Requiem, I will sing with the Spirit*
- Saint-Saëns *Les fleurs et les arbres, Calme des nuits*
- Simon & Garfunkel *Bridge over troubled water*
- Stanford *Te Deum laudamus*
- Tippett *Steal away, Go down, Moses* Traditional African arr.
- M. Harper *Siyahamba*
- Vivaldi *Gloria*
- Fats Waller *Ain't misbehavin'*
- Vaughan Williams *Old 100th, Let all the world in every corner sing*

With my departure from St Dunstan's the decision was made to discontinue the Choral Society for the time being, and one of the reasons for writing this piece is to place on record my thanks to the members of the Choral Society over the years for fulfilling this important function in the musical life of the school, and for the support and friendship I have enjoyed with them.

NAJH

Sixth Form Concert

The annual Sixth Form Concert was placed within the octave both of the Northern Revue and the Lower School House plays, and therefore drew the short straw as far as audience size was concerned. This is a real pity, and those who missed the concert lost out on some first-class performances.

The judicious mix of classical and lighter music made for a stimulating yet relaxing evening, and Harriet Jenkins set the tone admirably with two movements of J.S. Bach's *Flute Sonata in E minor*. The Baroque was revisited by violinists Fongphu Tran, Thomas Dare, Amanda Doyle and their director Julia Atkinson, with a performance of movements from Telemann's *Concerto for four violins*. Thomas Dare and Julia Atkinson played a movement from Mazas' *Duo Concerto*, all stylish and arresting performances reminding us that string-playing is alive and well in St Dunstan's sixth-form.

Keyboard players were well represented, with Suzanne Li-In-Oy's deft interpretation of Haydn's *Allegro con brio*, Clarence Hunte's pensive *Darn that dream* and George Gershwin's well-loved *Preludes* played by Christopher Chen.

As a contrast, Edward Brody brought us an excerpt from Alan Bennett's monologue *Chip in t'sugar*, hot from the Northern Revue, capturing the accent and manner of the author admirably, and tickling the audience no end.

Saxophones, clarinets and brass were strangely absent this year, but there were singers in abundance. Nadia Messina charmed us with *Bewitched*, as did Katie Musselbrook with *The man I love*. Natasha Nkonde and Polly Elgin mesmerised with voice and motion in Red Hot Chili Peppers' number *Under the bridge*, and the Divas brought the evening to a triumphant climax with *All the pretty little horses* and *Diamonds are a girl's best friend*, under the inspired direction of Claire Underwood, and all dressed in fetching pink to match the programme.

Ben Chudleigh Arts Evening

This was an absolute treat, with clever, amusing, witty, moving, exciting offerings from some of our best musicians and thespians. Beethoven rubbed shoulders with Hoagy Carmichael and John Dankworth (performed by Christopher Chen, Claire Underwood and Tim Kipling) while Antonin Dvorak nestled up to Noel Gallagher (piano duettists Paul Gobey and Dominic Sargent, and vocals/guitar duo Robert Foster and Lawrence Whiteley).

Edward Brody and Danielle Tolson quarrelled splendidly in a scene from Noel Coward's *Private Lives*, Clarence Hunte and Nadia Messina charmed with Frank Loesser's duet *Baby, it's cold outside* and Harriet Jenkins and Katherine Musselbrook soothed with Vivaldi's *Cantabile* and Vaughan Williams's *Silent Noon*. Vivaldi soon reappeared in the form of a violin concerto movement in G minor played by Thomas Dare and Nadia Messina reappeared with her interpretation of Lord Lloyd Webber's *Memory*.

Drama improvisations, *Whose line is it anyway?* and stand-up comedy had us rolling in the aisles, and a wonderfully entertaining evening was rounded off with Rania Jumaily and Alex Moss singing *Don't let the sun go down on me* accompanied by Christopher Chen, and Natasha Nkonde and Alex Thrift singing *Tears in heaven* accompanied by Oliver Morson on guitar and Chris Olivares-Chandler on conga drum.

Members of the Senior School are reminded that they can apply at any time for a Ben Chudleigh Award, to assist them in developing their performing arts skills. Details are available from the Headmaster's secretary.

Johnnie seen here, 'blowing his own trumpet'!



CYM Holiday Course for
 ind Instrument Players

Wednesday 24th July - Sunday 28th July 2002

I first heard about this CYM Summer Course from Nezhir Savaskan who is a regular member of the Centre for Young Musicians. Coincidentally it was at about the same time during last term that Mr Harper asked me if I had ever had a Ben Chudleigh Grant. I had not. So it seemed an ideal opportunity to apply for one.

When I heard that I had been accepted for this grant I could hardly wait for the chance to play with a new group of people, (as I am only used to playing with the School bands) and also this would be an excellent opportunity to improve my playing ability within an ensemble. On the first morning of this course The London Schools Symphonic Band, which we were to be called for the week, were introduced to our leader Geoff. Geoff, for the rest of the day, took us through possible repertoire for our concert on the Sunday afternoon. After the first day I felt totally overwhelmed by all the pieces of music we had to perfect by Sunday. During the course of the week, with the help of sectionals and perseverance, things improved and I was delighted to be chosen as one of three out of five trumpets to play in a trio in a piece called *Bugler's Holiday* by Leroy Andersen.

By the Saturday we had to choose our six items for the Concert. We selected tunes from the Walt Disney cartoon film *Aladdin*, *Count Basie Salute*, A memorial to Glen Miller, *Amporito Roca*, a Spanish march, *Bugler's Holiday* and *Tequila*, a Latin American dance.

Sunday was a boiling hot day but despite this the Concert was a great success and a truly good way to end a fabulous week of music making.

I would like to say a very big thank you to the Ben Chudleigh Memorial Fund for making it possible for me to participate in this highly successful week.

Johnnie Greene, 11M

Ben Chudleigh Memorial Fund

I was one of the twelve pianists, ranging in age from 16 to 60, who attended the Jackdaws piano weekend. The course was taught by Mark Tanner – an excellent teacher and performer who has made many recordings and appeared on radio stations such as Radio 3 and Classic FM. The sessions took the form of master classes which I found very interesting, being able to watch other people being taught. The music being played was very varied – from Bach to Poulenc. When my turn came, I played some Beethoven and Liszt, learning a lot from the excellent teaching.

The building is located in the very quiet countryside of Somerset next to a duck pond.

On our afternoon off we went for a walk in the nearby woods which was very relaxing after the intense master class. There were no shops or pubs or street lamps or anything really in the village but this was made up for by the excellent food and accommodation provided by the local people.

Sunday afternoon was the culmination of the

weekend, being the concert which everyone played in. The concert was open to the public so a few of the villagers wandered in to listen. We finally got a chance to hear Mark play which was very enjoyable - he even sold some of his CDs afterwards.

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Chudleigh, the Committee of the Ben Chudleigh Award Fund and everyone who has donated money to the fund enabling me to attend and gain such valuable experience and enjoyment.

Christopher Chen

House Music Competition 2002

It may be a cliché to say so, but the standard of House Music Competitions at St Dunstan's just keeps rising and, by general consensus, this year's competition, on 21 March, was certainly the best of recent years. The adjudicator, Mr Jonathan Greatorex, was fortunate enough to hear quality performances, yet had the difficult task of deciding a rank order and overall winner (in the sure knowledge that three quarters of the participants will disagree with him!)

The Lower School singing competition, in the afternoon, was again staged by Year 7 pupils only, learning their chosen songs during class music lessons. Their reign having been ended last year by Stuart, Usherwood regained the Davies trophy with their confident performance of *Get this party started*. With respectable performances of their songs came Stuart (*In too deep*) in second place, followed by Forder (*Smooth Criminal*) and Hecker (*All rise*). In a none too easy acoustic, all Houses delivered their songs musically and, mostly, with clear diction!

With the freedom for individual Houses to decide the programme for their two items, we always hope that they will find some variety, whilst respecting that they will inevitably play to their strengths. This year, variety and quality were both evident in abundance. Every House fielded an unaccompanied Choir and each contained some impressive harmony, colour (literally) as well as some effective choreography. Usherwood began with the mellow Adrian Benn (the College's answer to Frank Sinatra) in *One for my Baby* and their Choir's rendition of *Lean on me*, both ably led by Suzanne Li-In-Oy. Stuart fielded a good instrumental line-up in Adam Gray's own arrangement of *What a wonderful world*, although microphone and ensemble problems let it down a little. No doubt building on the success of previous years, their Choir again elected to sing a song of African origin, *Mangwani M'pulele*, a difficult piece with confident singing by all eight performers. This item deservedly won the evening's highest mark.

Hecker provided the only 'classical' item of the evening and proved that quality does not necessarily mean quantity. With just three players (Harriet Jenkins, Amanda Doyle and Fongphu Tran) their rendition of Pachelbel's celebrated *Canon* was well-controlled, contained some imaginative textures and was almost perfectly in tune! In pleasing contrast, their Choir sang *This little light of mine* with, again, a good variety of textures, although they could have benefited from perhaps one more singer to fill out the

harmony. Forder's version of the evergreen *Stand by me* was a colourful affair with nearly everyone in something red(ish) – for obvious reasons – and my only criticism was that it could have been performed on stage for improved effect. Their second item, *Como ves*, with infectious enthusiasm from the start, began at the back of the Great Hall and then filled the stage with what appeared to be most of the Music Department's percussion stock. Failing mikes did not spoil the exuberant effect of the College's own Mexican Mariachi band (complete with Philip Touska in a fetching Panama hat!) A fitting close to the evening.

In adding together the marks from the afternoon and evening events, the Jack Harris Trophy was won this year by Hecker House, so ending a five-year winning streak by Stuart. Will they be out for revenge next year?! Congratulations go to all performers and especially to House Music Captains for organising, rehearsing and producing such an excellent competition. One request – make sure everyone acknowledges applause with a good bow!

PMG

Senior School Music Competition

Following the usual intense round of preliminary performances for the annual Music Competition, with contributions from a record number of pupils, we were ready for Finals Day on 27 February. Mr Ian Rowe, Head of Music at Ravens Wood School, had agreed to adjudicate the day's proceedings and did so with much sensitivity and good advice for all competitors, also emphasising the need for a simple, yet courteous bow to acknowledge the audience.

Year 7 Brass and Years 10 & 11 singing classes were especially strong and were adjudicated as part of the excellent Prize-winners' Concert, a true showcase for the talents of the many dedicated and talented pupils at St Dunstan's who need and deserve our support and encouragement throughout their school careers. This year's prize-winners were:

Year 7

Tim Crosbie (trumpet), Peter Jefferys (drum kit), Annie Katchinska (guitar), Anna McDowell (voice), Alex Rush (piano and double bass), Jake Taylor (saxophone)

Year 8

Hannah Austin (piano), Matthew Benyayer (saxophone), Heidi Carlisle (voice), Edward Craggs (guitar), Stuart Pilcher (trumpet), Vafa Pirjamali (violin), Lawrence Vermeir (drum kit)

Year 9

Natalie Bartley (piano), George Bird (drum kit), Sharla Singh (tuba), Emily Tildesley (voice), Hannah Watson (clarinet)

Years 10 & 11

Emily Atkinson (voice), Rebecca Bailey (piano), Adam Gray (saxophone), Johnnie Greene (trumpet), Zara Harradine (viola), Nezh Savaskan (timpani)

PMG

The Ben Chudleigh Performing Arts Awards

Awards during the year have been made to:

Thomas Dare A course in lighting, sound and stage management at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

Johnnie Greene Attendance at a CYM Holiday Music Course

Music Competition Prizewinners Spring 2002

Year 7

Brass	Timothy Crosbie	Trumpet
Keyboard	Alexander Rush	Piano
Percussion	Peter Jefferys	Drum Kit
Plucked String Instruments	Anna Katchinska	Guitar
Strings	Alexander Rush	Double Bass
Singing	Anna McDowell	Voice
Woodwind	Jacob Taylor	
Saxophone		

Year 8

Brass	Stuart Pilcher	Trumpet
Keyboard	Hannah Austin	Piano
Percussion	Lawrence Vermeir	Drum Kit
Plucked String Instruments	Edward Craggs	Guitar
Strings	Vafa Pirjamali	Violin
Singing	Heidi Carlisle	Voice
Woodwind	Matthew Benyayer	Saxophone

Year 9

Brass	Sharla Singh	Tuba
Keyboard	Natalie Bartley	Piano
Percussion	George Bird	Drum Kit
Singing	Emily Tildesley	Voice
Woodwind	Hannah Watson	Clarinet

Years 10 & 11

Brass	Johnnie Greene	Trumpet
Keyboard	Rebecca Bailey	Piano
Percussion	Nezh Savaskan	Timpani
Strings	Zara Harradine	Viola
Singing	Emily Atkinson	Voice
Woodwind	Adam Gray	
Saxophone		

Music Scholars' and Exhibitioners' Concert

This was one of the most memorable concerts of its kind, with genuinely outstanding performances from soloists and ensembles across the full age-range of the Senior School. It has become established practice now to invite Scholarship candidates and their parents to attend this concert, their having spent much of the day with us being auditioned and playing ensemble music together. They will surely have taken away with them a profound impression of musical skill, and an increased enthusiasm to join our ranks in September!

The Great Hall was laid out sideways, with the western curtains forming a backdrop to a beautiful flower arrangement and the concert grand piano; this formed an attractive and tranquil setting before a note was heard.

The Senior Brass Ensemble played *Jamaican Gems* as

a rousing and exciting overture. There is not room to describe everybody's performance in the concert. Suffice it to say that the first half was devoted to performances by Scholars and Exhibitioners of Years 7 and 8; and that, had the concert ended at the interval, we should have had by then a thoroughly satisfying and stimulating evening. The excellence shown by these girls and boys is not only what one might expect of award-holders of any age; we are really seeing and hearing the top of a solid pyramid of talent, which becomes clear in our larger-scale performances by the choral and orchestral groups in the College.

The number of pupils who can play more than one instrument to a high degree of skill is also on the increase, not to mention the confidence to sing solo in public, making this one of our longer concerts, but nonetheless a thoroughly enjoyable one.

But the second half demonstrated what experience and maturity can do in addition to technique and hard practice. Versatility was still in evidence, as well as the ability to sustain a musical performance on a grander scale and communicate this to the audience.

Regular rehearsals of chamber music have been developing under the watchful eye of Miss Atkinson, and it was a special pleasure to hear our three senior Music Scholars, Christopher Chen, Zara Harradine and Becky Bailey, close the programme together in a performance of Max Bruch's *Allegro con moto* for piano trio.

Congratulations to all the performers who took part in this excellent concert. We look forward to great things in the coming years.

NAJH

Crisis 2001

Last Christmas, on the 13th December 2001, the annual Crisis Concerts took place. As ever there were two concerts to raise money for the charity; one at lunchtime and one in the evening, which were performed to full houses.

We wanted to give a little bit extra to the predictable lunchtime concert, so using an idea thought up by sixth formers, we brought an unexpected twist to the performance, by getting the 'teachers' to host the concert. Actually pupils hosted the concert by mimicking

Counting the Crisis cash



the characteristics of some of the teachers at SDC, in a comical manner (hopefully), in the form of an assembly. SDC's very own comedy duo, Mr Glyne-Thomas and Mr O'Shaughnessy hosted the evening performance.

There were many acts that evening ranging from dances to a 'Half Monty' strip tease by some Sixth Formers. There were even performances by the Dunstan's Divas and a guest appearance by Pop Idol star Tania (she was one of the 'final fifty') who performed the Sugarbabes' *Run For Cover* with ex-SDC pupil, Jessica Woburn.

During the evening performance Mr Moffett shaved off all his hair, after having grown it for months before. Over £200 was collected in a bucket to witness this event. Former Head and Deputy Head Girls, Nadia Messina and, Natasha Nkonde, organised a netball match in which pupils were charged 50p to watch the senior netball team play against teachers and the 1st XV rugby team.

Organising the concerts was a demanding but really rewarding task. Both concerts, overall were enjoyable and ones to remember by everyone who came to watch and also by those who participated. We managed to raise a whopping £1508.01 in total for the charity.

Unfortunately these were the last Crisis Concerts in their present format to take place at SDC, but with the help of the pupils at the College, we can truly say that we went out with a bang. Over the last ten years St Dunstan's has managed to raise about £10 000 for Crisis and although the concerts may alter, we hope that SDC can continue to help the charity by raising much more.

Clarence Hunte and Jigna Patel