



MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

October 2004

WWW.MUSICINTHEVALE.ORG.UK

Entries for the 2004 Music in the Vale Competition

We are proud that our competition differs in format from most others. Anyone can enter provided they are between 10 and 22 (20 for the instrumentalists). There is no restriction on the standard of each competitor, they simply need to comply with the rules and will be matched against others of their age group.

Along with the variety of cups and shields that are awarded, Music in the Vale also offers cash prizes, (again not the norm) which should help to subsidise music lessons etc.

We have had another tremendous response to this year's competition. The singers have 32 entries and we're pleased to see a

healthy 7 entries in the senior section. The instrumentalists have also excelled this year with 31 entrants giving 36 performances, 11 of which are in the senior category.

The junior category for both events is really something to see. It may be the first chance these youngsters have had to perform in front of 'strangers' and this can really test their mettle - we have seen tears and nerves set in. Then, you wouldn't believe the transformations - the shy child with the quietest of speaking voices opens their mouth to let out the purest of singing voices imaginable or the tiniest of hands stretch and float across keys with unbelievable discipline and skill.



Why don't you come along throughout the heats (9:30 'til 4:00 each day) and see for yourselves, entry is free.

Please note that we have a new venue this year. Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg on Colcot Road, Barry has kindly offered us their facilities this year.

Please do not hesitate to ring me should you require directions or check the map on our web site.

Dawn Déchamps, Secretary

The Committee needs your help

The existing Committee of Music in the Vale is down to 10 members having lost 4 key members since the last AGM and gained only 2. We will also be losing another member after this year's competition, stretching our resources even further.

The committee only meets

about 8 times throughout the year, 3 times between December and June and more frequently leading up to the competition.

We are all volunteers, only 3 of us with musical backgrounds, the remainder are simply enthusiastic about what the Music in the Vale

Annual Competition can offer our young talented people. So, whether you have a musical background or not, your contribution to the committee would be most welcome.

Please telephone Dawn on 01446 771911 or 07974 855536 to find out more.

Names of Committee Members — November 2004

- Mary Edmunds - Chairman
- Joan Tartaglia - Vice Chair
- Phil Bowers - Treasurer
- Dawn Déchamps - Secretary
- Alan France - Publicity
- June Davis
- Marion Mallam
- Armando Tartaglia
- Linda Clark
- Ann Roberts



Two evening concerts not to be missed

If you haven't yet attended one of the evening concerts I can only say, you're cheating yourselves out of a good evening's entertainment.

The concerts will take the usual format - the top four of each of the three age groups will return in the evening to perform to an audience of family, friends, members and general public - Singers on Saturday and Instrumentalists Sunday.

The adjudicators will impart their constructive comments to each finalist, sharing the benefit

of their years of experience with these musicians of the future.

This year's dates are 13th and 14th November. There will be a charge of £4, £2 (concessions) and £1 (under 16). Tickets can be reserved by phoning the secretary or will be on sale throughout the weekend. The price of the ticket will include light refreshments. All funds raised go towards next year's competition.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Membership News



There are 99 other members out there, reading this newsletter at the same time as you are. It is thanks largely to the tremendous efforts of our Membership Secretary, Margaret Hughes, that most of you have come on board.

Unfortunately, Margaret has recently retired from the committee and the position of Mem-

bership Secretary is currently unfilled. We are trying to keep up with the necessary communications and apologies for getting this competition's information to you so late.

We plan to advise you all around June next year, as soon as we have agreed the dates of next year's competition. That way you can put it in your diaries and be sure to be free to come and enjoy what you are helping to support.

Along with our new Treasurer has come a few new decisions. The AGMs will now be held at the beginning of each year (Jan or Feb) to allow the new committee members to settle in before the 'competition rush'. The membership period will run from

1st December to 30th November each year. The logic behind this is that we will be hoping to find new members at the competition and those new fees will go towards the following year's competition.

Thank you to all our existing members for your support this year and we do hope you will continue to support us by forwarding a cheque for £5 per person along with a note with your name and address on. If you would like your newsletter sent to you by email, please also provide an email address.

(70 times a second class stamp = £14.70 - 3 new members to find!)

See our web site for more information and updates on what is happening - www.musicinthevale.org.uk

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Please accept the committee's apologies for not letting our members know well in advance of the competition entry dates. Next year this will be corrected and you will all be told immediately the competition dates are decided and entry forms are available etc.