

## Marathon Success!

Pupils weren't the only people setting targets for themselves this term! Mr Steve Dolan (Woodwind tutor) set his own personal target to complete a marathon this year and we are delighted to report back..... He did it!!!! After months of arduous training and preparations he successfully pounded it out on the streets of Dublin With the resounding support of family, friends, colleagues and schools he raised the superb amount of £1237 for the Childrens Hospice. Well done Steve!!!



Steve Dolan with woodwind pupils and Music Co-ordinator Gael Haslett, from Richmond PS, who raised the fantastic sum of £200 to support his chosen charity, The Children's Hospice

## Dates for Your Diary

**Christmas Concert - South Ulster Youth Orchestra, South Ulster Youth Band, South Ulster Big Band & South Ulster Harp Ensemble**  
Friday 17th December 2010  
Lagan Valley Island Arts Centre, Lisburn - 8.00 pm.

**Christmas Concert**  
featuring past pupils Aileen Henry & Christopher Day  
Monday 20th December - St Peters Church, Warrenpoint @ 8pm.  
All proceeds in aid of Newry Hospice, Arbour House & The Music Therapy Trust

**"New Starts" Parents Evenings**  
Wednesday 16th February - Portadown Music Centre - 7.30 pm.

**Thursday 17th February**  
Newry Music Centre (Windsor Hill PS Hall)

Dungannon Music Centre - 7.30pm.

**Portadown Junior Ensembles**  
Monday 7th March 2011 - Lismore Comprehensive - 8.00 pm

**Newry Junior Ensembles**  
Wednesday 9th March 2011 - St. Mark's HS, Warrenpoint - 8.00 pm.

**Dungannon Junior Ensembles**  
Thursday 10th March 2011 - Dungannon Leisure Centre - 8.00 pm

**Small Ensembles Concert:**  
Friday 25th March 2011 - Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh - 8.00 pm.

**South Ulster Academy Orchestra, South Ulster Academy Band & South Ulster Academy String Orchestra**  
Sat. 26th March 2011  
St. Mark's High School, Warrenpoint - 8.00 pm.

Check out the SELB website [www.selb.org](http://www.selb.org) for further information re concerts, calendar and forthcoming events.

## Music Success for Rathore School Pupil

In August 2010, Gary Carroll, a student at Rathore School, received an A grade in his GCSE Music exam. This was a fantastic achievement for Gary as he is the first pupil from Rathore School to sit a GCSE exam. Everyone at Rathore School is extremely proud of him!

After working with Gary on a Music Technology project in Rathore School, Mr. Alan Monteith, SELB Music Service tutor suggested to Mr. Pat Mathers (Music co-ordinator, Rathore School) that it could be possible that Gary could study GCSE music. With the support of Mr. Cassidy, Principal of Rathore School, Mr. Mathers explored a number of avenues to see if this could be achieved.

As part of the collaboration with St. Paul's High School Bessbrook, Mr. Peter Slane (Music teacher in St. Paul's High School) assessed Gary and felt that he would be very capable of undertaking this. Mr. Slane worked with him on a one to one basis for a year and then Gary continued his studies at St. Paul's High School Bessbrook.

Below, Gary tells us in his own personal statement what this achievement meant to him.

*Music has been a way of expressing myself for most of my life it was what I use when I'm happy and when I'm sad. When I first heard I was going to study it I thought this was going to be fun. And I was right! I enjoyed learning about the different elements of music such as dynamics and music terminology and the different genres of music. I began my compositions with arranging my own version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Any Dream Will Do" I enjoyed this very much as I have a passion for musical theatre. I hope to play Joseph one day in the future. My second composition was a piece I wrote myself. What I enjoyed most about it was writing it and picking the different instruments to play along with it. The theory was hard but I enjoyed it greatly as I learned about different areas such as music for celebration, musical traditions in Ireland and musical arrangements. The piece I enjoyed studying the most was "Mack the Knife" because I enjoy at times listening to some swing songs and jazz upbeat songs. My favourite part about music for me is the practical side. I enjoyed learning songs for my exam I got to do a solo and a duet. I performed the man of La Mancha title song and for my duet I performed "You raise me up". I would like to thank Mr Slane, Mr Mathers and Mr Monteith.*



If you have any news items, photographs or information you would like to share with us, please do not hesitate to contact me at Newry Music Centre: 028 3025 3168 or email: [nualacurran@gmail.com](mailto:nualacurran@gmail.com).

We welcome your comments and ideas for future issues. Thanks.



# In Tune

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[www.selb.org/music](http://www.selb.org/music)

[www.friendsassociation.co.uk](http://www.friendsassociation.co.uk)

## SELB Music Service Prize Night 2010

Congratulations to the 124 students who received nominations and prizes at the Music Service's now well established Annual Prize night in 2010. This event in the Music Service calendar gives us the opportunity to celebrate and recognise the endeavours and achievements of some of our young students. The Music Service were delighted this year to be joined by Mrs Hazel Mullan, Assistant Senior Education Officer, who presented the prizes. Listed below are the prizewinners in each category and photographs of all those who attended on the night.

### PRIZEWINNERS 2010

The Florence Hamilton Cup: *Niamh McGrane, St John the Baptist PS.*

The Annita Currie Cup: *Ian Brown, Cookstown PS.*

The Grace Gallagher Cup: *Niall Courtney, Dromintee PS.*

The SURE Cup: *Emma Heatley, Royal School, Armagh.*

The Carlin Records Cup: *Ciaran Martin, St. Colman's College.*

The Averil Blake Memorial Cup: *Stephen Grant, Abbey Grammar School.*

The "My Music" Cup: *Ryan Dickson, Lisanally School, Garry Carroll, Rathore School.*

The Clarinet Concerto Cup: *Michael Dodds, Royal School, Dungannon.*

The Music Theory Cup: *Rebecca Rice, Our Lady's GS.*

The S.U.B.E. Cup: *John Gamble, Royal School, Armagh.*

The Martin White Award: *Stephen Murphy, St. Colman's College.*

The S.U.A.O. Cup: *Carmel Morgan, Our Lady's Grammar School.*

The Multiple Sclerosis Cup: *Meabh O Kane, Lismore Comp.*

The Aileen MacArdle Cup: *Ellen Reay, Banbridge Academy.*

The Percussion Cup: *Julia Brown, Banbridge Academy.*

The S.U.A.B. Cup: *Michael Mallon, St Paul's High School, Bessbrook.*

The S.U.S.O. Cup: *Dominic Douglas, St. Ciaran's College.*

The S.U.Y.B Cup: *Jonathon Hilliard, Royal School, Armagh.*

FPM Advanced Teaching Bursary Award: *Ciaran Martin, St. Colman's College, Owen Lucas, Cookstown HS, Jonathan Kehoe, Abbey Grammar School.*

The Rex Blake Perpetual Cup: *Stephen Murphy, St. Colman's College.*



## Association of Friends of the Music Service

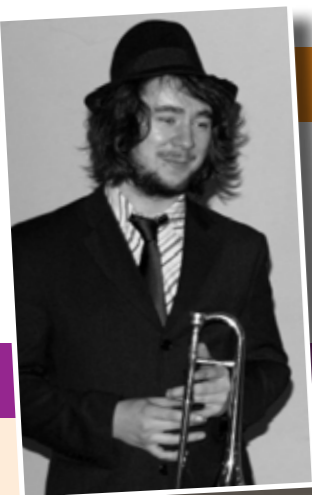
The Association of Friends of the Music Service is a group of parents and friends of those taught by the SELB Music Service, which helps to fund-raise for the benefit of all young musicians in the board area. As well as raising funds for SUYO and SUYB concert tours, the Association has financed instrumental masterclasses, provided sponsorship for instruments to allow whole-class music tuition and helped to support the specially-commissioned work by composer Brian Irvine, "Gullion Tales" which brought together many young musicians from across the SELB area and singers from the Dundalk Institute. Over the past few years we have administered a successful Bursary Scheme which allows promising young musicians to continue their music tuition to a high level. In 2010 we were delighted to award new bursaries to three excellent young players.

To continue this worthwhile work we need your help! We ask that as many parents and friends as possible would donate just £10 per year for five years in the form of a covenant. Alternatively, we would be happy to accept one-off donations. We would also like more volunteers who would be prepared to serve on our committee. Meetings are held about twice per school term, normally on Tuesday evenings and are held in Portadown and Newry alternately. If you would like to be involved, please get in touch with staff at the Portadown Music Centre, Bann House.

Frida Kennedy (Chairperson)



# BIG BROTHER!!



For those of you who were drawn into the nationwide frenzy of the final moments of Big Brother you were probably unaware of the link with the SELB Music Service! But amongst the live band that were performing for the grand finale was past pupil, trombonist Matthew Benson. Here Matthew shares with us his journey into one of TV's most hyped events of Summer 2010.

Since coming to London to study at Trinity College of Music, I have been extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to play with some top class musicians at some world famous venues; not least with the late John Dankworth at Ronnie Scott's in Soho. I've been very lucky to have been in the right place at the right time and been able to make a decent enough impression on the right people. I also feel that versatility plays a key role; life as a working musician in London has been one of variation. In one week I can play Latin Jazz, Balkan Jazz, be in the house band for some of the biggest comedy clubs in the country & then the next week could be Early Swing with The Smokey Taps, playing at an eccentric poetry evening with The Blowpipes trombone trio, or a Break Dancing competition with Brassroots brass band. Coming from a background of classical training, regular SUYO sessions & the invaluable lessons from Will Mclean, I feel like I have a firm foundation of musical training without which I wouldn't have been sufficiently equipped to experience such a wonderful mix of new & exciting music.

The band I'm playing with at the minute which holds the most exciting prospects for me is Brassroots, a nine piece New Orleans outfit who I was recommended to by their saxophonist Charley Richardson.

Things started to take a new and exciting turn after Brassroots were spotted by the director of the Channel 4 show 'Big Brother' playing at Glastonbury Festival this summer. A couple of weeks later we arrived at another rehearsal to see Jerome Harper (Band Leader) standing beside a table with champagne and canapes on it. I ask 'What's all that about?' and Jerome flashes a tell-tale smile and says "You better get used to this kinda treatment boys, there's a whole lot more comin' our way!". That was the night it was revealed to us that we would be featured live on the big final of the Channel 4 show Big Brother. Things started to move fairly quickly; we had three rehearsals during the week prior to the 'grand finale' and the shows producers were really impressed that we succeeded in capturing the exact feel that they were looking for. We had to learn a 'theme tune' for each contestant, to be played in the event that they were one of the last three evicted. We were also required to play the Big Brother theme tune in the style of a woozy, New Orleans funeral procession, as well as a more upbeat version.



The day itself was a fantastic blur of last minute cues & cuts, run-throughs, sound checks, star struck haziness & a warm buzz of surreal excitement, however the reassuringly relaxed atmosphere helped combat any nerves and we almost forgot that the cameras were there.

Once the cameras were turned off we stayed on for an unofficial after-show party, which was great fun- this resulted in us being invited to the proper 'wrap party' a few days later in Covent Garden. We played our normal set which went down a storm and Coolio (who had taken part in the show) got onstage and started rapping through some of the tunes. We couldn't resist and burst into an impromptu version of his massive hit 'Gangsters Paradise'. I'm really looking forward to seeing what the future holds for this band and very thankful to have been in the right place, at the right time.



# The South Ulster Youth Orchestra performs at the prestigious Belfast Festival at Queens



Hot on the heels of an eventful 2009 Concert Season for the South Ulster Youth Orchestra, this year continues to bring them into uncharted territory and will finish in spectacular fashion with a Concert Tour of Krakow in Summer 2011!

Following on the success of last term's "Gullion Tales", it was without hesitation that the orchestra jumped at the chance to work with Belfast composer Brian Irvine again. This time it was in collaboration with 'Moving on Music' in an exciting performance of Terry Riley's 'In C'. To mark the appearance of the composer at the festival, his composition was performed in the Elmwood Hall, Queens, by the Music Service's Senior Orchestra and singers from Dundalk Institute of technology, conducted by Brian Irvine.

In C is often described as the very first minimalist composition. It was written in 1964, and all performers play the same melodic patterns in a sequence. Each musician can choose how many times he or she repeats the pattern before moving on to the next, so no two performances are ever the same.

Given the experimental nature of the work, and being by now more familiar with the methods Brian employs to energise and enthuse all participants, it came as no surprise that on this occasion the Orchestra were set out in an unorthodox fashion, seated in small groups around the hall, allowing the audience to wander freely amongst them to fully experience the performance.

"The students coped really well with the demands of the day and entered into the spirit of what was an unusual and certainly totally unique event. On behalf of Moving on Music and Belfast Festival at Queen's please pass on our thanks to the SUYO members." Paula McHugh, Touring & Outreach officer, Moving on Music. [www.movingonmusic.co.uk](http://www.movingonmusic.co.uk)

Photographs supplied courtesy of Stephen Barnes: [www.stephen@blackthorndrive.co.uk](http://www.stephen@blackthorndrive.co.uk)



## Latest-News-from-ABRSM

With another successful exam period behind us, it is worth noting some exciting additions from ABRSM. My Turn Next, a new guide to getting through exam days, is available at [www.abrsm.org](http://www.abrsm.org).

**Speedshifter:** Free software which allows candidates to vary the speed of audio from CD or MP3 without altering the pitch. Simply load a track and turn the dial to slow it down or speed it up - the pitch remains the same. This is perfect for lessons and practice sessions. For more information check out the web address above.

**ABRSM Music Shop:** ABRSM have recently expanded the range of sheet music sold via their website to include all the pieces that are selected on the graded exam syllabuses, including titles from other publishers. Details can be found at [www.abrsm.org/shop](http://www.abrsm.org/shop).

**Aural tests:** Effective from January 2011 are some minor modifications to aural tests. SELB Aural Classes resume again in January, implementing these changes for practical exams. Aural Tests are an important part of any Grade Exam, and attendance at these free classes can help you achieve a higher mark!

Details of Aural Classes are listed below:-

<b>Newry Music Centre:</b>	Thursday	4.00 - 4.30 Grades 1-3
		4.30 - 5.00 Grades 4-5
<b>Portadown Music Centre:</b>	Wednesday	5.00 - 5.30 Grades 1-3
		5.30 - 6.00 Grades 4-5
<b>Dungannon Music Centre:</b>	Tuesday	7.00 - 8.00 Grades 1 - 5

For Grades 6-8, please make an enquiry at your nearest Centre.

## Marks of Distinction

Congratulations to all those who successfully passed their Associated Board examinations in June 2010. A total of 380 pupils were entered in this busy season of examinations. Unfortunately the list is too long to publish, but special mention must be made to the 62 students who passed with distinction!

Andrew Barber	Tim Neill	Tamzin McClung
Jane Bingham	Olivia Murray	Lucy Mills
Ciara Burns	Shea O'Brien	Rebecca Richardson
Aine Cassidy	Eva O'Hagan	Alison Thompson
Clíodhna Cowan	Katie 'Hare	Will Anderson
Eimear Devlin	Niamh O'Hanlon	Tom Bailey
Emma Edwards	Ellen Reay	Holly Bothwell
Dearbhla Grant	Jonathon Reynolds	Michael Bradley
Stephen Grant	Niamh Rice	Esther Ruth Cuthbert
Hollie Halpin	Anna Mae Ryan	Meave Heatley
Kathryn Hanna	Sarah Thompson	Christopher Hoy
Ruby Keenan	Emily Ward	Katrina Hunter
Alana Kerr	Hayley Corbett	Owen Lucas
Fergal Kerr	Aine Cullen	Sarah McAlpine
Kate Magee	Chloe Eagleson	Alicia Newton
Sarah Mc Arde	Ciaran Kelly	Rebecca Quinn
Jarlath McConaghy	Helen Kelly	Jayne Scott
Katie McCormack	Joshua Kyle	Christopher Staines
Lucy McLaughlin	Rhonda Lennox	Stewart Walker
Maria McNamee	Lydia McAllister	Lisa Wilkinson
Leanne McNiece	Lauren Mc Cann	

Brassroots tracks are available to download from [dorightmusic.com](http://dorightmusic.com)

Brassroots will be touring in Ireland early next year. For info/bookings contact Jerome Harper at:

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