



NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you all to this next newsletter at time when we are now out of lockdown and life seems to be slowly returning to 'normal' – whatever that may be! Many thanks to you all for supporting Totaleigh Music during the pandemic; for being so thoughtful and considerate in keeping us all safe and for being flexible with face to face and online tuition.

I am very busy here as usual; but loving the growth in music making and it is wonderful to see those of all ages and abilities wishing to learn to play a musical instrument. With a waiting list for lessons now in place, I continue to advertise for music teachers. The drum booth/recording studio which also doubles up as a waiting room has now been constructed and is awaiting sound proofing and decoration, but I hope to have it up and running soon. Tuition in drums, singing, song writing and sound production with visiting specialist tutors will be offered as soon as possible.

Future plans include music workshop weekends with visiting professional musicians from throughout the UK, trips to music concerts and events, a Summer concert and the opportunity for students to perform on one of the smaller stages at *Tywyn Live* in August. This June sees the launch of the music ensembles and another day of ABRSM music exams.

In the world around us, it really is wonderful to be welcoming back live music. I am looking forward to keeping music live this year with all of you.

Leigh Matthews (Totaleigh Music)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OPEN MIC NIGHT
at
**THE MAGIC LANTERN
CINEMA
TYWYN**

FRIDAY 3rd JUNE

**MUSIC ENSEMBLE
LAUNCH DAY
SUNDAY 5th JUNE
MAIN HALL
YSGOL UWCHRADD
TYWYN**



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NEWSLETTER

STUDENT SUCCESS

ABRSM EXAM SUCCESS!

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

POLLY RICHARDS - ABRSM FLUTE PREP TEST



OPEN MIC PERFORMANCES

Well done to ELIN WILLIAMS & RUBY PARSONS for their performances at The Magic Lantern Open Mic Nights. These take place on the first Friday of every month.

Please contact Leigh for more information.



MUSICIAN OF THE MONTH

JANUARY 2022

MOLLY O'DEA



FEBRUARY 2022

JACK TURNER



MARCH 2022

DAISY MOSS



APRIL 2022

HOLLY GREEN



MAY 2022

FLEUR WOODWARD



MUSIC COURSE SUCCESS

SUSAN GRIFFITH

on completion of the

ABRSM COURSE

BECOMING A BETTER

MUSIC TEACHER

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NEWSLETTER

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Hello! My Name's Sam. My main instrument is guitar. I play in a local band called **Shine On!** I happened to meet Leigh at an Open Mic night in Llwyngwril and this is where I found out about Totaleigh music. My musical goal is to be able to pick up almost any instrument and play something. So far, Leigh has taught me ukulele, banjo, and, we've started on piano. Personally, I listen and like a wide variety of music, some genres include - rock n roll, metal, folk, blues and country. I have never had to read music as a guitarist. Learning to do this has been the most challenging task for me, although, I am extremely grateful to be learning. The Totaleigh Music studio is a safe place to learn... Leigh has even had me singing!! Finally, I am really looking forward to meeting other musicians and hopefully jamming sometime.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FEATURE IN A FUTURE EDITION OF STUDENT SPOTLIGHT, PLEASE CONTACT LEIGH AT TOTALEIGH MUSIC.

FASCINATING MUSICAL FACT

The right side of the brain processes music while the left side processes language, so music therapy can help bridge the gap between the two. Music helps create new neurological pathways.

<https://blog.sonicbids.com/5-facts-about-music-and-the-brain/>

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Many, many years ago, in the days when my hair was fair rather than grey, I was sat at a BBQ while someone entertained the group playing a guitar. That memory stuck with me.

Despite not having expressed any desire to learn or shown any ability to perform while at school, I only ever managed rather screechy renditions of Frere Jacques and London's Burning, I felt a degree of jealousy at watching this guy singing along to American Pie.

Skip forward a few years to 2001, I mentioned this in conversation to my then wife. When my next birthday arrived, she had booked me some lessons at the Stafford Classical Guitar Centre.

To the surprise of my teacher Adrian, I turned up empty handed - instruments were always provided at school! - so I borrowed a guitar for the session. I left £170 lighter with new guitar, case, footstool and The Guitarists Way Book 1. My birthday present ended up costing me - thanks Mel!



Adrian explained that my teacher was off sick but should be back for week two - that is when I first met Leigh. We must have hit it off because that was the start of a long standing friendship.

I liked the way that she taught - no pressure and very flexible. When Leigh left the Guitar Centre, I chose to join her continuing private lessons at her home with the lovable dog Jet in attendance.

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NEWSLETTER

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



CONTINUED.....

In 2005, Leigh moved to Wales and my lessons came to a stop - I wasn't enthused at the idea of getting a new teacher. For a while, I would pick up the guitar and play something but I wasn't committed and the days of playing became less and less.

I kept in touch with Leigh although contact was sporadic. Then came Covid and lockdown. I decided to message a few old friends, one being Leigh. She said that she was thinking about doing some on line lessons and would I be interested. I said yes, not really knowing whether anything more would come of it.

November 2020 and things began to move on and the first lesson was booked. Panic time! I got the guitar out but had forgotten most of what I had learned in the past. Out came 'The Guitarists Way Book 1'. I was starting over again. It was a bit like riding a bike and the basics soon came back as did the camaraderie.

Soon after, my company closed the Stafford office and the whole workforce began working from home on a permanent basis. One of the advantages of this was that I have had more time to practice - half an hour in the morning and another during my lunch break. It's been a great way to switch off from "work life".

The weekly zoom guitar lesson with Leigh soon became the "Highlight of the Week". I love the lessons and the banter that we have.

So far, I haven't ventured beyond the guitar or into the world of Grades (even though Leigh is steering me that way). I lack confidence when playing in front of anyone else but am thoroughly looking forward to joining the Fretted String Orchestra and meeting fellow students.

Can't recommend Leigh enough if you want a music teacher! She puts you at ease and is very encouraging. The zoom lessons have been easy going too.

Chris Elsley

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A FUTURE EDITION OF STUDENT
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NEWSLETTER



Adult Student John Tydu has gone viral with this lovely little song he composed about his time as a boy growing up in Llwyngwrl. For those of you who haven't yet heard this beautiful composition you can watch at the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kaMegdo9vZg>

Currently just a few views away from 3000 and still rising...

Well done JohnTydu - you have placed Llwyngwrl firmly on the map, and yourself in people's hearts!

VERSE ONE

I am just a village boy and I dream of the lottery
When I buy the winning ticket down at The Victory
I don't suppose I ever will, I'll have to work until I die
But when I do I pray to God my soul will reach the Sky

CHORUS

But I can always come back home to Llwyngwrl by
the sea
Where I grew up on a little farm
That's where my heart will be
But I can roam the mountains with a feeling that I'm
free
Where the buzzards fly and the bluebells grow
It's the greatest place to me

VERSE TWO

And I am proud of what I am , I know the rights from
wrong
I had to go to Chapel in this rugby's land of song
But if I ever get so weak my Lord will show the way
He's taught me to be humble and live life for today

REPEAT CHORUS x 2

@copyright John TyDu

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CURRENT STUDENT NUMBERS

ONLINE TUITION:

- 7 x guitar
- 1 x violin
- 1 x piano
- 1 x cello
- 1 x flute
- 1 x music theory

FACE TO FACE TUITION

- 28 x guitar
- 34 x piano
- 5 x music theory
- 3 x violin
- 1 x cello
- 3 x flute
- 2 x clarinet
- 3 x saxophone
- 3 x recorder
- 2 x banjo
- 1 x mandolin
- 13 x ukulele

INSTRUMENTS IN STOCK FOR FREE HIRE WHEN BOOKING LESSONS:



- TRUMPETS
- FLUTES
- CLARINETS
- PRACTICE SAXOPHONES
- DOODS & FIFES
- TREBLE & DESCANT RECORDERS
- VIOLINS (ALL SIZES)
- CELLOS
- UKULELES
- ACOUSTIC GUITARS (ALL SIZES)
- BASS GUITARS
- ELECTRONIC KEYBOARDS



MUSICAL JOKE

Why are pianos so hard to open?
Because the keys are on the inside!



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NEWSLETTER

SPREAD THE WORD...



DIWRNOD LANSIO ENSEMBLE CERDDOROL MUSIC ENSEMBLE LAUNCH DAY

SUNDAY 5th JUNE - MAIN HALL - TYWYN SECONDARY SCHOOL
DYDD SUL MEHEFIN 5ed - PRIF NEUADD - YSGOL UWCHRADD TYWYN



CERDDORFA
SYMPFONI
TYWYN
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

SWN SAMBA
BAND SAMBA
SAMBA BAND

CERDDORFA
LLINYNNOL
TYWYN
FRETTED
STRING
ORCHESTRA



Musical opportunities for all the family.
All ages, instruments and abilities catered for.
FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER AN
INTEREST, PLEASE EMAIL LEIGH:
totaleighmusic@gmail.com

THE
UKULEIGHLEIGHS
UKULELE GRWP
UKULELE GROUP

ENSEMBLE
HYFFORDDIANT
TYWYN
TRAINEE
ENSEMBLE

10:00am - 10:45am

ENSEMBLE HYFFORDDIANT TYWYN TRAINEE ENSEMBLE

11:00am - 12:30pm

CERDDORFA LLINYNNOL TYWYN FRETTED STRING ORCHESTRA

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

CERDDORFA SYMPFONI TYWYN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

2:45pm - 3:30pm

THE UKULEIGHLEIGHS - GRWP UKULELE GROUP

3:30pm - 4:30pm

SWN SAMBA BAND - SAMBA BAND SOUND

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NEWSLETTER

SALES & SERVICES

Totaleigh Music
Keyrings, bracelets
& necklaces
£3 each **IN STOCK NOW** -
hand made by Bee Timms.
b_marietimms@icloud.com



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THE NEXT MERCHANDISE
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Leigh for more information.



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£1.00 each



**IN STOCK SOON -
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by LOCAL ARTIST
KELLY DOODY**

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NEWSLETTER

SALES & SERVICES

TOM "BOOTS" HAWKES GUITAR & AMP SERVICING & REPAIRS



"I have toured around the world repairing and maintaining guitars and basses for various artists including Neck Deep, Beartooth and State Champs. I offer a variety of services from a simple set up, to a neck break repair. No job too big or small, I'll take great pride in making your instrument play the best it possibly can."

BOB POUNTNEY WOODWIND & BRASS INSTRUMENT SERVICING & REPAIRS.



Bob's workshop is located on site opposite the Totaleigh Music Studio, High Street, Tywyn.



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