



WESTBOURNE ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

(fnd. 1930, Reg. Charity No 282074)

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**President Prudence Whittaker ARCM Vice President Sir Patrick Moore
Conductor Sam Newgarth MBE LRAM Deputy Conductor Dave Brooks
Leader Jane Bultz**

LOCAL AMATEUR ORCHESTRA AWARDED BT COMMUNITY CHAMPION GRANT

The Westbourne Orchestra has been awarded **£160** by the **BT Community Champion award scheme** thanks to the voluntary work of **Jane Whyborn**, an Openreach (BT grp) employee. Jane was really delighted to receive the award. Run by BT's charity programme, BT Community Champions awards BT people with funding on behalf of local community groups, charities and organizations where they work on a voluntary basis.

Following the second review ins 2006-07, funding has been allocated to a variety of groups who demonstrated how the award could make a difference to their group and benefit their local community. The Westbourne Orchestra is one of hundreds that applied for an award during Review One of the scheme and impressed judges with how they old use their grant.

The Orchestra, which is based at St. Ambrose Church, West Cliff Road, Westbourne, gives eight concerts per year and regularly donates to charity. The Orchestra through its workshops, open to rehearsals and "Friends" scheme gives the opportunity for all in the community to be involved.

Formed in 1930 from a small group of enthusiastic musicians the Orchestra now has well over 50 playing members, plus extra musicians available for the concerts when well known symphonies concertos and popular classical music are performed.

Jane, a cellist in the Orchestra, instigated the idea of annual WOS Workshops says the BT Community Champions award gives a great opportunity for the Society to develop its activities and objectives.

Some time ago the Westbourne Orchestra was very kindly given fifteen musical instruments by former member violinist Ernest Smith who being in his 95th year is currently living in a residential nursing home in Bournemouth. The Orchestra plans to use its £160 to repair and maintain the fifteen instruments. After repair and maintenance the instruments can be made available to people

contemplating learning the instrument or those who have learnt to play but no longer have an instrument and are thinking of taking up the instrument again. An excellent opportunity is provided by the Orchestra's annual Workshops.

The WOS Annual Workshops invite potential players to come along and play with the Orchestra to gain orchestral experience. Some of these people do not have access to an instrument and with some restrictions are allowed to borrow from the Orchestra.

Furthermore the instruments can be used as a **hands-on aid** (not usually possible) at lectures given by Orchestra members to local clubs such as the Wallisdown Ladies club and Women's Institutes.

As a direct result of the BT Community Champions grant more money can be made available for worthy charities. A little while ago the Orchestra donated £200 to support a children's mandolin group in a small village in Romania and more recently the income £75, from the 2006 Workshop to the RLNI.

BT people can apply for a BT Community Champions award to receive cash grants of up to £500. Funding can be used for purchasing specific equipment or as a contribution towards a particular project. Two recent awards have been given to lifeguards and wildlife charities. For further details visit:

www.btcommunitychampions.com

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For further information about the BT Communications Champions award at Westbourne Orchestral Society please visit the WOS at www.westbourne-orchestra.co.uk

Alternatively, visit the BT Community Champions Press Office web site at www.btcommunications.com or contact 01234 567890.

The Orchestra welcomes new players. Details from Secretary Jean Budd –
Tel: 01202 574399, "Friends" Secretary Liz Sansom Tel: 01202 708484
or visit the WOS web site www.westbourne-orchestra.co.uk