

Ludworth Cobweb Beginners' Orchestra

I am someone who decided to learn to play a musical instrument once I had retired. I stuck at it and took some early grades but gave up after becoming seriously ill. Fortunately after treatment and realising that I was going to survive I decided to take an interest in my chosen instrument, the clarinet, once again.

Purely by chance this coincided with my hearing of a Beginners' Orchestra being started in Ludworth Community Centre.

That was two years ago.

At first it was believed that this event was for those wishing to learn a musical instrument. People attended who were literally in the very early stages of reading music let alone playing an instrument. Our conductor at this time was Andy, who gave us all music which everyone could attempt by following a rhythm and simply playing on one note.

From that very early and shaky start the orchestra has developed into a friendly, non-threatening group of people who thoroughly enjoy the meetings on Tuesday evenings. It is amazing to see how many who were there on the first night are still part of this wonderful orchestra.

The conductor has changed and Tracy Reed guides everyone through the pieces that are presented in a very encouraging manner, never belittling anyone but offering support and guidance throughout. The music is for all levels of ability from beginners to the accomplished. The pieces we play are very varied and are often fun. Players of any instrument are accommodated. Tracy has even found music for guitar players.

There is a great feeling of togetherness, lots of support from fellow players and a gradual rise in attendance as news of this very special orchestra is spread.

I am sure there are many people who, if only they could pluck up the courage and join us for one evening, could benefit from this unusual orchestral group in a small village community centre with a big heart.

You will be made most welcome.

Joan Bell