



# Lomond and Clyde Community Orchestra

## HELPFUL HINTS AND REMINDERS

### General points

- Please bring your own music stand – a cheap folding metal one is fine.
- You will also need a soft pencil and a rubber to mark fingering and dynamics on your music.
- Please arrive in **good time** to be ready to play when the rehearsal **starts at 10.00 a.m.**

### Playing the music

- Don't be put off because you think everyone else is much better!
- Play the notes you can – even if just the first one in each bar – you can add more as you get better.
- Try and keep track of where you are meant to be in the music.
- Keep an eye on the conductor as well as your music.
- Beware of repeats – 2 dots next to a double line :|| - it means play the bit you have just played again.
- Watch out for *Da Capo* or DC which means go back to the beginning of the piece; also *Dal Segno* or DS which means jump to the sign (usually a squiggly S); and CODA which means jump to the coda often marked with a 'hot cross bun' and played at the end.
- Remember to notice all the dynamic markings such as *p,pp, f,ff*, as well as what musicians sometimes call 'hairpins' like long Vs lying on their sides.
- Please try not to practice or talk to your neighbour while the conductor is trying to speak as this makes it very difficult for others to hear what is being said.

### Safety – very important!

- St Michael's is an old hall with lots of awkward places, please do not run about and take care on the stairs especially if you are carrying your instrument.
- When you are having a break, make sure your instrument is left in a safe position.
- Do not leave money or valuables lying about at any time.

**Finally do enjoy yourself – we are all very lucky to have such a great opportunity to play together!**