



2018: SEMESTER 1 (Term 2)

COZYMO – Learning Group Notes #12

COZYMO Learning Group: Teaches or consolidates previously acquired basic reading and playing skills including transferring playing skills from another instrument e.g. piano, clarinet etc. to mandolin or guitar, developing skills in playing ensemble-style, opportunities to utilise improvising or other solo playing skills within an ensemble setting.

SESSION 12 (27 May)

Guitars and Bass (Col)

Present: Col, Gianni, Barbara, Lyn, Bob; Diana and Lindsay assisting. Lea also participated on M2 parts.
Absent: Barbara.

1. **Serenade Pizzicata** (by Louis Ganne)

We continued to work on this new piece, playing all the way through it slowly. Everyone seemed to be coping with their parts.

I chose this piece largely because the Gtr part is pretty much suitable for all the levels of guitar skills in the group. Chords are mainly variations of D, A, A7, E7 and the occasional G, so the chords are not too demanding – once you recognise them. Rhythmically, you have to count carefully to cope with the rests.

Playing the rests: ‘Rests’ are periods of silence for the length of time indicated by the type of rest sign, e.g. a crotchet rest, minim rest, quaver rest etc. We practised gently damping the strings at the exact second one would start to say the first letter of the next count, and not sooner. This allowed the preceding played note to be heard for its full value.

2. **La Paloma** (by S. Salaverri)

We played La Paloma again for the final 15 minutes of the session. It really is sounding stronger, more melodic and cleaner every week, as everyone is getting more on top of the rhythms. Well done! ☺

LG(C) Guitars & Bass HOME PRACTICE

1. Continue to work on Golden Sceptre, La Paloma and Serenade Pizzicata.

Big tip: As you play through these pieces, mark any problem areas with an asterisk in the margin of the page, so you easily spot any problems on any page as you look through your music in each practise session.

2. Continue to play through Carol of the Bells to keep it in your ‘play list’. Bring it next Sunday and we really will spend some time on it to refresh ourselves with this piece!

Mandolins (Lea)

Present: Session not held.

Absent: Frank interstate, Michael overseas until start of Term 4.

LG(B) Mandolin HOME PRACTICE

Please do continue to work on the exercises below plus a new one, the C scale. Most of these help you to focus on particular skills, but by all means practise playing the whole piece through as smoothly as you can, as well:

1. **The Golden Sceptre**: Practise the first 8 bars as we did in the Session.
2. **Streets of Laredo**: Keep practising the Gtr 1 part and also your simpler Gtr 3 part (Frank) and Gtr 2 or 4 part (Michael – please let me know which part you’re working on).
3. **Barney Google**: Please work on the 3 bars that are the hardest, for counting: **bars 12, 14 and 16** (see previous Notes for the rhythms).
4. **A Riddle**: How are the double stops going? (see previous Notes #8).
5. **G scale**: Please keep practising a 2-octave G scale each day!
6. C scale: Please start practising a 2-octave C-scale each day. If you can’t quite remember which notes to play, here are three tips:
 - The C scale has no sharps or flats (tells you which notes to play and which frets you’ll find them on);
 - Start on the C natural note at the 5th fret on the G string; and



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- Use the appropriate finger on that 5th fret for Position 1 playing, i.e. 3rd finger. The remaining notes will fall into place!

OTHER STUFF

1. COZMO'S ANNUAL WINTER CONCERT

We have just 5 Sessions left in our Semester 1 program: 3, 17 and 24 June and 1 and 8 July. Please note that we won't have a Session on Sunday 10 June as that is the Queen's Birthday long weekend.

At the conclusion of each Semester, COZMO holds its Annual Winter Concert (end Semester 1) and Annual Summer Concert (end Semester 2). This year the Winter Concert was due to be held on Sunday 1 July (flagged on the header on each edition of the Notes). Unfortunately, because of the absence of a number of COZMO players on that weekend, we will not be having a concert at the end of this Semester. That may make you feel relieved ... or perhaps disappointed!

Our most recent Concert, in December last year at St John's Anglican Church, was certainly a most successful experience for COZMO and COZYMO players and we'll aim to book that venue again at the end of this year. Meanwhile, try not to lose the impetus and focus for enjoying learning and playing and practising at home between our remaining five Sessions!

2. SEMESTER 2 PLANNING

As you all may know, we (Col and Lea) will be overseas from virtually the start of Semester 2 this year, from 25 July to 26 August. We'll be arriving back in Sydney Australia at 7am on Sunday 26 August – so possibly not in the best shape to start COZMO Sessions that afternoon!

For this reason, an abbreviated Semester 2 Program will be offered instead, commencing on Sunday 2 September. This will give us just 4 Sessions in Term 3, but 8 or 8 Sessions in Term 4 (there are no public holidays in Term 4!) plus our Summer Concert on either Saturday 8 or 15 December (if at St John's Church) or on Sunday 9 or 16 December (TBC closer to the time).

Re our Summer Concert: if you know that you will be unable to attend and play on any of those 4 dates, please advise Lea ASAP to help decide a date to suit the majority/all in COZMO and COZYMO, thanks.

As our Semester 2 this year will have about two-thirds the number of Sessions compared with usual Semesters:

- the fee for COZYMO participants will be \$100 (not \$150); and
- the fee for COZMO players who also attend the COZYMO Program will be \$50 (not \$75).

As soon as you know whether you wish to continue to participate in the COZYMO Program in Semester 2, please let Col and/or Lea know, for planning purposes – a short email would be perfect, thank you.

3. SEMESTER 1 FEEDBACK ENCOURAGED

We would be very pleased to receive feedback from all players who have participated in the Semester 1 Program, as to whether you feel you've progressed because of your involvement in the Program (or in spite of it!) and any other comment you may wish to make about any aspect of the Program that will assist your teachers (Col and Lea) to improve your learning experience. Just a short email would be most welcome, thank you! ☺

4. FAME MANDOLIN FESTIVAL CANBERRA: 6-13 January 2019

Do consider registering for your attendance at this festival – really it's a fun camp with a concert at the end, with lots of opportunities to learn a heck of a lot in a very nurturing and inspiring environment! Check out the previous issues of the Notes for info and a copy of the Registration Form.

Thank you all – Col and Lea ☺