

X-factor contest to test town youngsters

AN X-FACTOR-style competition for young people is being organised as part of the Great Bowden Festival.

Musicians aged between 11 and 18 are being sought for the contest which is open to those living within a seven-mile radius of Great Bowden (including Kibworth).

The village festival is held every four years and sees numerous events organised throughout the year.

There will be three heats held at Great Bowden Village Hall in

By Alex Blackwell

the summer, for the under-11s (June 15), for 11-14 year olds (June 29) and 15-18 year olds (July 20). The winners will progress to a grand finale held at St Peter and St Paul Parish Church, Great Bowden, on August 23.

The heat winners will be presented with ABC Music vouchers worth £50 with the overall winner bagging a £100 voucher and glass-engraved trophy.

The most promising performer

on an orchestral instrument will win six months' music lessons (maximum £250) funded by the Great Bowden Recital Trust.

Andrew Cartwright, one of the organisers, said: "Whether it's your brother, sister, son, daughter, friend or acquaintance – if they can sing or play a musical instrument either on their own or in a group, this competition is for them.

"We are asking all parents, school music teachers, instrumental teachers, friends and relations to help us make sure that this opportunity is a hugely suc-

cessful event. There are very few opportunities for young people to compete against each other for prizes of up to £500."

For each heat, the performer can play one piece up to three minutes' long with CD accompaniment if wanted.

Entry is free and forms are available from ABC Music in St Mary's Road, Harborough, or from the website www.greatbowden.org.

Forms need to be returned to Great Bowden Primary in Gunnsbrooke Close c/o Mr P Oakley by May 16.