

# NEWSLETTER



Issue 30 • Summer 2023

## About the Hub

The North Yorkshire Music Hub was set up in early 2012 and works in partnership with local and national arts programmes and organisations.

It's objective is to deliver the government's commitment to improving the quality of local music services and our performance is monitored by Arts Council England.

There are great opportunities to be part of the Hub and this edition contains information about how and when you can get involved in music making across the county.

Harrogate

Northallerton

NYMAZ

Scarborough & Whitby

Skipton



## Welcome to the Summer Newsletter

We hope you find this information in this newsletter useful – please let us know if there is anything else you would like to see in this quarterly update.

Supported using public funding by



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ENGLAND**



# County Ensembles 2023

In early July, we held our annual County Ensembles residential at Harrogate Ladies College. It was a great success, particularly as this year we started a new ensemble, conducted by Andy Novell and Julie Alder. The new training orchestra is for young players of grade 3-5 standard. It was a great chance to have an intensive few days playing as an orchestra, making new friends and developing their skills. The training orchestra performed a range of pieces in their concert and also have the opportunity to join the senior orchestra in a massed playthrough of classic orchestral repertoire, including "Finlandia" and "Night on a Bare Mountain".



The senior orchestra was conducted by Simon Wright. Due to the change in funding, it was the last official concert of the purely North Yorkshire Youth Orchestra. In the future we are hoping there will be some joint York and North Yorkshire ensembles as York and North Yorkshire will join together as a new Music Hub. The senior orchestra performed excerpts from "Carmen" and the Eric Coates suite "London Again". George Papadopoulos, our first clarinet, performed the Weber Clarinet Concerto No.1 superbly. The concert was a great success and we look forward to seeing what new opportunities we can develop for York and North Yorkshire young musicians.

The County Youth Choir, like the Big Band, had been rehearsing all year with over 20 members. This is only the second year back for the group since covid so it is steadily growing. Unfortunately, not all of them could attend the residential but those that came were treated to a fantastic experience, working hard to put together a concert with a huge array of songs and some fantastic soloists. Special thanks go to Andrea Rhodes and Scott Senogles for conducting the group. The concert was in Harrogate Ladies College chapel, which is a great setting for a choir. They performed songs from a number of different genres including folk songs, musicals, pop and classical.



Congratulations to all those involved!

# County Youth Big Band Tour

The Big Band toured Holland and Germany at the end of July. We performed in key tourist spots between 22 and 24 July, two in Germany and two in Holland.

Each concert was very well attended and the Big Band covered a range of music including swing, jazz funk, Latin American and film scores including the theme to Incredibles, Starsky and Hutch, Family Guy, Blues Brothers, Mambo No. 5 and Pick up the Pieces.

One café owner in Monschau said that he had heard many bands play over the years and we were the best. He was keen for us to return.

The band even ended up performing for the hotel guests one night. This ended in an impromptu open mic night with the pupils playing solos in smaller groups and the hotel guests getting up to dance.

Executive member for education, learning and skills, Cllr Annabel Wilkinson, said:

*"I am delighted to hear that this year's tour was another resounding success. It is not surprising that those who heard the musicians would like them to return. It shows the wonderful talent that we have in North Yorkshire."*



County Big Band performing in Monschau, Germany

# Scarborough Music Centre

## Summer Term 2023

Another busy and eventful year has passed at Scarborough Area Music Centre, seeing us complete our first-year rehearsing at our new premises, The Street, in Scarborough. A huge thanks must go out to the staff there, from CaVCA, for making us feel so welcome and taking us on at such short notice back in September 2022.

We have had two concerts during the summer term of 2023. Our big end of year Concert on 1st July at Westborough Church saw all the music centre ensembles coming together to give a fantastic performance. This was the culmination of the year's work and all ensembles played to such a high standard. We also gave out our awards at this event, including the Alex Williamson awards to the most committed student in each ensemble. There was also the Geoff Laycock Award going to the most promising member of the EASY Band, as well as the Wendy Standish String award to the most promising string player. On 8th July our Junior Strings and Ebony went to St Michael's Church in Malton for an afternoon performance, by special invitation from the Leeds Youth Singers who were performing there.

This was a lovely way to end our year of fantastic events. We have been able to offer free violin lessons for local junior school children at Music Centre on Saturday mornings for another year. We have seen around 16 children attend these and they have even performed at our summer concert. The students who attended these lessons last year have now formed a new ensemble at Music Centre called "Viva Violins!". They have been practising hard since September, and I thank their tutor Sarah Bancroft for all her hard work.



Another event worthy of note was the "Summer Music Spectacular" held by Sleights Junior School in Whitby. Every child in years 4, 5 and 6 learn to play woodwind and brass instruments in two whole class schemes delivered by the music service and delivered by Ralph Alder the Scarborough Music Centre manager.

This concert took place on Thursday 6th July and was a huge success, seeing both whole class groups performing both on their own as well as coming together for a couple of tunes! As well as these groups, there were appearances by the school recorder group led by Sue Rowland, and the Monday Night Group led by Gillian Edwards, made up of woodwind and brass players from years 4,5, and 6. We also got to hear many solos and duets arranged and rehearsed by the children themselves, as well as some songs composed and performed by a student, singing, and playing her ukulele. Sleights school demonstrates a positive and encouraging attitude to its music making and in the past two years the standard has grown considerably there.

Well done Sleights School!



# Harrogate Music Centre

## HMC at Knaresborough Castle

The summer term often brings with it some glorious weather, and what better way to enjoy the sunshine than with an outdoor performance? Some of our HMC ensembles – HYJO, Parental Guidance, String Ensemble and Concert Band – performed on the grounds of the beautiful Knaresborough Castle on Sunday 11th June. Our groups performed extremely well in some very hot temperatures of over 25 degrees, and we attracted a large audience who thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon of live music in the sunshine. We'd like to thank the Parks and Environmental Services team at North Yorkshire Council for making this possible and for helping the event to run smoothly on the day.

On Saturday 24th June, some of our ensembles opened their doors to family and friends to watch them rehearse and get a taste for what our members do during their time at HMC every Saturday morning. Families and friends came away with a new level of appreciation for how hard our students work every week, and it was great to see so much support for our young people. It was also an opportunity for our directors to present annual ensemble awards.

Congratulations to all those that received awards this year!



# Selby Music Centre

Following our successful Easter concert in Selby High School, we were pleased to be able to hold our Summer Concert at St Wilfrid's church, Brayton. The church made us feel very welcome and it was a beautiful venue which enhanced the children's music making and made the occasion feel very special.



In both the Easter and summer concerts, the choir included songs with Makaton hand signs, taught by our choir leader Rachel Mackenzie. We had Katy Perry's "Roar" and George Ezra's "Shotgun", both sung and signed beautifully.

For our final session of the term, we were pleased to welcome Simon Dubruslais and a large group of new trumpeters from Escrick, Barlby and Selby Abbey Primary schools. Simon has been working with them in their primary schools and will be recording a trumpet and organ recital in Selby Abbey later in the year. Finally, all the music centre groups, string players, guitarists, keyboards, flutes and the choir all joined together to perform Awimoweh, Stand by me and We will rock you, greatly assisted by our parent volunteer, Ron, on electric guitar!



We are hoping that some of the trumpet players will return to music centre in the autumn as we launch our new beginners' brass group. We will also be introducing a new guitar teacher and starting a larger guitar and ukulele group while Rachel starts a new woodwind group (including recorders) and Helen continues with strings and keyboards. All our beginner groups start at 9.30, with the option of staying for choir afterwards and our senior strings and folk/rock group for players with a little more experience run from 11.05.

**If you would like any more information, please contact [helen.moulds@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:helen.moulds@northyorks.gov.uk).**

# Northallerton Music Centre

On Saturday the 1st and Sunday the 2nd of July we had an extremely busy weekend, marking the last session of the Summer term and the final concert of the year. On the Sunday we moved out of our normal venue at Northallerton School & Sixth Form to take up residence for the afternoon and evening at Northallerton's fantastic Forum Theatre.

All of our ensembles spent the afternoon preparing for the evening concert and looking forward to the opportunity to show the culmination of a year's hard work and effort. Post Covid, for most groups such as '#Banned' and the Wind Band, it was their first performance in a professional venue and the excitement was palpable.

The concert was also the debut for our new contemporary group 'The Hounds of Hell' led by one of our more senior members Oliver Wharton, more normally known for playing Trombone in the Orchestra.



#Banned



Wind Band



The Hounds of Hell



In front of a packed house the music continued with performances from the Advanced Wind Band, Senior Strings, and following special thanks and recognition for many years of dedication to our leavers Sam Cann, Jack Connor, Ivan Mellor and Thomas Landells, it concluded with the Orchestra (below right) performing Walton's Crown Imperial Coronation March.

As well as a range of solo opportunities from our least (Oh When the Saints) through to most experienced (with Ivan Mellor's terrific Mozart's Rondo for French Horn), I was especially pleased to see in the programme arrangements and compositions by some of our members, namely Jack Connor, Richard Mason-Smith and Andrew Liversidge. All in all, a fantastic evening, and although tinged with a little sadness recognising some of our members moving on to greater and better things, it was nevertheless a testament to the journey of our fabulous young musicians. I'm sure, that staff, parents and anyone in the audience valued the opportunity to witness the development of

our members as both people and musicians. On behalf of everyone at Northallerton Music Centre we wish Sam, Jack, Ivan and Thomas every success for the future, and we offer them an open invitation to come back and share their experiences.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff at the Forum Theatre for looking after us so well, the audience for their continuing support, and our amazing Parents Association for timeless effort and dedication.

Looking forward to next year with membership numbers steadily rising, we continue to welcome new members, offering the first half term free along with a place to have fun. Please look at our website: [www.northallertonmusiccentre.co.uk](http://www.northallertonmusiccentre.co.uk) for further details, including dates for 2023/2024.



# Skipton Music Centre

The 8th of July saw the final Skipton Music Centre, of what has been a very enjoyable year of music making. If we look back over the year, we can see the progress that has been made, not just in rebuilding the Music Centre in terms of numbers but also in the quality of the musical performances from all our groups. We have also seen the progress of individuals, some taking their first steps into the world of music making.

At the end of the year, I asked people if they would like to share their feelings about music centre and I've listed a few below.

*"Music Centre is fun and sociable. It's all about music which I love. We also have some amazing teachers who help guide us on our musical journey. They help you to learn and they get you to try new things. There is a rock band, a music technology group and an orchestra so there is something for everybody."* **Sylvia aged 11**

*"Benefits of music centre: making new friends and playing music in a group! Improving confidence through playing with other beginners and performing at concerts."* **Amanda & Ellie**

*"My daughter absolutely loves coming to Skipton Music Centre on Saturday mornings. The teaching is excellent and she enjoys the lessons and performing in the termly concerts. She is becoming more confident and enjoys being part of the beginner band, playing with others as well as individually. She comes away feeling inspired and happy."* **Georgia's Mum**



The summer term saw us launch the latest phase of our rebuilding plan in the form of a new teacher Toby Brazier. Toby is an amazing Trumpet and Cornet player who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the music centre.

Toby has taken over the running of the Beginner Band and started teaching Brass instruments to some very keen young people. We have had some great feedback from parents thanking Toby for his expertise and seemingly endless patience.

As would be expected we have lots of plans moving forward. The first of these is that we have decided to move Music Centre from Ermysted's Grammar School in Skipton where we have been based for the last 8 or 9 years and move just up the road to The Skipton Academy. The Academy have been very welcoming and offers the Centre the right environment to expand and develop. We will obviously be sad to leave Ermysted's and thank the school and all its wonderful staff for their support over the years.

We have also appointed a new member of staff for September. Amelia Fisher joins us straight from university where she has just been awarded a first class degree in music. She will be joining us as String teacher. This will allow us to offer String lessons from September as well as relaunching our music centre string group in the near future.

Lastly in September we are joining forces with Rhythm Time, a company which specialises in teaching music to early years students. This isn't an area that the music service naturally specialises in and so the collaboration allows us to increase our musical offering to cover all ages.





# Sleights CoE Primary School End of Year Concert

Ian Bangay – Head of Music Service

I am always grateful when I can get out and see schools' performances and I was particularly glad I got to see Sleights young musicians perform in their end of year concert. It seemed the whole school was taking part and it really became evident how much work had gone into the performances from the staff at the school as well as our own Music Service staff. Scott Grayson-Taylor (Head) talked me through how he approaches music in the school and what a vital part it plays in the children's development. It was so great to see that commitment to music put into action.



The concert featured both whole class groups and soloists including singers, piano players, woodwind and many more, including an oboe solo. The range of instruments on show was staggering! Every performer did themselves proud and their enthusiasm was shared by the audience. What a great way to end the year.

Congratulations to all those involved!

# NYMAZ News

## Plugged In

The NYMAZ Plugged In Producers programme is in full swing – our young production team of 18-25 year olds. The team are in the process of designing their event for autumn 2023. So far, their goal is to host a day-festival on November 18th. The event will feature alternative/punk/rock genres and will also include creative activities. Watch this space to find out what the festival will be called and where it will be taking place! @pluggedin\_nymaz.

Keep your eyes out for submissions opening for the Plugged In Artist Development Scheme which will support two artists with mentorship, paid rehearsal time and a paid performance slot at the festival itself. This opportunity will be open to young people who are 16-21 years of age, particularly welcoming applications from young women and people of marginalised genders, as well as disabled artists and artists from global majority backgrounds. News will be coming on our socials and website soon, for any enquiries in the meantime email: [pluggedin@nymaz.org.uk](mailto:pluggedin@nymaz.org.uk).



## DJ Sessions at The Barn

### - FEAST

This summer, we have worked with North Yorkshire Together to run DJ sessions at The Barn in Tadcaster. The sessions have been free to attend for those with a FEAST code. We've seen amazing progress from the young people taking part. The DJ workshops have been a chance to get to know their way around the equipment and gain DJ knowledge and skills.



The DJ School Tutors on hand to demonstrate and guide participants in how to use the equipment and by the end of the four weeks the young people will be able to record and share their mix with friends and family. The DJ school staff are brilliant at making this accessible for a range of different abilities and it has been great to see the young people get to explore their extensive song library and see their personalities come out in what they put together.

## Little Notes Bentham

Starting from September 5th our Little Notes provision is expanding to Bentham Library in partnership with Pioneer Projects! This will be a weekly music making session for 0-5s and their parents and carers featuring singing, sensory resources and percussion. Based on the model we have in both Ripon and Harrogate, we are excited to expand Little Notes across to the east of the county. The sessions at Bentham will take place every Tuesday at 9.30-11am.



**For more information and booking, contact [office@pioneerprojects.org.uk](mailto:office@pioneerprojects.org.uk)**



## Making Music Inclusive

NYMAZ in partnership with York Music Hub are offering Making Music Inclusive training.

David Insua Cao will describe and demonstrate his approaches to making all music learning inclusive. He has taught percussion as a peripatetic music teacher for many years and facilitates creative music making with students with a range of learning needs. During the course of the afternoon he will provide practical ways to make your delivery inclusive and engaging for all. This course is specifically aimed at instrumental teachers who may be working with SEND pupils in mainstream settings - for example those with Neurodiversity. The aim of the afternoon is to help you make your lessons accessible for those pupils.

This training has currently sold out. For more information and to join the waiting list: <https://buff.ly/3Q121g9>

This training has been kindly supported by [Jessie's Fund](#).

## Certificate for Music Educators: Early Childhood

**Deadline to apply is no later than 4 September 2023. Course starts in October 2023.**

As part of its continuing professional development offer to early years music practitioners in North Yorkshire, NYMAZ will be offering a bursary to undertake the Certificate for Music Educators (CME): Early Childhood, run by CREC and MERYC. The CME: Early Childhood offers a flexible, part-time, distance-learning qualification in early childhood music. The CME is a recognised National Qualification validated by Trinity College London.

This course is for anyone who wants to improve their skills and knowledge in early childhood music education and gain a recognised accredited qualification. It is ideal for Early Years Practitioners, freelance and/or peripatetic musicians working, or wishing to work, in the Early Years. For the duration of the course applicants will need to be working regularly with children in the 0 – 5 years age range. Applicants new to this age range can discuss with the mentor how a training practice can be set up.

For more information and details about how to apply visit: <https://buff.ly/3DbqlnS>

## Inclusive Practitioner Weekend

Deadline to apply is no later than 4 October 2023 with the course taking place 28/29 October 2023.

As part of its continuing professional development offer to special educational needs and disability music practitioners in North Yorkshire, NYMAZ will be offering two bursaries (both up to £500 each) to undertake the Inclusive Practitioner Weekend, run by Bristol Beacon.

This weekend of CPD for music educators is two days of practical workshops, music making, discussion and reflection. It is an opportunity to share your own practice and learn from your peers. Both days will focus on inclusive group-leading, which can be appropriate for classroom and/or community settings. The weekend will include planning and reflection, and you should leave feeling inspired, with new ideas and activities to take to your place of work.

For more information and details about how to apply visit: <https://buff.ly/3Oh5PIQ>



## Joint NYMAZ/ Noteweavers Early Years Music Conference

NYMAZ and [Noteweavers](#) are joining forces to co-deliver an Early Years Music Conference focusing on inclusion in March 2024. Keep your eye on our social media channels for more details as they are released!



# CPD for Schools

Shortly before the end of term, we ran a CPD session for schools outlining the National Plan for Music and what the expectations are for schools. During this session we looked through a typical Schools Music Plan and how to adapt existing plans to cover the new requirements. Although the National Plan for Music is not statutory, it clearly lays out expectations for schools and music hubs and could become the tool that Ofsted use to benchmark music provision and planning in schools.



(The three functions of a Music Hub in the National Plan for Music)

We will be running some more sessions on the National Plan for Music this academic year so please look out for information.

If you want to discuss your own Schools Music Plan or have any concerns about it, please contact Ian Bangay by email [Ian.Bangay@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.Bangay@northyorks.gov.uk)

## York Music Hub

We are very pleased to be supporting our colleagues in York. The orchestra is having an open day soon.

All welcome!

**YORK YOUTH ORCHESTRA**  
**Open Rehearsal**  
**Wed 6th Sept 2023**  
**@ Millthorpe School**

- Open invitation to any young musicians
- Ideally working towards Grade-6 (or above)
- An evening of fun!

**6.45 - 8.15pm**  
**Register: [www.yorkartsed.org.uk](http://www.yorkartsed.org.uk)**

Logos at the bottom: YORK ARTS ED, the Friends of York Music Centre, York Music Hub, and supported by the Department for Education and ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND.

# Get Involved

## We're developing projects that you can take part in – these are just some of them:

- Continuous professional development programmes for school staff, particularly in supporting schools to deliver music in the curriculum.
- Providing an instrument loan service, with discounts or free provision for those having instrumental lessons with North Yorkshire County Music Service.
- Providing access to large scale and high quality music experiences for pupils through working with professional musicians and venues.
- You can find out more information and share examples of great partnership working in the county on our new music hub website [www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk)

If you'd like to be added to our mailing list, want to tell us about your projects, or find out more about our plans, please email: [countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk)

This publication is the quarterly newsletter from the North Yorkshire Music Hub and we are sending it to you as an interested party, partner, parent or friend.

If you no longer wish to receive the North Yorkshire Music Hub Newsletter, please email [countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk) with 'unsubscribe' as the title of your email.

You can read the North Yorkshire County Council privacy statement here. [www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy-notices](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy-notices)



## Buy in services

All partners involved in the hub run workshops, concerts and other bespoke musical projects for children and young people on a bought in basis. If you have a specific project that you would like to launch or just require some advice on setting up your own, our partners will be happy to discuss your needs. The following examples may be of interest:

- curriculum guidance/delivery;
- working with professional musicians;
- catering for pupils with specific SEND needs; and
- bespoke CPD.

**NYMAZ** are also the signposting organisation for the hub and are happy to add your organisations details/activities to their website.

## Contact us

Online: [northyorks.gov.uk/contactus](http://northyorks.gov.uk/contactus)

By telephone: **0300 131 2 131**

Email: [countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk)

County Music Service, CYPS Business Support, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AE

Or visit our website at:

[www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk)

You can request this information in another language or format at

[www.northyorks.gov.uk/accessibility](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/accessibility)