



North Yorkshire
Music Hub

Newsletter

Issue 16 Winter 2017

About theHub

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

Its 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.



The North Yorkshire County Youth Orchestra on this year's summer residential at Ampleforth College

ENTER

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Whole class instrumental programme

The whole class instrumental programme run by the music service is well into its eighth year and we currently have record numbers of primary schools taking up this offer. Our packages now include the opportunity to create bespoke CPD packages, concerts or immersion days.

But why should you do it? Increasing amounts of research demonstrate that children who learn an instrument do better at school than those that don't. Also schools are using music as a vehicle to drive improvement – there is an interesting article here on the subject:

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2017/oct/03/school-results-music-bradford>

Currently there are over 60 primary schools in North Yorkshire buying a package and many more running groups of eight sessions through the music service. We want this to grow further. So if you are interested in creating a programme please see the North Yorkshire Education Services website for details.

Ian Bangay

Head of the North Yorkshire Music Service



Special acclaim from Music Mark

In 2016 the work the Music Service was undertaking in Nidderdale with whole class teaching received national acclaim from Music Mark and Professor Su Hallam. We were chosen to be one of only five organisations to be filmed as an example of good practice. You can view the videos using this link. www.musicmark.org.uk/wcet/

North Yorkshire county ensembles 2017

In July county ensembles all made their way to the beautiful setting of Ampleforth College to enjoy a week of intensive rehearsals culminating in four concerts for family and friends.

The residential course provides valuable ensemble experience for young musicians, Year 5 upwards, from all areas of the county. Ensembles taking part were choir, concert orchestra, youth orchestra, saxophone ensemble, brass ensemble and big band.



Review of North Yorkshire county brass ensemble/big band summer 2017 residential

by Isabel Thompson

I have been a member of the county ensembles for a couple of years now and was really looking forward to a residential where we would have time to explore new music, learn new techniques and play to a high standard. The venue of Ampleforth College was brilliant, with great facilities and accommodation. It was really nice to meet up again with old friends from previous years. It was also good to meet new people who came from schools and colleges all over North Yorkshire.

We practised a varied repertoire within the two bands, some of which was new to me. We worked hard to improve our sound with the aim of finishing the course playing better than ever before. Our final night concert was really enjoyable with us showcasing our hard work. The audience seemed impressed with our performance and lots of people commented how good we sounded. I'm already looking forward to another year of making music with this talented group of musicians!



“ Thank you very much for all the organising and allowing our daughter to join the saxophone ensemble for the residential course at Ampleforth College last week. She had a fabulous week and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. The concert on Saturday evening showcasing all their hard work was wonderful. We look forward to hearing about the rehearsal dates over the next year and any dates for next summer so that we can allow for them. Thank you again for all your help. ”

“ Please pass on our thanks to Chris Hirst, Ralph Alder, Ian Bangay and the team. Our daughter had a fantastic week. We thought Saturday's concert was exceptional and feel very lucky that she has the opportunity to play on such a brilliant group. Thank you also to Anne Heaton for having her in the orchestra. It was lovely to get a text on Friday afternoon saying ' I think you ought to come to the youth orchestra concert. We are playing actual proper music and it sounds amazing'. So I drove over from Harrogate and she was right - it was amazing! We hope you all have a very lovely summer. ”



Ampleforth residential 9th-13th July 2017

North Yorkshire county choir – Hannah Durant

Myself and approximately 30 teenagers gathered at the beautiful Ampleforth College in North Yorkshire for a five day intense choral residential! I have never sung for so many hours a day but I loved every minute of it and had so much fun! Apart from breaks to eat, we only had about two hours of down time at intervals between 8am and 9pm. We managed to prepare 18 songs ready for performance in that short space of time, although it felt like more because our programme included at least two medleys from the popular West Side Story and Black Adder series. We did get to sing in the abbey, two of our sacred songs. Unfortunately, because of our mixed programme we didn't get to do the whole concert in this venue, which was a shame because the acoustics were amazing! By Thursday night's concert we were all exhausted and several of the soloists were struggling with their voices, but the adrenalin kicked in and everyone rose to the occasion. The acoustics in the music hall were completely opposite to the abbey and we all felt very exposed. Fortunately, we had a lovely audience who very appreciative and we were expertly guided by Emma Calvert, Nigel, Andrea and Jonathon. I made some wonderful new friends and am absolutely signing up for next year's course!

Hannah Durant, Yr8 Lady Lumley's School, Pickering.



County youth choir parent review:

Thank you so much to North Yorkshire County Music Hub for providing these residential opportunities for our children! The concert held us spellbound and we cannot believe that it was all achieved in five days!!! Our daughter came home absolutely buzzing from the experience and ready to put her name down for next year's course straight away! We are so grateful for the provision of these opportunities which foster a love and passion for music, encourage a sense of community in young people from many different schools, backgrounds and ages, and provide us with some incredible listening experiences! Long may they continue...

Angela and Mark Durant, Pickering, North Yorkshire.



“ I wanted to say a huge thank you to you, Emma and all the team for giving our young people such a fantastic opportunity – and what a setting! It is also so important to show them that there are many different areas to achieve in – not just academics – and the joy that can come out of learning together and performing. ”

The North Yorkshire concert orchestra

This was directed by Su Evans, Wendy Standish and Bob Butterfield. They enjoyed playing as a string group, a wind group and then joining together to form the concert orchestra. For some of the young musicians it was their first taste of large orchestral playing and they rose to the challenge magnificently.



“ I have still not come down to earth after being in Ampleforth College last week for those two splendid concerts. It was so inspiring to see so much talent on show. The concert orchestra made a good start and Friday’s concert under Simon Wright (county youth orchestra) was to professional standards, and good professional standards at that. ”



“ Thank you for welcoming me on Wednesday evening to the concert. I much enjoyed listening to the orchestra, some of whom seemed very young. It is exciting that at NYCC you have got such good music. I hope the funding can last. Please pass my appreciation to Bob Butterfield, Su Evans and Wendy Standish. ”

“ Just to say thank you to all involved at Ampleforth College last week. We enjoyed both concerts and it was really good to see the effort made by students and teachers alike. ”



“ Please pass on my congratulations and thanks to all staff who helped to make the recent events at Ampleforth so successful. I have had many positive comments passed on to me and the two guests I brought with me were very impressed. ”

Katie Maloney – bassoon – North Yorkshire county youth orchestra

I have been going on the county orchestra course for a few years now and this time was especially fun because I wasn't able to go in 2016 so it had been a long time since I'd seen all of my friends.

As I play the bassoon, it was wonderful to have a repertoire that really stretched me with some beautiful solos but what I enjoyed the most was the feeling of community that playing in an orchestra gives me.



Although I also play in Settle orchestra (my local orchestra), nothing quite compares to the feeling I get from playing in what was my first experience of a full orchestra. Most of all I would like to thank Simon and the County Music Service for giving me and everyone else this opportunity because without it I would never have found this wonderful and bizarre group of friends or discovered the feeling of unity and pride that comes with playing in a full symphony orchestra.

Anna Beresford conducts the County Youth Orchestra in Beethoven's Egmont Overture

Anna has been a member to the County Youth Orchestra for four years and has just completed her first year at Manchester University. As part of her course she is studying conducting and relished the opportunity to conduct the County Youth Orchestra at this year's residential course. She led the orchestra through the rehearsals before conducting them in the concert. She really enjoyed this fabulous experience.

“ I want to thank you and your colleagues for making such an amazing week possible. Our daughter found it stimulating and hard work but got a lot out of it. The concert showed how much they had done and it was very impressive. ”



To find out more about County Ensembles 2018 please visit:
www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk/ensembles/county-youth-ensembles/

Or contact Jane Atkinson
jane.atkinson@northyorks.gov.uk 01609 534980

New Ensembles for 2018 will include:
North Yorkshire County Junior Choir
North Yorkshire County Guitar Ensemble

Do you know a potential NYMAZ music ambassador?

Do you know any 14+ year olds living in North Yorkshire, who are passionate about music and want their voice to be heard?

If you do, please invite them to become a NYMAZ music ambassador, so they can have a say in the music opportunities on offer in North Yorkshire!

NYMAZ is a charity that works with organisations around the county to bring exciting music-making opportunities to children and young people. **We are looking for motivated young people to join NYMAZ music ambassadors.**

Ambassadors are invited to:

- have their voice heard on issues affecting young people;
- help spread the word about local music opportunities;
- attend social events and gatherings;
- take part in music training and workshops; and
- perform their own music.

Anybody aged 14-25 and living in North Yorkshire can sign up to become a NYMAZ music ambassador, and there are no costs or a particular level of musical experience required. All we ask is that participants love music, and want to make a difference!

The Ambassadors meet each Wednesday evening, 6pm - 8pm, at Rural Arts in Thirsk. The group is open to anyone over the age of 14 who has an interest in music.

Meet our current NYMAZ music ambassadors!

Aidan and Luke from Thirsk, aka The Drivers, <http://wearethedrivers.com/> have been part of the NYMAZ music ambassadors project since April 2017 and have developed from music enthusiasts, to a fully functioning outfit. They are sharing aspects of their learning through video guides (posted on Youtube and the NYMAZ Facebook page), culminating in: An Ultimate Guide to Busking – for young people, by young people.

As NYMAZ Music Ambassadors, the duo have also had the opportunity to develop their own skills in the following areas:



continued on next page →

Recording techniques

- Software use – tracking, editing, mixing, mastering
- Microphone techniques
- Post production
- Rooms and environment
- Vocal and performance techniques

Music Industry

- Promotion packages and constructing materials
- Marketing/advertising and brand image
- Web design
- Networking
- Industry pathways
- Dealing with clients

If you know a young person who would like to become a NYMAZ music ambassador, please ask them to email info@nymaz.org.uk to let us know!

We are running activities for the rest of 2017 and 2018 so there is no deadline. You can e-mail us if you have any questions, or phone us on **01904 543382**.

Ambassadors is part of the NYMAZ Youth Music Programme, funded by the National Foundation for Youth Music.

More information and to get involved:

www.nymaz.org.uk/for-young-people/nymaz-music-ambassadors



“ It went from us being a bit of a mess around/ joke, to being established buskers and giggers, with a website, all whilst working with NYMAZ ”

Luke

Skipton music centre



Skipton music centre's big band returned to Buckden Gala this summer and impressed their audience with a selection of popular classics and less well-known pieces.



Skipton music centre's string ensemble returned to perform in Skipton's shopping centre Craven Court this summer. They delighted an audience of shoppers who stopped to listen to their music.



Skipton music centre's senior concert band performed at Settle College as part of a joint concert with students from the school.

Skipton music centre



Skipton music centre's junior concert band enjoyed performing at Skipton's Sheep Day this summer. The band played a selection of popular classics to an appreciative audience on the high street.

Musicians from Skipton music centre's new ensemble *Fret Band* enjoyed performing as part of the end of term concerts at Ermysted's Grammar School in Skipton this summer. All twelve ensembles performed over three concerts throughout the day. The concerts have been a wonderful opportunity for all the ensembles to showcase the fantastic music they have been working on over the last term.



For more information about Skipton music centre:

Visit our website www.skipton-music-centre.org.uk

Contact Pip Jopling - music centre manager:

pip.jopling@northyorks.gov.uk

01609 534 795

Next Open Morning - Saturday 18th November 9:30 - 12:15 - Bring your instrument and join in!

Scarborough music centre

Summer Term 2017

The summer term kicked off in style with both JCB and Jazz Train performing together at The Rainbow Centre in Scarborough on 6 May. This was a first time appearance at this venue for us and we raised over £400 for the Rainbow Centre charity for the homeless. We do hope to go back and perform here again next year.

On 20 May, our two Guitar Groups and Ebony (Clarinet Group) performed at Sinnington Methodist Chapel. In addition, many of the performers chose to play solo items too which was a lovely way to spend a summer's evening. The concert was to raise funds for our transport fund via a retiring collection.

To conclude the Summer Term we had our two concerts at Westborough Church on 24 June and 1 July. Also, a select group of five of our young musicians, who have been putting together and rehearsing their own jazz combo, were asked to perform in Pickering for the NASUWT Summer Social. This was in the garden of the Sun Inn in Pickering on Sunday 2 July. They performed to an amazing standard and will hopefully be invited back again next year.



Northallerton music centre

Northallerton music centre started off the new academic year with a few changes. All ensembles have moved onto the west side of Northallerton School & Sixth Form College site. It's pleasing to see everyone together, including staff, in the morning but the tuck shop is a little congested at times! After a few initial rooming issues, all seems settled now.

We had a couple of staffing changes over the summer. We welcome Pam Bowyer and Sarah Skilbeck to our staff. Pam is directing the Guitar Ensembles and is also a brass player as well as having a teaching background. Sarah is directing the Senior Strings and 'The Banned', our ensemble to encourage students to play together for the first time. Sarah works for the county as a string teacher.

Our new ensemble, Learn to Play an Instrument has started. The students are excited to learn about instruments and which is best for them. This term there are a mixture of instrumental families in the group and if you are interested in sending either your child or you know a child at school who may be interested then please ask them to contact the centre on

info@northallertonmusiccentre.co.uk or alternatively on **su.evans@northyorks.gov.uk**

In June we said goodbye to our Year 13 students at our senior summer concert at The Forum, Northallerton. Tradition has become that they have the opportunity to perform a soloistic role and many took the opportunity to do so. We wished Victoria Auger, Poppy Dunstan, Rachel Harvey and Thomas Pattison all the best for their future careers.

Our ensemble directors are already planning their pieces, joint items and finale for our Gala Concert at The Sage, Gateshead on Sunday 1 July 2018. If you would like to be part of this experience with your child, please come along and join Northallerton music centre!

Concerts for the year have been published and will take place on:

- Saturday 2 December 2017 at music centre
- Saturday 24 March 2018 at music centre and The Forum, Northallerton
- Sunday 1 July 2018 our Gala Concert at The Sage, Gateshead.

Please see our website

www.northallertonmusiccentre.co.uk

for further details.

On a sad note, in December we will be saying goodbye to Richard Walter who will be retiring from the Music Service and Northallerton music centre. Richard has worked for the county as a brass teacher and music centre director for nearly 30 years. There will have been hundreds of brass students who have been taught and influenced by Richard's passion as well as all the students who have worked with him in the various ensembles at music centre and at county level. Personally it has been a privilege to work with Richard over the many years I have been involved in Northallerton music centre and see his enthusiasm and concern for music making in schools.

Su Evans



Northallerton music centre staff (left to right) Tim Waters, Kathleen Butcher, Alan Owens, Trevor Wilson, Richard Walter, Lisa Corbett, Pam Bowyers, Su Evans, Sarah Skilbeck.

Northallerton music centre



Over the summer, five Northallerton music centre students took part in the first of three residential courses held by NOFA (National Orchestra For All). NOFA's mission statement is *'to unlock access to the life-changing experience of ensemble music-making for young people with complex lives'*. With many of our students living in remote areas across North Yorkshire they were able to apply and receive bursaries to participate.

The music rehearsed and performed this season is based on exploring the relationship between music and dance. The students attended a four day residential, culminating in a performance at Leeds Arena in front of thousands of student teachers, the Lord Mayor of Leeds and the local MP.

All the students had a fantastic time. Here are some of the comments made by parents and our students:

'The music was exciting and having such a huge audience for the concert was fantastic!'

'I was very pleased to meet the three other double bassists and to work with them during the course as part of the lower string section ... I even got to play a solo!'

'I really enjoyed the tea time sessions where we divided into different groups: Samba, Choir, Tango, Baroque, Club Music, and Eastern European Folk Music and playing and singing music in that style.'

'As well as meeting musicians from all over the UK and working with inspirational tutors and conductors, I enjoyed staying at the university campus and getting a taste of uni life.'

'My child made some good friends from around the country from all backgrounds and the NOFA staff were excellent, very caring and friendly.'

'NOFA have been very supportive, and the whole event was professionally organised. They ensured that the children had fun. The variety and quality of music was brilliant. My child gained so much confidence from it and learnt a great deal about music as a whole. She is looking forward to attending the next session in Edinburgh with other musicians from the north.'



Northallerton music centre students were:
Andrew Brown, Noah Dixon, Joe Herbert,
James McPhearson, Carys Meaney.



NOFA at Leeds Arena.

Whitby music centre

Whitby music centre started its summer term with a repeat of the wider opportunities day they held last year at Eskdale School. Well over 100 children involved in the wider opportunities programme from a number of primary schools gathered at Eskdale School for an afternoon of music making. Many returned to the school the following Saturday to attend the music centre open day.

In mid-June many of our ensembles provided the music for Whitby Youth Hostel open day. This was well attended providing a large audience for our musicians.

Later in June the music centre held its summer concert. As usual the concert was based on a specific theme – this year the theme was the 1970s. Players and audience were invited to dress in the spirit of the theme and this year we did have some very interesting outfits. Ralph Alder – our new manager this year – compered the concert.

In July our concert band provided the music for the Armed Forces Day in Whitby. As a Spitfire flew over the town the band broke into an arrangement of “Dam Busters March”.

Our year finished with our bi-annual visit to Grosmont where we created our version of “proms in the park”.



Selby music centre

Summer term roundup:

Selby music centre had a successful open morning on 6 May where we welcomed many potential new students, several of whom joined the centre for the remainder of the term and have signed up for the new academic year.

We had a full centre concert in Selby Abbey on 17 June which was well supported by families and the local community.

The brass band were then busy on Sunday 18 June performing at Selby bandstand as part of the Selby Fun Day events.

The summer term ended with two mornings of fun-filled music making, culminating in a short concert showing the collaborative work achieved by the students and staff.

Autumn term:

We have had a couple of staffing changes over the summer:

Adam McGuinn has joined us to take over the senior and junior guitar ensembles, and is now also teaching for the County Music Service in local Selby schools;

Amanda Parkin (choir) has left us to take up a full time role at Hambleton Primary, and in her place we welcome Heidi Reger to direct the choir and junior band.

The centre, and music service, have also lost a very dear friend and colleague – Dominic Melbourne. Dominic had been unwell for several years and bravely soldiered on, however he sadly lost his battle with cancer and passed away in September.

Forthcoming events:

Open morning on Saturday 11 November 2017

Full centre concert at 10.00am on Saturday 9 December 2017

Brass Band concert with York RI Band at 7.30pm on Saturday 9 December 2017 in Selby Abbey.



Harrogate music centre

Harrogate music centre continues to go from strength to strength with each concert and performance.

Our first success was our gala concert which was held at the Royal Hall in March, where all the members of the music centre put on a musical spectacular culminating in a performance of Gary Barlow's 'Just Sing' for over 300 performers from aged 8 – 18.

The music centre then put on several summer concerts around the Harrogate area.

Our main end of term concerts were held at Constance Green Hall at St Aidan's School, who we thank for their continued support of the music centre. We held two concerts, one for the juniors and one for the senior groups. Both were a huge success with excellent performances from all groups and a large and very appreciative audience. HYJO (Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra) also held a reunion that night and were joined by players from across the years that this flagship ensemble has been together. They came and played as the senior group's finale to their concert as it sadly also meant the last performance with their current musical director Alistair Gibson. Alistair has been leading the group for two years and with his support they have gone from strength to strength.

HYJO, Wind Band and HYWO (Harrogate Youth Wind Orchestra) also performed at the splendid Spofforth 'Teas on the Lawn', along



with the combined ukulele groups. It was a superb afternoon of music and cream teas in aid of 'Spofforth In Bloom'. This has become a regular summer gig for these groups and we are thrilled to be able to perform in the community and support such good causes.

September saw two new members of staff join our team. We very pleased to welcome Sammy Spruce and James Gregg. Sammy is an ex-member of Harrogate music centre and joins us having completed her music degree at Durham University. James will be taking over the running and directorship of HYJO. Our Wind Band played at the National Concert Band Festival in Manchester in November, the fundraising ceilidh in November and, of course, our Christmas concerts!

Harrogate music centre meets weekly on Saturday mornings at St Aidan's School in Harrogate. There are groups to suit all musical tastes and standards – ukuleles to double basses, saxes to violins plus everything in between. We also cater for all ages. We run beginner groups for children just starting their musical learning through to those working at county and even national levels. All are welcome and we even run groups for adults!! The centre is a thriving community for all who love music.

If you would like to find out more about the centre please 'Google' us and visit our Friends of Harrogate music centre website or call Stephen Price (music centre manager) on **01609 534979**.

The North Yorkshire Music Hub - find out more and get involved



We're running music hub forums across the county every term and useful partnerships and possibilities are already developing. The make-up of the meetings has been encouraging, with groups ranging from community and town brass bands, professional orchestras, primary and secondary school teachers and local music societies. Please get in touch with us if you'd like to be added to the invitation list and we'll let you know where and when the next forum for your area will be – please email: countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk or ring **01609 532 783**.

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.northyorkshireremusicclub.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

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

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

Tel: **01609 532 783** Email: countyhall.music@northyorks.gov.uk

Or visit our website at: www.northyorkshireremusicclub.co.uk

If you would like this information in another language or format please ask us.

Tel: **01609 780 780** email: customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk