

NEWSLETTER



Issue 31 • Winter 2024

Harrogate Northallerton NYMAZ Scarborough & Whitby Selby Skipton

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.



Welcome to the Winter 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.

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Autumn Term

Autumn has been a very busy term for the Music Hub. There were countless Christmas performances across the county both in schools, as part of the whole class instrumental programme, and at Music Centre events. Some of them are highlighted in this edition.

Autumn was also busy as we prepare for the new funding round in September 2024, which will see North Yorkshire and York reunited as one Music Hub. Whilst this will present challenges for all those involved in the process, it will also offer a great many new and exciting opportunities for our children and young people.

New Hub Website

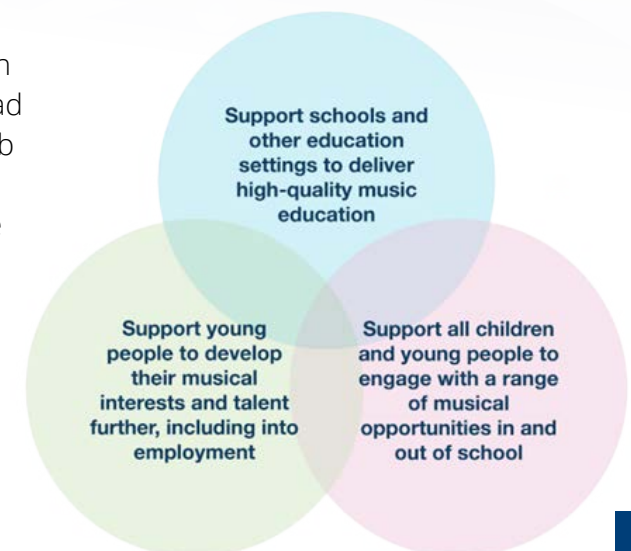
North Yorkshire Music Hub now has a new website which should be a little less clunky and offer more opportunity for MP3 and MP4 playback. There will be regular updates on the site and a new section for resources. Please take a look at northyorkshitemusicHub.co.uk



New National Plan for Music Education – School Music Plans

Last term we delivered CPD for schools on the new planning requirements for music in schools, outlined in the National Plan for Music. Ian Bangay, Head of Music Service, also spoke to Head Teachers and Governors in a series of online meetings. The hub has also developed a planning template for schools, which will be sent out via the red bag and available to download from the hub website, shortly. The plan, although not statutory, sets out what schools should be providing in terms of curriculum and extra-curricular music. Its about creating the opportunities for pupils to develop their learning in as many ways as possible.

For more information, please contact Ian.Bangay@northyorks.gov.uk



County Youth Ensembles

This year we will be running a number of new ensembles at our residential in Giggleswick. The residential will run from July 7th to the 12th. There will be an opportunity for a range of abilities. If you are learning a woodwind, strings, brass or percussion instrument and are between grade 3 and 5, you will be able to attend the training orchestra, which will run from Sunday 7th to Wednesday 10th. The choir will run for two days, the County Youth Big Band from Sunday to Thursday and the new chamber orchestra from Sunday to Friday. To join the chamber orchestra, you will need to audition by sending a video clip in or yourself playing a short piece or section of a piece.

For more details about any of these ensembles, please contact Jane.Atkinson@northyorks.gov.uk

Cayton CP School, Scarborough



The year 5 class at Cayton CP School in Scarborough started learning to play their instruments at the start of the Autumn term, via a whole class music project delivered by Ralph Alder from the North Yorkshire Music Service. On Thursday 14th December they performed in a concert together for the first time in a morning assembly. The hall was packed as the rest of the school were there, as well as most of the performer's parents. They started with a rendition of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and closed with a spirited performance of Jingle Bells. The class have shown great tenacity towards their music making, progressing at an amazing pace in the short time they have been learning. We look forward to seeing what they will go on to achieve later in the school year.



Scarborough Music Centre

Our 2023 – 2024 academic year kicked off with our regular performance at the Scarborough Jazz Festival for our EASY Band on 23rd September. We had a full morning open workshop with Sax/Flute player Tori Freestone, and Pianist Alcyona Mick. This was followed by a performance alongside them at 4.30pm in the Suncourt at The Spa. This was very well attended, and it was a joy to perform to such an appreciative jazz-loving audience.

Just before the Christmas holidays, Scarborough Music Centre ensembles were involved in two performances both of which were of a high standard. On Saturday 2nd December our senior band, The EASY Band, travelled out to Thornton Le Dale to perform as part of the village`s Christmas Lights switch on event. This is an event that we have played at for many years, facing all types of weather conditions



too in the outdoors, but they always deliver an outstanding. The weather this year though was quite pleasant, and we were kept warm with their kind donations of drinks and hot dogs!

A week later, on Saturday 9th December, Scarborough Music Centre held it`s Gala Concert at Queen Street Methodist Church in the centre of town. This concert involved all nine ensembles that operate at the centre and was again well attended. This was a fantastic end to our Autumn Term for the music centre, and the setting of the church is always lovely and festive.

Our senior EASY Band still had one more concert to perform in though before they could rest for the holidays. The day after our Gala Concert (10th December) the students travelled to Pickering to take part in an evening of festive music at the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul. The band performed several slots of their own as well as providing the accompaniment for the carols during the evening. This was a first for us, and we hope to be invited back there at some point soon.

At the time of writing, we are currently preparing for another two major concerts. On Saturday 2nd March our Senior Strings, Junior Strings, Viva Violins, Guitars and Ebony (wind ensemble) will be performing at St Oswald`s Church in Filey for the first time and should provide a wonderful setting for the concert.



On Saturday 9th March, our four bands, (EASY Band, Junior Concert band, BIG and Jazz Train) will be taking part in the Boyes Celebrity Concert alongside the Hannah Horton Quartet at the Scarborough Spa Ocean Room. This event, sponsored by Boyes stores, is now in its 39th year starting way back in 1985, being held every year since except for 2021 which was cancelled due to Covid-19. This unique concert gives our young players the chance to not only hear professional musicians perform, but also for them to work alongside them and be instructed and guided by them. This is one of our most prestigious events in our calendar and we always look forward to it with much enthusiasm.

Whitby Music Centre

A busy term for Whitby Music as it always is around Christmas time. Our younger players gave their usual “Autumn Concert” at the beginning of term. This was very well attended and given that the players had very few rehearsals to get ready, the standard was very high.

Late November saw the entire centre playing in town in various events as part of the Whitby Christmas Festival. The low temperature didn't seem to deter our players from giving the public live Christmas music and creating the atmosphere they came to the festival to experience.

We put on our main Christmas concert at Eskdale School. All the ensembles gave the audience a real musical treat. Even though the concert was a celebration, the event was also tinged with sadness as we all knew that it would be the last time we played at Eskdale as it will be closing at the end of the year. We have used the school as a concert venue countless times over the years and for a long time it was our home every Saturday morning. We have many happy memories of the school.

At the very end of the term we were the guests of a large charity event held at Whitby Spa to raise money for the RNLI and for the

YMT which is a local organisation who support music in Whitby. Our contribution amounted to almost half of the concert and I was very proud of the way the players performed and acquitted themselves.



Harrogate Music Centre

What an exciting term it has been at Harrogate Music Centre! We were delighted to welcome two new members of staff to the team in September: Cameron McArthur and Sarah Lamb. Cameron has taken over as the conductor of Blast Off! and Sarah has taken up the position of Teacher of Woodwind. Both are excellent musicians with lots of enthusiasm and they are proving to be fantastic additions to the Harrogate Music Centre family.

New Early Years Groups at HMC

We are very excited to be starting two new early years groups at Harrogate Music Centre January 2024. These groups are designed to help young children develop a love for music and improve their cognitive skills. They will be led by an experienced teacher and singer who will use age-appropriate activities such as singing, dancing and playing musical instruments to engage your budding young musician and help to develop their communication, emotional intelligence and to build their confidence.

We will be offering the following sessions which will each last around 35 minutes:

9:30-10:05 – Musical Munchkins – For children aged 3-4, accompanied by 1 parent.

10:15-10:50 – Sound Explorers – For children aged 5-7, unaccompanied.

These sessions will be free for the first half term and then will be charged £40 per term and both groups will take place on Saturday mornings during term time.

We are hoping to be able to start these sessions on Saturday 13th January.

If you would like to register your child for either of these groups, please contact Emily Jones, Harrogate Music Centre Manager via email – Emily.Jones@northyorks.gov.uk. Please note that places are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

HMC Christmas Concert 2023

Saturday 16th December saw the arrival of our Harrogate Music Centre Christmas Concert, featuring performances from all HMC ensembles including Youth Choir, Concert Band, String Ensemble, Orchestra, Parental Guidance, Adult Ukuleles, Blast Off, HYJO and HYPE. We heard a variety of music from festive favourites, to film and television classics, to classical tunes reimagined for ukulele just to name a few. All ensembles performed very well and we'd like to thank all the HMC staff, members and volunteers for a very successful morning of festive entertainment. There was even a Christmas jumper competition for adults and for children and it was great to see so many taking the competition seriously! It really proved how competitive the parents of Harrogate can be.

Brass Brilliance at HMC!

In November, we were fortunate to be able to offer an opportunity for a group of 8 new students to have trumpet and trombone lessons at HMC with brass teacher, Daniel Bryant. These lessons aim to provide a more affordable route into playing an instrument – whilst of course being fun and engaging – and will lead to ensemble opportunities for all students at the end of this academic year. We hope to be able to offer similar lessons for woodwind in the near future so please watch this space!

At 11am on 11th November, we observed the national 2 minutes silence to reflect and remember all those who have given their lives for our country and those who continue to risk everything. HYJO student Peter Abeyawardene marked the start and end of the silence with the Last Post and Reveille. We'd like to thank Peter for playing so brilliantly and professionally.

What does 2024 have in store?

We are looking forward to welcoming a new member of staff to the HMC team in January. Jenny Whittaker is a singer and Early Years SENCO who will be leading the two new Early Years groups, as well as taking over as conductor of the Youth Choir. We are very lucky to have Jenny on board and can't wait to see the energy that she will bring to HMC!

2024 will bring with it a wealth of performance opportunities, so please look out for further information from us as the year progresses. In the Spring term alone, HYJO (Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra) and HYPE (Harrogate Youth Percussion Ensemble) will be busy preparing for the Harrogate Competitive Festival which will be taking place in March. A number of our students will also be performing in the solo categories and we wish them the very best of luck! In addition to the Harrogate Competitive Festival, HYJO will be returning to the Great North Big Band Jazz Festival in March. Last year's competition saw them return with the 'Best Section' trophy for the brass section. We wish them every success in the next competition!

Harrogate Music Centre will return on Saturday 13th January for our first rehearsals of the Spring Term. We are all very much looking forward to what exciting musical opportunities 2024 has in store and hope that you might consider joining us for them.



Selby Music Centre

It's been a busy term at Selby Music Centre with the addition of a new member of staff to run an expanding guitar group and the folk rock group, the introduction of a beginner wind group and lots of new starters visiting and trying out new instruments as they begin their musical journeys. As Armistice Day fell on a Saturday, we all gathered at 11am to listen to Mr Novell play the last post and mark the day with a 2 minute silence. On December 9th, we held our Christmas concert at Selby High School. It was wonderful to see so many in the audience and special to have so many children playing in their first concert on new instruments, alongside older students who have played here for several years. Sadly, this will be our last Performance at Selby High School, after many years of rehearsing and performing there. From January, we will be rehearsing in our new venue of Osgodby Methodist

Church and halls on Saturday mornings and we are excited to explore different concert venues in the Selby area in the coming year and our choir will be performing in the York Community Choir Festival at Joseph Rowntree Theatre. We would like to wish everyone a happy Christmas and look forward to continuing to expand our musical groups in the New Year.



Skipton Music Centre

It has been another busy term at Skipton Music Centre. Over the summer it was decided that the centre should relocate from Ermysted's Grammar School and move up the road to the Skipton Academy.

The move went smoothly thanks to the Music Centre staff and Steven Bibby who is Head of Creative Arts at the Academy. The new space has taken a little time to get used to, but we are all enjoying being in the new surroundings. The Academy is a much busier place on a Saturday morning than Ermysteds with plenty of other activities taking place and has led to several new faces joining us.

In September we were delighted to announce 2 new members of staff. Millie, who has come in to help run the beginner band and to launch new String lessons and Alex who has taken over the Rock Band and Music Production classes. Both have settled in well and are proving to be real assets to the Centre.

In September we also started more beginner Woodwind, Brass and String lessons. These have proved very popular and brought in around 25 new young musicians. The idea behind the lessons is to give as many young people as possible the chance to start an instrument as cheaply as possible.



The project is limited to 1 year at which point the young musicians should be ready to move into school-based lessons with other teachers from the Council Music Service.

The term ended with our annual Christmas Concert which was very well attended with some

superb performances, this included our new Junior Brass ensemble (many of these young musicians were making their performance debuts and a wonderful rendition of Feliz Navidad by the Rock band. The whole concert ended with the Concert Band playing beautifully under the direction of Kevin Maltby who was sporting one of the finest Christmas Jackets I've seen in a long time.



NYMAZ

NYMAZ Director, Sarah McWatt, co-presented at Music Mark's national conference in November 2023. The session, *Whose Music Education Is it? Youth Voice: Young people as active participants in leading and shaping music*, was co-presented with Southampton Music Hub and young participants, including a video contribution from one of our former participants and current trustee, Ben Lee. Ben has taken part in a number of NYMAZ courses and projects, and now works as a freelance journalist. He is also studying an MA in Journalism at City, University of London. Ben will also be contributing to an upcoming PR campaign alongside another of our young producers, Emily.

Watch out for a new identity and brand for NYMAZ, launching in February 2024! Developed in consultation with young people, we can't wait to share our new look, website and name, which we feels reflects the energy and vitality of the young people we work with.

Also launching in February is our follow-up research report to 2015's *Gone in the Air* paper, which looked at music opportunities and access in rural England. This national research examines what is available to children and young people in rural England, and outlines recommendations for how to improve access.



We are currently working on an upcoming series of PODs which will be available for a variety of age groups between 11-25 years.

Live Radio + Podcasting POD

We will be hosting a Live Radio and Podcasting workshop run by Alexa Kruger, who is a professional radio producer, in March. We will be exploring how to make podcasts, how to produce a radio show and hopefully providing hands-on experience with professional radio equipment.

Tour Management

This POD will be a workshop in all things tour management, what it involves, how to get into it, and answering your questions about the lifestyle.

More information will be shared via the NYMAZ social media channels and via Plugged In pages on socials.

[Plugged In \(@pluggedin_nymaz\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

[Plugged In on Facebook](#)

Free Access and Training

North Yorkshire schools and early years settings have free access to the pond resource, with a training session on how to use the resources taking place online at 4pm on Friday 19 January.

To sign up for the free resource and training session, contact us at info@nymaz.org.uk

Joint NYMAZ/Note Weavers Early Years Music Conference

NYMAZ Early Years Music Network and **Note Weavers** are joining forces to co-deliver an Early Years Music Conference focusing on inclusion on 1st March 2024 at Skipton Town Hall.

For more information and to get your early bird tickets: [click here](#)

Keep your eye on our social media channels for more details as they are released!

Jimmy Rotheram – Keynote Speaker

Jimmy will be delivering a presentation and workshop detailing the spectacular work that he has done in transforming Feversham Primary Academy in Bradford through music. Jimmy has shared his story across the world, and even reached the finals of the Global Teacher Prize! We're delighted to have him open our conference on his home turf in Yorkshire.

Jennifer Redmond

Jennifer has recently produced the series Musical Storyland for CBeebies featuring the musicians of the BBC Philharmonic. Jennifer will be joining Note Weavers to explore these films and the accompanying resources.

Zoë Challenor

B'Opera Founder and Director Zoë Challenor, will be delivering a session on her inclusive practice, which includes regular work with Neonatal Surgical Wards and under-fives in hospital, as well as relaxed concerts designed for the early years.

Rebecca Denniff

Rebecca Denniff will show us how to easily integrate five minutes of singing a day into your daily routine with children with the Five a Day singing resource. Tried and tested across schools in North Yorkshire, it's designed to be accessible for all confidence levels!

A Day at the Pond/Mausam

We will explore our beautiful digital resource, A Day at the Pond/Mausam, created with OAE and SAA-uk. Join us in some hands-on activities alongside conservation project, Wild Ingleborough, as we bring the outside indoors!

Claire Hamilton and Alison Turpin

Claire and Alison will be joining us for a panel discussion exploring ways to ensure equality and diversity in music sessions for under fives. They will be sharing practical tips to work in partnership to deliver diverse opportunities children and their families.

More speakers to be announced soon!



DAY AT THE POND PERFORMANCE

Skipton Town Hall, 7th February
1.30pm (45mins)

Dance, sing and play with us as we take our musical adventure down to the pond!

There might be one in your garden, at the park, or at your school, but who lives there, and what do they do all day? Join the OAE (Orchestra of Enlightenment) and SAA-UK (South Asian Arts) live as we explore a day in the life of a pond!

From sunrise to late at night after dark, the pond is filled with life. Music from across the ages and across the world guides as we meet the birds that fly above, the fish that swim in the water, and all the creatures in between.

SHOW TIMES:

10.30am (PUBLIC) – [Book here](#)

1.30pm (SCHOOLS AND LARGE GROUPS)

Book tickets by emailing teah@nymaz.org.uk

Tickets are available for £3 per child with possibility of large group discounts. (if bringing a school group teachers and assistants will come for free).



Active Music Pick 'n' Mix

Active Music Pick and Mix Free resource

We have purchased Active music Pick and Mix for all primary schools in North Yorkshire.

640+ Singing Games & Musical Activities for 4 - 11 year olds Every game/activity comes accompanied by a song notations & demonstration video. For details of how to get your free activation, please contact Ian.Bangay@northyorks.gov.uk



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

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

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 with 'unsubscribe' as the title of your email.

You can read the North Yorkshire County Council privacy statement here. www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy-notice

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

By telephone: **0300 131 2 131**

Email: 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

You can request this information in another language or format at

www.northyorks.gov.uk/accessibility