

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.

The Band of the Grenadier Guards will be performing with our musicians on 17 June at our Platinum Jubilee Concert – see inside for more details.

Harrogate

Northallerton

NYMAZ

Scarborough & Whitby

Skipton



Supported using public funding by

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.

County Youth Orchestra, Choir and Big Band Events 2022

We were very busy in the summer.

The County Youth Orchestra, conducted by Simon Wright, ran a full weeks residential at Harrogate Ladies College in July. The concert and course was a huge success with the following write up being placed in the Light Music Society magazine.

“North Yorkshire County Youth Orchestra – Friday 15th July, Harrogate Ladies’ College What a delight it was to be entertained by the North Yorkshire County Youth Orchestra after an absence of three years. Although there was an event last summer, it was much-curtailed time-wise and the final concert was not played to a public audience so there was a real sense of joy to see things return to normal.

Despite player numbers being a little lower than before lockdown, the theme of the evening was one of rejuvenation and rebuilding, and the sight and sound of the nonetheless sizeable number of players who did return for this year’s residential week was very encouraging. vv

The programme consisted mainly of several well-known pieces of Light Music and it was wonderful to see how much the young players were enjoying this tuneful music. The variety of the chosen pieces gave the orchestra, under the assured direction of Simon Wright and ably supported by leader Grace Hughes, ample opportunity to demonstrate its ability to play many different styles with equal skill.

This was evident in the three varied movements of Eric Coates’ evocative London Suite. The liveliness of the two outer movements was perfectly suited to the exuberant brass and percussion sections, whilst the quieter, atmospheric second movement was a time for the strings to shine.

The haunting main theme was first played by a solo cello, a beautiful performance from Felicity Lloyd, which then swelled to a full, rich sound from the string section as a whole. A certain delicacy of sound was required for Ronald Binge’s Elizabethan Serenade and Little Serenade by Ernest Tomlinson, ably achieved by the string and wind sections.

The latter piece in particular has some very tricky wind solos, not least from the flute, and the acknowledgement of Madeline O’Connell’s performance was well-deserved.

One of the many stand-out moments of the concert was a fantastic John Iveson arrangement of Londonderry Air for trombone solo and brass, featuring soloist Lewis Alder. His sweet, mellow tone and sensitive interpretation was a real joy to listen to, as was the jazzy syncopation of the accompaniment from the rest of the brass section.

The clean precision of the brass was heard throughout the concert, especially in Coates’ High Flight march, The Falcons by Charles Williams and concert opener Processional Fanfare by Elgar Howarth.



There was also a sense of fun and joie de vivre to be found in the performances of Binge's Red Sombrero (which prompted the appearance of suitably appropriate headgear amongst the orchestra!) and Devil's Galop (the theme to Dick Barton) by Charles Williams, both of which also showcased the continuously hardworking percussion section!

By contrast the soothing tranquillity of Coates' By the Sleepy Lagoon, the famous theme tune to Radio 4's Desert Island Discs programme, gave audience members chance to catch their collective breaths and enjoy the rippling harps evoking the sound of gentle waves lapping at the shore!

The concert was rounded off emphatically by March of the Bowmen from Frederic Curzon's Robin Hood Suite, a fitting end to a rollercoaster tour of the Light Music world! The prolonged applause from a clearly appreciative audience was very well-deserved.

This was a performance of maturity and skill that belied the young ages of the players and it was easy to forget that nearly all of the players, apart from the few staff members dotted around, were 18 and under.

Light Music is notoriously difficult to play with its tricky rhythms and frequent changes of key and tempi, but this group of youngsters made it sound easy which is testament to the amount of sheer hard work they, Simon and the rest of the staff had obviously put in over the course of the week.

It was a truly emotional evening to see these young musicians coming together again after such a long absence and producing a musical performance of such high quality. A lady in the audience spoke to me at the interval with tears in her eyes, saying that I must mention how moved the audience was by the occasion.

In his closing speech, Simon thanked the players and staff for their hard work and assured us all that there are plenty of future plans for music in North Yorkshire schools, which was surely the highest note on which the evening could have ended."

Sarah Glossop

It was with a great sense of relief that the County Music Service was able to welcome back young voices from across the county of North Yorkshire, last summer, for a four day residential at Harrogate ladies college. This culminated in an uplifting concert of music in the school chapel on the final evening of the choir course. Parents and young musicians from the other residential music courses packed into the chapel for a feast of varied choral works from across the vocal repertoire. All the children who came said they would be back to carry on the good work in summer 2023 which is marvellous news.

At the start of the Covid19 pandemic, singing was one of the first activities deemed as high risk, exiling choirs both large and small, professional and amateur to online rehearsals and performances only. Thankfully this is now very much behind us and as was seen at the recent royal funeral where the great weight and majesty of choral music had in laying her late majesty Queen Elizabeth II to rest with services at Westminster Abbey and St Georges Windsor.

The first of four rehearsals in the run up to the summer 2023 residential course has taken place. However, we are always looking to grow and develop the choir further. If you know any child from year seven to 6th form who would like to attend rehearsals culminating in the summer residential, please contact the Choir Director, Scott Senogles at senogles@northyorks.gov.uk or call 07890 055272

Scott C Senogles M.A
Instrumental Lead & Music Instructor



County Youth Big Band Tour

At the end of July the County Youth Big Band did a highly successful tour of France and Belgium. The band performed three concerts in Ostend, Boulogne and Ypres. They had a chance to tour around Bruges as well as Ypres, famous for its First World War battles.

The concerts were very popular and we were greeted by the mayor of Boulogne who was delighted, asking us to come back again to perform. Ostend attracted hundreds of people as we performed in the fantastic band stand in the main square. Ypres, although successful, saw us performing in scorching heat which made playing rather uncomfortable but the band did really well.

Next year the band will tour to Holland and Germany. There are still places available for any budding players. You need to be Grade 5 and above. The band rehearses on six Sundays in the year at Escrick Primary School near Selby. For more information, please contact Jane.Atkinson@northyorks.gov.uk



Platinum Jubilee Concert

It is quite poignant to look back on our summer celebrating the Platinum Jubilee, given the sad death of Queen Elizabeth 2nd earlier this year. However, it was such a special celebration and unique event that we wanted to include it in this magazine issue.

The world-famous Grenadier Guards joined young musicians from schools across North Yorkshire for a spectacular concert to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Children and families cheered and waved flags as the military band – recognisable for their scarlet tunics and bearskin hats - made a grand entrance at Harrogate Convention

Centre on Friday evening (June 17), playing the traditional British Grenadiers marching song. The concert at Harrogate Convention Centre was organised by North Yorkshire County Council's School Music Service and also featured about 350 children and young people from schools in the county.

One of the Grenadier Guards who took part, George Hirst, is a former North Yorkshire school pupil who was a member of some of the music service's ensembles. The trumpet player was a former member of Selby Music Centre, the County Youth Big Band and County Youth Orchestra from the age of 12.



The Band of the Grenadier Guards have a history which dates back more than 300 years and played a key role in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Parade in London earlier this month. They are taking part in celebratory concerts across the country this year and North Yorkshire's School Music Service was lucky enough to have a request for the band to join the concert accepted.

The Guards were fantastic, interacting with our children throughout the day. They were happy to talk about their roles and even let the children try on their bearskins and have pictures taken with them.

It was a great end to an enormous amount of work put in by music service staff and the teachers at the schools taking part.

We are hoping to continue our relationship with the Guards and are looking in to taking the County Youth Big Band down to London to rehearse with them and watch changing of the guard."



The evening featured performances from children and young people performing with North Yorkshire County Schools' Big Band, the Junior and Primary Schools Choirs and Wind Band, Richmond Chamber Choir and the County Youth Choir. They played a selection of popular music from each decade of the Queen's reign.



Back on the road again...

After a resoundingly successful first year for the NYCC instrumental demo team, five talented multi instrumental music leads from NYCC Music Service head back out on the road again to visit every corner of our vast county and increase visibility to the services available to all children within North Yorkshire.

In Sep 2021 as a direct response to Covid19 and implementation of the music services post pandemic recovery plan, five instrumentalist from the service were tasked with forming a dynamic and engaging music group which could go out and deliver high standard assemblies to showcase the many instruments and other music provisions which are taught through the service.

Schools have been very keen to host the five-piece demo team with many head-teachers overjoyed to see the response live music has on their pupils. For many young children in remote parts of our vast county this may be the first live music they've encountered and the beaming faces at the demos speak for themselves.

We all know the great power music has on young minds in developing concentration, determination and empathy as well as refining confidence, social skills and dedication.

Many adults the team come across in weekly visits to schools school say how they wish they'd stuck with an instrument lamenting not being able to play music in adulthood. It's never too late to take up an instrument.

"The demo was thoroughly enjoyable and informative, perfectly combining educational material with humour and fun, engaging musical performances of excellent choices of material that the students really related to. All the students quite evidently had a fantastic time and learnt a lot."

If you'd like more information or would be keen to host a demo, please email the Instrumental Leads at Newmusic.tuitionrequests@northyorks.gov.uk and one of the team will arrange a visit soon.



Scarborough Music Centre

The summer term of 2022 ended with our “Summer Concert” at Westborough Methodist Church on 18th June, and saw all of our ensembles perform to a very high standard. At this concert, we said a fond farewell to students in their final year with us and wished them luck with their future studies at their chosen universities and colleges. We also handed out certificates, shields, trophies and prizes to students who our musical directors chose to receive them, and all shed a few tears!

September 2022 saw us having to delay the opening of Music Centre for a few weeks, as we found ourselves having to move out of our rehearsal space at Scarborough 6th Form College. We would like to thank Scarborough 6th Form College for being our home for the past 32 years, and we would like to thank “The Street” for welcoming us with such short notice. We feel that we are going to be very happy rehearsing there for many years to come.

Our EASY Band, directed by Clive Wass, performed at the Scarborough Jazz Festival on Saturday 24th September. This involved a morning workshop with professional musicians Paul Booth, saxophone and guitarist Giorgio Serici. They then performed an hour set in the Suncourt to the festivalgoers from 5.30pm to 6.30pm. Another thank you must go out to Burniston Methodist Church who were able to host rehearsal space for the EASY Band for the two weeks prior to this event again at short notice.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our Gala Christmas Concert on 10th December at Queen Street Methodist Church, which will involve all of the music centre ensembles. A week prior to that, the EASY Band will be performing in Thornton le Dale on 3rd December for the turning on of their Christmas Lights, an event we have done for many years now.

Lastly, special mentions for staff members Sarah Bancroft and Adam Carpenter. Sarah delivered free violin lessons to local junior school children all last year at Music Centre and we hope to reinstate that again in the new year. The students who had the lessons last year have now formed a new ensemble called Viva Violins. We hope that this ensemble will continue to flourish under Sarah’s leadership and help to increase the number of violin players in the Scarborough area. Adam Carpenter has directed our Guitar Ensemble for the past 7 years, and sadly he is leaving us at Christmas. We wish him all the best for his future ventures, and thank him for all of his input over that time, leading and inspiring our young guitarists.



Harrogate Music Centre

Harrogate Music Centre finished the summer term in a blaze of activity with performances at the Convention Centre & the Valley Gardens in Harrogate, Selby Abbey and the Hyde Park Jazz Club in Leeds.

The Convention Centre Concert in Harrogate saw young musicians from HMC joining forces with other young musicians from around the County to perform in a concert in celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee. The Concert was also wonderful opportunity to watch and perform with musicians from the Band of the Grenadier Guards.

The Valley Gardens Band Stand played host to the HMC end of term performance. All the Music Centre Groups performed beautifully to a hugely appreciative audience with a wide variety of musical styles on show. Also joining HMC for the event were musicians from Rossett School Concert Band who performed a very enjoyable short programme.



The final performance of the year was left to the Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra (HYJO), resplendent in the new band uniform, the band was invited to perform at the Hyde Park Jazz Club in Leeds. The band performed at hugely sophisticated program and were joined for the performance by Tom Barford an ex pupil of HMC manager Will Osborn, who has developed a reputation as one of the finest jazz saxophonists in the UK. Tom was in fine form leaving band and audience members gasping at his virtuosity. The bands performance was very well received with listeners who hadn't heard the band before commenting on the maturity and energy of the performance.

September bought a new term to HMC and it was nice to launch a new ensemble, the HMC Concert Orchestra bringing the Senior Strings together with senior members of the already established Concert Band. The group nearly 50 strong have enjoyed a fine start to rehearsals under the direction of Euan Crombie and are looking forward to the first performance of the year at Christmas.

On the 5th of November HMC held an open morning showcasing the junior ensembles on offer at the centre. It was wonderful to see so many young people (and their families) coming in and trying Brass & Woodwind instruments, Singing in the choir or trying out the Ukulele.

The centre Christmas Concert will take place on the 10th December during normal centre hours. The new year will bring plenty of performance opportunities with the Great Northern Big Band festival, National Festival and Harrogate International Festival performances expected.



Skipton Music Centre

Skipton Music Centre finished the summer term with a couple of performances. On the 2nd of July the Concert Band under the guest direction performed in a joint concert with Skipton Community Orchestra and the Skipton Choral Society. The concert at Christ Church in Skipton was a wonderful event with the organisers expecting an audience of maybe 80, they were amazed when the venue had to start turning people away.

All three groups performed beautifully with a wide variety of music on show and several joint pieces involving all musicians and singers. It was a great event for SMC to be part of, proving that music is alive and kicking in the Skipton area.

The following week saw the end of term concert at Ermysted's School. All the music centre groups performed but special credit must go to the centre rock band who due to a broken wrist and Covid-19 had to completely re arrange their set at the last minute.

September saw the start of a new term for SMC. As part of the rebuilding process after the pandemic, two new groups were launched. The first a beginner recorder group and the second a beginner band.

The beginner recorder group is aimed at those without any musical experience and has been very successful so far with around 10 young budding musicians who have made amazing progress so far and are looking forward to their first performance at Christmas.

The Beginner Band aimed at those who have a little knowledge and can play at least five notes. It is open to any instrument and currently consists of those playing Violin, Piano, Sax, Clarinet, Flute and Trumpet as always we are looking for more young musicians to join its ranks.

Skipton Music Centre is the only centre in North Yorkshire to have a specialised Music Production group. This group focuses on composing music with the computer and is the perfect starting place for those music producers in training. Membership of this group continues to grow and is limited but we still have a few places left.

The term will finish with performances from all our groups on the 10th December. The performance will start at 11.00 at Ermysteds School.



Northallerton Music Centre

Northallerton Music Centre had a fabulous finale to the summer term with a Gala Concert at The Sage, Gateshead on Sunday 26 June 2022. It was a busy weekend for everyone involved but giving all the ensembles the opportunity to perform in such a fantastic venue was well worth all the hard work. The following parent comment was echoed by many in the audience and summed it up perfectly,

“Well done to everyone, such a wonderful afternoon! It always moves me to see so many young people getting together and loving music, whether that is in the school hall or in a high-profile venue like today.

A huge thank you to all the amazing staff who worked so hard to put this on and make it such a special experience for them all.”

This term has also been very busy and we hit the ground running in week one with an exciting Latin American workshop, courtesy of NYMAZ. On Saturday 12 November we were delighted to welcome members of the Regimental Catterick Garrison Band. These brilliant professional musicians performed for and worked with our young woodwind and brass players, culminating in an informal concert and presentation for parents, carers and everyone at the centre. They are welcome back any time!

NMC members are currently working towards our Christmas Concert on Saturday 10 December and some of our string players will also be taking part in the Northallerton Christmas Event on Sunday 11 December.

Please look at our website: www.northallertonmusiccentre.co.uk for further details. Northallerton Music Centre welcomes new students to join us, offering a free first term and a place to have fun.



Whitby Music Centre

We got our year got off to a lively Start with our Junior Band taking part in a local Cabaret. The Band opened proceedings with a programme of six pieces all arranged by Gillian Edwards. Then followed a series of “acts” representing the collected talents of Robin hoods Bay.

Looking ahead, this month our Strings players and again the Junior Band will be presenting their “Autumn Concert”. This is something they have done for a number of years now, and is always a very well attended event.

In December our senior bands are busy in the town playing at the Christmas Market, and yet again the Junior Concert Band will be doing the same. We then have our own Christmas Celebration when all the groups in the Centre get a spot, including of course - the Junior Band!



NYMAZ

Send Week 2022

NYMAZ have just hosted an exciting week-long series of CPD webinar events! Sessions explored a variety of activities and topics relating to music-making in SEND settings and will be available to watch on catch-up. Please do get in touch at info@nymaz.org.uk if you wish to view recordings.

On Monday we had a session that introduced the accessible and multi-sensory device, Cosmo Switch. Cosmo is a unique educational technology resource that creates inclusive learning, therapy and play environments. Combining interactive Cosmoid switches and a collection of evidence-based games, Cosmo aims to support the development of a variety of cognitive and physical skills, such as communication, taking turns, cooperation, leadership, and physical coordination, as well as adding an extra layer of fun to the learning process.

On Tuesday we were delighted to invite Jo May back to deliver another creative percussion workshop! In this session we looked at a range of ideas for online and face-to-face music sessions, using drums, hand-held percussion and homemade instruments including: different ways of playing; exploring varying types of sounds; feeling vibrations; creating simple rhythmic patterns; creating soundscapes; incorporating songs; and responding to the group that you're working with.

The session on Wednesday explored the NYMAZ song resource Inclusive Music Makers with Rosie Bergonzi and Simon Robinson. This resource explores a variety of songs and includes differentiation activities as well as links to videos demonstrating how to deliver the songs in your settings. This resource is available to purchase or as a free gift when you join our SEND Network. Find out more [here](#).

To conclude the week, Liz Coombs from Sound Connections chaired a discussion around youth voice in practice in SEND contexts. We took an in depth look at three case studies from Live Music Now, National Open Youth Orchestra and Orchestras For All, and explored the barriers, challenges and creative ways to develop, engage and embed youth voice within SEND contexts and practical projects.



NYMAZ

Yorkshire Calling!

Throughout the autumn, NYMAZ in partnership with the Music Service and Brass Band England, facilitated a series of workshops exploring compositional techniques for brass quartets, with expert guidance and support from established brass composer and educator, Andrea Price. Participants composed a piece suitable for a brass quartet and workshopped the pieces with live musicians as they developed their music throughout the duration of the course.

On 16 November, the pieces were premiered by a live brass quartet at Selby Abbey in a public concert with 75 audience members. Featuring members of Brighouse & Rastrick Band and Hepworth Band, the quartet performed the radio inspired new works by the local young composers to commemorate 100 years since the first BBC radio broadcast.



Rural Fest 22

We are so proud of our young production team who put together a full day of musical fun and activities for you to enjoy at this year's Rural Fest! The family friendly, inclusive music festival was led by our team of young leaders. They chose the theme for this year's festival to be climate change, linking into the festival's core themes of nature and the environment. Exploring this we had a series of focused blogs which looked at the impact of the music industry on our beautiful planet, and some innovative and creative ways we can support making change – You can read a blog post from our music journalist Ben Forsdick [here](#).

250 people attended over the course of the day to see a lively mixture of ensembles, bands and solo artists catch up on performances [here](#). And our audience also took part in a sound walk of musical creations from composers and young music participants from across schools in North Yorkshire around the beautiful venue of Valley Gardens in Harrogate – you can listen to their masterpieces [here](#).

Read all about our brilliant festival day in a review written by Rural Fest Music Journalist, Ben Lee, [here](#).

Early Years Resource

Musical Journeys:

A Day at the Pond / Mausam

Don't miss out on your chance to access our latest early years music resource - Musical Journeys: A Day at the Pond / Mausam. North Yorkshire settings can access this resource via the hub for **FREE** this academic year. For more information and to access this resource [click here](#).

Enjoy this multi-part digital resource for early years produced in partnership with Orchestras Live, and features music and dance from the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE) and South Asian Arts-uk (SAA-uk), narrated by Seetal Kaur.

The resource takes youngsters through a day in the life of a pond, it features a wealth of music, song and dance to engage under-5s with music.

Introducing musical themes and concepts through four bitesize films, the resource explores the creatures you would find at different times of the day in and around the pond. The bitesize films prepare the young audience for a final celebration performance,

Rain, a new composition written especially for these musicians by composer Preetha Narayanan. The films are accompanied by an illustrated resource to guide teachers/practitioners/parents and carers through the material, and has extension activities to explore themes in even more detail.

NYMAZ Coming Up...

Plugged In

Plugged In (11-16 year olds) and Plugged In+ (16-25 year olds) follows a pathway model of Learn – Create and Collaborate.

LEARN

Get your geek on. Take part in a series of workshops or PODs (Professional Opportunity and Development groups) to kickstart your music!

CREATE

Let your creative side out. Work alongside professionals and other young people to create an exciting range of music, musical activities and events of your choice!

COLLABORATE

Be inspired. Take the opportunity to put all those skills into practice by creating your own project or event!

If you love music and want to make more music happen near you, then join up by clicking [here](#). You must be aged between 11 and 25 and live in North Yorkshire - other than that, there's no costs or particular level of music experience required.

We do ask for your opinions and help in programming our delivery for young people across the county at events and through online surveys. We would love for you to share your thoughts on our 2022-23 programme by taking part in the questionnaire. Click [here](#) to take part!

Songwriting POD

Join Seth Tinsley for this 4 part workshop series on songwriting. Dropping weekly from 1 December!

Seth Tinsley is a multi instrumentalist and composer from the North East of England. He has released and performed on multiple albums and has spent the last 12 years touring internationally with many bands, primarily as bassist and synth player with Scottish Neo Trad 5 piece, Elephant Sessions.

Visit the NYMAZ website for more details and to find each of our videos as they go live!

Music Creation from the ground up POD

Join NYMAZ and UCANPLAY TVs Josh Savage for this 4 part workshop series on creating music from the ground up. Dropping weekly in the New Year – check our website for further details!

On this free mini four-week course you will get the opportunity to explore the following areas:

- How to make a song, using microphones and the best placement
- How to build up your tracks using midi instruments
- How to record, and mix elements effectively and produce a song
- How to release your track/song and get it out there into the world!

Visit the NYMAZ website for more details and to find each of our videos as they go live!

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-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

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.northyorkshiremusichub.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**