

Newsletter

Music Hub Newsletter • Issue 22 Winter 2019

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Summer 2019 residential course review – Read what the audience thought!

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County Ensembles Residential Course 2019

This year saw five of our North Yorkshire County Ensembles; the Youth Orchestra, Choir, Brass Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, and Big Band, meet at Harrogate Ladies College for a residential course. This gives young musicians the opportunity to come together and work intensively towards the end of course concerts.

County Youth Orchestra - review of the residential course

The 2019 residential course took us to Harrogate Ladies College for a week long course with our conductor Simon Wright.

We had a little taster when we held a Launch Day at Tadcaster Grammar in January introducing the orchestra to Crown Imperial by William Walton.

This year saw our largest orchestra for a good few years come together at HLC for a varied programme of music. The intensive week of rehearsals gave the young members a real opportunity to work both technically and musically at a very high level. They had sectional rehearsals with specialist tutors from the County Music Service as well as full orchestral sessions with Simon Wright which led towards the final concert.

The programme opened with an impressive Brass Fanfare composed by Ian Bangay, who is Head of the Music Service. This was followed by the Prelude and Mazurka from Coppelia by Delibes played by the whole orchestra.

Each year we give a member of the orchestra the opportunity to perform a concerto and this year that honour went to Susannah Morgan, a pupil at Ripon Grammar School. She delighted the audience with the Bruch Violin Concerto, showing great poise, commitment and musicality.

After the interval the orchestra took centre stage with a spirited rendition of William Walton's Crown Imperial.

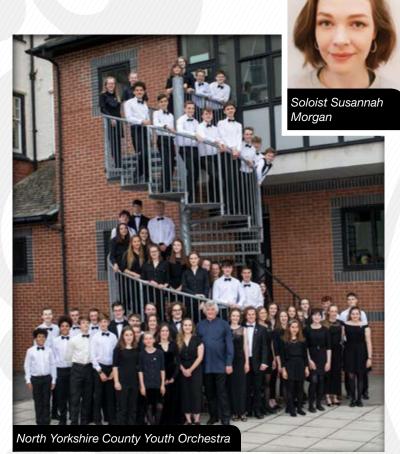
The student composition is always a highlight in our concerts and this year the winner of the student composition competition was Ben Smith from Northallerton School and Sixth Form College.

During the week we welcomed primary school pupils to listen to the orchestra perform as part of an exciting music project organised by Jess Hayne called 'Where the music takes us'. The pupils have taken part in various musical and artistic projects and thoroughly enjoyed being introduced to a Symphony Orchestra and hearing them play 'The Little Train of Caipira' which represents the journey of a little steam train. The audience in the final concert also enjoyed this Brazilian gem.

We stayed with the Latin America feel to end the concert with one of the most popular Mexican contemporary music compositions, Danzon No 2 by Marquez, complete with choreography!

The cheers from the audience were rewarded with an encore of Gold & Silver Waltz by Lehar.

Another successful course for the County Youth Orchestra!



Student Isobel Thompson gives her account of the Summer residential course

I have been a member of the County Ensembles for the past four years and always look forward to the residential course where we have time to explore new music, learn new techniques and play to a very high standard. The venue of Harrogate Ladies College was brilliant, with great facilities and accommodation. It was really nice to meet up again with old friends from previous years and it was also good to meet new people who came from schools and colleges all over North Yorkshire.

We practised a varied repertoire across the ensembles, most 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. We performed in three concerts throughout the course, all of them were really enjoyable, showcasing our hard work. The audiences seemed impressed with our performances 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!

Isobel Thompson (trumpeter)

North Yorkshire County Big Band and Brass Ensemble

The summer 2019 County Ensembles residential course was extremely busy for members of the County Bands with members being involved in over thirty rehearsals and three concert performances across the seven days.

The Big Band split in two to form the Sax Ensemble and Brass Ensemble who this year also formed the brass section of the Youth Orchestra.

The Big Band performed repertoire by

Charles Mingus, Gordon Goodwin and Stevie Wonder and the Sax Ensemble performed pieces by James Brown, Freddie Mercury and John Williams. The Brass Ensemble performed a bespoke arrangement by Simon Wright of a Tudor Suite, original compositions for brass by Chris Hazel and a bespoke work composed for the ensemble by Ian Bangay titled Sun Diamond.

In total contrast the Brass Ensemble then joined with Youth Orchestra to perform works by William Walton, Arturo Marquez and Delibes. The standard across the ensembles was quite superb with some stunning performances of very demanding repertoire.

The North Yorkshire County Schools Band course offers a totally bespoke experience for members enabling them to participate in a variety of musical ensembles, playing music of all styles, covering repertoire from Renaissance to present day.

If you are interested in joining the County Bands for the 2019/2020 season please contact Chris Hirst for more information: christopher.hirst@northyorks.gov.uk

North Yorkshire County Youth Choir – July 2019

The Youth Choir took part in a five-day residential at Harrogate Ladies College in July. 13 girls and 4 boys sang in the choir with staff members Hannah Hebden and Jonathan Hills taking it in turns to accompany on the piano and Andrea Rhodes conducting. The rehearsals went very well with the choir managing to cover all the music that was going to be performed by the end of the second day. As we got closer to the concert on the Thursday evening, everyone managed to learn three of the songs without their copies, one of which was 'Africa' by Toto which started with body percussion to represent an African rainforest!

The concert on the Thursday evening was fantastic with the choir singing their hearts out and rising to the occasion. We were joined by the County Brass and Sax ensembles in the concert with each performing a short section at the end of the first half and the start of the second. The percussion section of the County Youth Orchestra played percussion for 'Africa' and two members of the brass ensemble play trumpet and electric guitar for two of our songs.

Other songs performed in the concert included 'Shallow' from 'A Star is Born', 'Ombra Mai Fu' by Handel, a Mammia Mia medley and 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. Quite a few members of the choir sang short solos in several of the pieces and it was great to see everyone's confidence increase during the week, leading to some lovely solos on the night. Well done to all the choir members for working so hard all week – we all had a brilliant time and we look forward to meeting again in the Autumn term. New members are always welcome!



"As a parent attending the concert on Friday I felt so proud, not just of my daughter but of all the fabulous young people (and staff) who had clearly worked so very hard. I genuinely thoroughly enjoyed the evening – it was a great mix of music and showcased beautifully the skills of the musicians. It was also great to hear how my daughter had learned new skills and moved her viola playing onto a new level. She was buzzing (but exhausted!) and can't wait for next year. Thank you again for providing such a wonderful opportunity for the kids and a first class performance at the end."

"What an absolutely stunning musical achievement by all concerned. We thoroughly enjoyed both Thursday and Saturday's concerts. It never ceases to amaze me what high standards are achieved in such a short time AND it was clear that all involved were enjoying the shared experience. The choice of music was diverse and the various musical groups was inspirational. I now have a granddaughter, who has been inspired to write her own music for her clarinet."

Feedback from parents and audience Summer Residential concert 2019

"Our daughters absolutely loved every minute of the course (they didn't want to come home!). We loved the concert and the variety of music, especially the Violin Concerto and the Mexican piece. It all sounded very professional. It's just a wonderful musical opportunity."

"I wanted to say thank you to you and all your colleagues who were involved in the County Ensembles. My daughter had a fantastically productive week and the concert on Friday was absolutely fantastic. It has really given her playing a boost as well as her self-confidence. Thank you for giving her the opportunity."

"Thank you so much for your very kind invitations to join you over the last three days, we thoroughly enjoyed the performances and the little opportunity we had to speak with some of the youngsters. Please pass on our congratulations to all of them and our thanks to the many staff who helped put this together."

"Just wanted to write to thank you all for putting on such a wonderful opportunity for the kids to do what they love. My daughter thoroughly enjoyed herself and hopes to do it all again next year. The choir was excellent and their sound filled that little venue (HLC School Chapel) – was nice to not have tech issues and just hear them sing. They all looked like they'd had fun. The soloists had a fab opportunity. Special mention to the tall lad and his opening to Shallow. What an incredibly well controlled voice! Really enjoyed their performance. Thank you all for being away from home, making it fun, putting them through their paces and just giving them an opportunity to be who they want to be."

Harrogate Music Centre

We enjoyed a fantastic end to the summer term at Harrogate Music Centre with two wonderful concerts. We had a great audience response and waved a fond farewell to some long standing students who are off on their next adventures – some of them continuing their music in further education too. We are proud of them and wish them well.

We welcomed Huckleberry Films in June who have made a brilliant promotional film for the Music Centre. The film can now be seen at https://youtu.be/Uc K TTIjjM

We are proud of the results and have already had a great response on social media, but would welcome as many likes and shares as possible, so take a look and support it if you can.

We've had a good start to the Autumn term, and look forward to our open day which will be on 9 November. Harrogate Music Centre is based at St Aidan's C of E High School, Oatlands Drive, Harrogate HG2 8JR

Please call in between 10 and 11.30am.

The next date for the diary is our Christmas Concert on 8 December. However, there will undoubtedly be some other festive community events we may be involved in at this busy time of year.

In the New Year we look forward to many prestigious events including our Gala Concert at the Royal Hall Harrogate on 8 March and a jazz evening hosted by Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra, featuring the 2017 'Kenny Wheeler Jazz Award' winner Tom Barford.

Once again over Easter, Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra, Harrogate Youth Wind Orchestra & Chamber Orchestra will perform as part of the Harrogate Youth International Festival of Music.

We are also very excited that HYJO have been invited to perform at Leeds College of Music as part of their Big Band Day in the New Year.

There's plenty in the pipe-line to look forward to, and I'm sure there'll be more too!

Free Resource for Primary Schools

The Music Hub has purchased a fantastic resource for primary schools. Pick and Mix enables you to download lesson plans, songs and other resources such as musical starter games, totally free. All you need to do is to follow the link below to create your own account. https://activemusicpicknmix.co.uk/north-yorkshire

- 1. Go to **www.activemusicpicknmix.com** and click on 'sign up' in the menu bar
- 2. Select the £149.50 package
- 3. Click the link saying 'click here to enter your discount code'
- 4. Enter discount code 'north-yorkshire'
- 5. Fill in account details
- 6. Click Paypal Check Out



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Please Watch The Above Video

NYMAZ presents:







Big Brass Day Three | Tadcaster | 1 December

NYMAZ's Big Brass Day events invite young musicians to work alongside professionals and join brass players from all over the county to explore different styles of brass playing.

In June, young musicians had the opportunity to work alongside professional players from The Band of the Royal Armoured Corps and Flat Cap Brass, and again in September with Black Dyke Band principal euphonium player Daniel Thomas, both under the direction of Black Dyke Band Yamaha artist Katrina Marzella.

Big Brass Day Three follows on from the first two successful Big Brass Day events. Young musicians are invited to join brass players to learn new skills, refine techniques and take part in exciting workshops and sectionals. On top of this, the young musicians will work alongside the Brass Quintet from the Hallé and take part in a large ensemble conducted by Katrina Marzella. They will also have the exciting experience hearing a recital performance by the Brass Quintet of the Hallé Orchestra followed by an opportunity for Q&A.

All brass players up to 18 years old and Grade 4 standard are welcome to join us on Sunday 1 December, 9:30am-3:30pm at Tadcaster Grammar School. To book a spot, please visit https://bigbrassdaythree.eventbrite.co.uk.

Selby Song Share | Selby | 19 November

NYMAZ presents our next Early Years Song Share event. Join us for the opportunity to participate in an Early Years singing workshop and to share your own favourite repertoire with other professionals and practitioners. Explore how to create musical songs to use in your sessions, linking ideas and pedagogy together to support you in developing your musical ideas, play and songs.

Activities will be led by Hannah Dilworth and Kathryn Sturman from Made with Music. Tickets are FREE for Full NYMAZ Early Years Music Network members, and £4.00 (+ eventbrite fee) for all others.

To book your spot please visit https://songshareselby.eventbrite.co.uk

Selby Song Share is taking place at Selby Town Hall, Tuesday 19 November, 4.30pm – 6.30pm.





Sounding Out Recap

Young people throughout North Yorkshire spent their time making music in the Sounding Out Residencies.

The first Sounding Out Residency took place in Selby with the group Tipping Point. They had young musicians exploring the expressive styles and vibrancy of jazz. Tipping Point also gave fantastic taster workshops at Selby Music Centre and Holy Family Catholic High School.

The second residency took place in Skipton with percussionist Ali Mac. The young musicians had a wonderful time learning the sounds and rhythms of Brazil, while also learning to listen and improvise with each other and professional musicians.

Each of these residencies concluded with a concert to family and friends showcasing the work they had done. Please also see the music centre reviews on page 9 (Selby) and page 10 (Skipton).

Our final residency takes place over October half-term in Helmsley with English folk group Tappy Lappy quartet. Over three days of workshops, the young musicians will explore the engaging songs, lively melodies and compelling harmonies of English folk alongside the quartet and perform with them in a concert on the Friday evening. Places can be booked at https://soundingouthelmsley2019.eventbrite.co.uk/

CPD Dates for the diary

Music Industry Unmasked: Thursday 6 February 2020, Harrogate

This event is for people who are interested in a musical career and want to explore it further. It's an amazing FREE opportunity for students to meet industry professionals working in the exciting and vibrant range of roles throughout the music industry including composers, performers, festival management, DJing and much more. Discuss and explore through practical workshops, presentations and talks with professionals and learn more about the careers open to you!

Early Years Conference: Tuesday 10 March 2020, Northallerton

An inspiring training conference open to anybody with an interest in music and Early Years, including musicians, Early Years teachers/practitioners, Music Hub staff, students, childminders, and more. No musical experience necessary!

SEND Gathering: Tuesday 24 March 2020, York

NYMAZ are delighted to be presenting another SEND Music Network Gathering bringing together experts in SEND music from right across the country.

Please watch our website for updates on when you can book onto these exciting CPD and conference opportunities.

For more information contact Grace at grace@nymaz.org.uk



Northallerton Music Centre



Northallerton Music Centre's Senior Concert took place at The Forum, Northallerton on Sunday 30 June 2019. It was also the time we said goodbye to our Year 13 students Hal Butcher, Emily Howlett, Joseph Mawer, Claire Meeks, Isabelle Meeks, Millie Nicholas, Benjamin Smith and Abigail Sykes.

Each student received a gift, and was acknowledged for their commitment to Music Centre, all playing a solo role and accompanied by their ensemble.

The Junior Concert was held on Saturday 6 July at Music Centre. We invited potential students to come and listen to the concert with many signing up to start in September.

The newly formed Little Band made their debut. The students are between pre Grade 1 and Grade 1, and the ensemble prepares some of them for joining Junior Band.

Northallerton Music Centre is looking forward to a busy year with a Remembrance Concert, Concerts at the end of each term, working alongside the European Chamber Orchestra at The Swaledale Festival, joint Music Centre Concerts and much more. Please look at our website www.northallertonmusiccentre.co.uk for details or contact Su Evans.

We are also securing sponsorship to buy new concert music stands and to fund our next Gala Concert at The Sage, Gateshead on Sunday 27 June 2021.

Music Centre welcomes new students to join us, offering a **Free First Term** and a place to have fun,



Selby Music Centre



Jazz Workshop with Tipping Point/NYMAZ

Selby Music Centre Senior students enjoyed a fantastic workshop with 'Tipping Point' on 4 May, organised by NYMAZ.

The students spent the morning working with four fantastic musicians on Jazz and improvisation, culminating in an informal performance to parents at the end of the morning.

Howden Minster Concert

The Senior Guitar Group and Folk Group performed at Howden Minster on 4 May – a fantastic venue for our groups and a while since we have been there.

The groups had a question and answer session followed by a concert, which was well received.

We look forward to going back there next year.



End of term Concert

Selby Music Centre ended the summer term with a full Centre concert featuring all the ensembles at Selby Abbey.

The Abbey is a wonderful venue for our Grand concert, and it was well attended by families and friends.

We said goodbye to five Year 13 students who will be making their way on to further education at universities around the country.

Alex Hornostaj was awarded the Dominic Melbourne memorial prize for his exceptional achievement on Guitar.

Final Workshop sessions

We ended the year with a morning of fun workshops for the students, which also included a visit from one of the local

ice-cream vans!
The students
were treated to
a free ice-cream
care of the
Friends of Selby
Music Centre.





Skipton Music Centre



End of Year Concerts

On Saturday 6 July, Skipton Music Centre presented its two End of Year concerts. These concerts were a culmination of a year of hard work and each of the eight groups did themselves proud. Very appreciative audiences at both concerts were treated to a variety of styles and genres and some really superb playing.

Launch Pad, our beginners' ensemble started off the proceedings, demonstrating how much their confidence has grown over the year, playing their own composition based on a clock and swapping between their own instruments, percussion and even Boomwhackers! String Ensemble were a few men down, but played with confidence and style. Guitar Ensemble had toes tapping and encouraged a few sotto voce singers in the audience! Percussion Ensemble were again depleted due to illness and exams, but this was not at all evident in their confident and well-practised performance. This group then joined Big Band for an exciting Samba ensemble

which was a real treat for all. Big Band finished off the first concert with a fantastically big, polished sound, thanks in part to a few very welcome additional volunteers on trombone. What a sound!

The second concert began with a few Fret Band favourites and new pieces which showed off some excellent solo work as well as polished ensemble. Encore!, our adult group showed off not only their excellent ensemble and focus, but also their jazz and improvisation skills in a jazz arrangement of Twinkle, Twinkle Little Sheep. Orchestra bought us back to the classical, with some beautiful playing and Concert Band sent us off into the summer evening with their usual flair, fabulous balanced sound and exciting playing.

Latin American Workshop with Ali Mac

On Saturday 7 September, the first day back after the summer break, Skipton Music Centre were treated to two workshops directed by Ali Mac, as part of Nymaz Sounding Out series.

Nearly 70 of our members took part in hour long Samba workshops which tested their listening, rhythm and ensemble skills and gave them an insight into the world of Brazilian Music. Members had the chance to try all of the different samba instruments and to hear the music played expertly by Ali himself. The energy in the room was infectious and if was a real pleasure to see and hear everyone so involved and focussed. Some enjoyed it so much, they came back to the second session for another go!

New Staff and Ensembles at Skipton Music Centre

This term we are excited to be welcoming Liobhan Boylan as the new ensemble director of Encore! (our adults group) and Percussion Ensemble. A very experienced music teacher, she has recently moved over from Ireland and we are very excited to have her on the team.

We have also started two new groups at Skipton Music Centre this term. A new, beginner's woodwind group for those aged 7-14 who wish to learn saxophone, flute or clarinet will be directed by Janet Gregory and will lead members into our Launch Pad ensemble (and hopefully Concert Band and Big Band eventually!)

Our new Music Production group, directed by Matthew Annable, teaches those in Year 6 and up how to create, mix, edit and record music on their laptops/tablets. It is open to anyone with an interest in this area of music, whether you wish to develop and expand your current instrumental skills, or would like an accessible way in to music, even if you have never had an instrumental lesson!

We are very much looking forward to watching these groups develop.



Scarborough Area Music Centre





Our Open Morning on 18 May (and Open evening on 21 May) saw quite a few visitors through our doors from the parents of existing students to parents of those wishing to join. Refreshments were served and parents got the opportunity to talk with the Musical Directors.

The evening of 18 May was our third concert at the Rainbow Centre in Scarborough featuring our Junior Concert Band, Jazz Train and Guitar Ensemble. This event helped to raise money for the Rainbow Centre, a charity providing valuable food and shelter to the homeless in our area.

Our big end of year Concert on 22 June 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 6 July we took our smaller ensembles to Sinnington Methodist Chapel to perform. There were also soloists who had volunteered to perform too, and even a ventriloquism double act! We were also joined by 'Moorland Wind' an adult locally based wind ensemble and friends of the Music Centre.



Whitby Music Centre

The Esk Valley Concert Band and Whitby Jazz Collective, Mistral joined forces on 4 May at Grosmont Church to perform in a concert together to raise funds for local charities. The concert saw standing room only with just about enough space to squeeze in the Concert Band in the performing space.

Whitby Music Centre held its Open Morning on 11 May and saw a number of new faces coming to have a look round. We hope to see many of these young musicians join our ensembles in September after the summer break.

On 18 May, our Choir, Esk Valley Concert band, and Whitby Area Concert Band took part in the 'Fish and Ships' Festival on the seafront in Whitby performing a wide variety of music to parents and members of the public.

On 8 June the Whitby Jazz Collective were part of a concert with a visiting Choir from Norway at St Hilda's Church. Both ensembles performed separately and there we also a number of pieces where they joined together to bring the event to a dramatic conclusion. Gifts were exchanged between Whitby Music Centre and the Norwegian Choir members and we hope to perform with them again when they return next year.

The 29 June was an exceptional busy day for us, seeing us spread across two different events in the town. At Endeavour Wharf on the Seafront, the Esk Valley Concert Band performed as part of the Armed Forces Day celebrations during the afternoon, while later on in the evening at the Whitby Youth Hostel our Choir, WOW (Wider Opportunities Whitby) String Group and Whitby Area Concert Band performed at a concert together to a packed audience once again.

Our year culminated in our big Summer Concert at the Whitby Spa on 4 July which involved the entire Music Centre. Every year this concert has a theme and this year it was 'Dance'. We were lucky to be joined on this occasion by the St Hilda's Dance Academy. Students from the Academy carefully choreographed dances to accompany and enhance the pieces played by the ensembles. This was a first for the centre but we hope to work with them again in the future as it was extremely popular with the audience and students alike.









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

Forums

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.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.

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