

Summer 2009

Music Service

Hitting the Right Notes



GOOD NEWS!

The recent Ofsted report *Making More of Music* found: "Music services in local authorities contributed significantly to broadening provision, especially through providing instrumental tuition and providing opportunities for pupils to perform in regional ensembles and at national and international musical events. No other partnerships had a similar impact across all the schools visited"

EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF KEY STAGE TWO 'WIDER OPPORTUNITIES IN MUSIC' INSTRUMENTAL LEARNING PROGRAMME

The Federation of Music Services has commissioned The Engine Room, University of the Arts London, to undertake an impact evaluation of the Key Stage Two Instrumental Learning Programme (Wider Opportunities), which will take place during the summer of 2009. The research programme will involve all schools that offer Wider Opportunities in England, and it will be led by Professor Anne Bamford.

In Devon, our data indicates that approximately 91% primary schools are now engaging in Wider Opportunities teaching in some way. This national evaluation will present an ideal opportunity for us to celebrate the huge achievements that have been made over recent years. Please look out for the contact from The Engine Room, and return your comments as quickly as possible. This will be a crucial piece of national research, providing for the first time comprehensive evidence for national government on instrumental learning at key Stage Two as it considers funding beyond 2011.

FREE! MUSICAL FUTURES TRAINING

Musical Futures brings non-formal teaching and informal learning approaches into the more formal context of school. Musical Futures has made a significant contribution to imaginative thinking about music-making in schools, an approach which allows pupils to take a lead in shaping their own education. Designed primarily for Key Stage 3, it:

- Motivates and engages all young people by developing music learning around their own interests
- Brings personalised approaches to music learning into the classroom
- Develops students as independent learners
- Raises attainment
- Increases take-up at GCSE and in extra-curricular activities.

The recent Ofsted report *Making More of Music* cited benefits of Musical Futures.

Musical Futures are providing high-quality FREE professional development in 2009. The training is led by innovative classroom teachers who have adopted Musical Futures in their schools. Courses range from an introduction to Musical Futures to sessions that aim to share good practice for those already running Musical Futures in their schools. Training is hands-on and will equip you with ideas and resources for your educational setting. It is open to anybody, including classroom and peripatetic teachers, Music Service staff, community musicians and students. The nearest training will be in Plymouth on 30th June 2009. Places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

<http://www.musicalfutures.org.uk/mfInYourArea.html>



Westpoint, Exeter Wednesday 24th June

This year's Mix has been incredibly popular, with 4692 students (94 schools) attending so far. Places are still available, and there is plenty for schools to see and do. Now in its fifth year, the festival will offer over 100 concerts, workshops and performances.

String Fever's four world-class musicians are back by popular demand, this year performing in the Arena. Playing



five- and six-stringed electric violins, viola and cello, they will amaze budding string players with their critically-acclaimed version of Ravel's *Bolero* in which all four play on one cello simultaneously.

Kagemusha Junior

Taiko will again bring their dynamic drumming style to the Mix.

The group is recognised nationally and internationally as leaders in the development of Youth Taiko in the UK - their performances include appearances in Hyde Park, the Royal Albert Hall and Tokyo.

Sheelanagig have been honing their eclectic blend of folk, jazz and world music since early 2005.



The five members of Sheelanagig bring a wide range of musical backgrounds to the band's unique sound, and are united by their commitment to energetic performance with the highest quality instrumental music.



Backbeat blends many potent strands: art music, folk music, choreography and music theatre, via an often explosive virtuosity. Their concerts showcase a huge variety of percussion instruments from every corner of the world, often presented and combined in unconventional and untraditional ways.

Trio Valore make a really big sound. Debuting two years ago at the Mix as a "one off", they have gone from strength to strength.

Many of you may be familiar with the work of the Trio's drummer Steve White from his contribution to bands such as Oasis, The Who and Paul Weller. Steve is much in demand as an educator for British drum company Premier.

Visit the Music Service website (see above) for more details.

Sing Up Massed Performance

Tiverton and Honiton have been working on a two-year project turn all their schools into 'singing schools'. Please see the Sing Up section for more details.

Come along to the Arena at 1.45pm to watch the massed performance of all the Honiton and Tiverton primary schools together with their two new community youth choirs, who will perform five songs composed especially for them by local composer Peter Kyrke-Smith. This performance really shouldn't be missed, and will be followed by the BIG SING where all attendees will join together to sing *Lovely Day*, *Stand By Me* and *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*.



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Devon Schools Mix 2009

If you didn't manage to get a workshop booking, there is still plenty to do around the Mix site to keep your pupils engaged all day.

This year we are making a special effort to ensure that every young person who attends the Mix can take part in five different experiences as part of their Recommended Daily Allowance of high quality music encounters on the day:

1) A professional performance, with some participation

String Fever were a great success last year and they're back, this time on the main Arena stage. Also in the main arena this year are performances by Kagemusha Taiko, Backbeat, and VJing with Ben Hudson. Pop in any time to watch these fantastic performances. Trio Valore, with special guest Duncan Ross, will play live gigs out in the Fringe. You can also watch Sheelanagig in Zone 12 (see programme for timings).

2) The Big Sing

All festival-goers gather in the Main Arena at 2pm to experience a stadium-like atmosphere and participate in the Big Sing. This year everyone will join together to sing *Lovely Day*, *Stand By Me* and *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*, backed by a professional live band. This year, with your help, we're going to raise the roof!

3) Performances by the County Ensembles

In Zone 4, Devon Youth Concert Orchestra and Devon Youth Wind Orchestra will present interactive 'Introducing the Orchestra' sessions. You will have a chance to hear some of Devon's finest young players in action when the Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra perform in the afternoon.

4) Performances by Peer Groups

Teignmouth Community College's fantastic band Samba Latida will be the opening act in the Arena at 10am. Devon County Junior Choir will also perform in the arena, and there will be performances from some of our special music projects taking place during the year - a massed Sing Up choir in the main arena, performances from our Cuban project in Zone 11, and orchestral performances in Zone 4.

A variety of performances will take place in the Mix 4 Six marquee to demonstrate the breadth of this project, and will involve six learning communities.

There will be plenty of school performances, both primary and secondary, to see and hear in Zones 4, 7 and 11.

Chill out and listen to performances on the Trailer stage, where secondary school bands will be performing all day long.

5) Hands-on music workshops

You can "Have a Go" on a musical instrument with Music Devon (booked on a first-come basis on the day) in Zone 5, and Devon Youth Service will again be running their highly popular drop-in sessions in the Beatbox marquee.

This year there will also be an area in each marquee set aside so you can just pop your head in and experience what's on offer.

SING UP WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SING UP is the Music Manifesto's National Singing Programme, raising the status of singing and ensuring that singing is at the heart of every primary school child's life. To access free resources and information for Foundation to Key Stage 2, register on the website www.singup.org.

Several high-quality training days and singing events have taken place across the county. The highly successful 'Singing Day Out' at Dartington Great Hall in January offered key speeches and workshops to address the training needs of teaching staff and community musicians. National Sing Up advocates Katherine Zeserson, Sue Nichols, Leonora Davies, Maurice Walsh and Lin Marsh have already assisted in providing vocal training and advice to practitioners, along with many local specialists.

The benefits of singing are endless and we want everyone to get involved. To be signposted to upcoming opportunities across Devon, Plymouth, Torbay and Exeter, contact Bernie Artuso, Devon Sing Up Area Leader, at Plymouth Music Zone.

Tel. 01752 213 690

or email:

pmzdevon@singup.org



VOCAL FORCE DEVON is a new initiative aiming to establish a network of 50 singing leaders across the county who will be meeting to make and renew professional contacts, and share and develop repertoire and skills.

So far Wren have run seven taster and consultation sessions across the county, and co-presented a prestigious launch event at Dartington Hall in January 2009 with Devon's Sing Up Area Leader.

Over the coming months, we'll be covering a series of themes requested at the taster sessions, and the programme from April 2009 until March 2010 includes work on:

- Special Needs
- Safe and healthy singing
- Tips for choir leaders on conducting and getting the best out of their singers
- Singing in other languages

Vocal Force Devon is part of Sing Up, the national singing programme, and is co-ordinated and delivered by Wren Music. Wren will be maintaining close links with Devon's Sing Up Area Leader, Devon Music Service and other agencies involved in getting the whole county singing!!

Any singing leaders interested in joining the network should contact Paul Wilson, Music Director, Wren Music
01837 53754 / paul@wrenmusic.co.uk

CHORISTER OUTREACH IN TOTNES LC

This term, five schools from Totnes Learning Community will be working with staff and choristers from Exeter Cathedral to prepare a fantastic concert of songs, to be performed at St Andrew's Church in Plymouth on Saturday June 13th. The schools involved are St Johns, Totnes; The Grove; Marldon; South Brent and Dartington - schools which are already synonymous with broad and inclusive music making. Now you can catch them en masse for one night only, raising the rafters of this beautiful city church. The concert will comprise a song by each school, three songs sung all together, a song from the cathedral choristers and a few instrumental numbers. It should be quite a night and quite an experience for the children; it's not often that one gets a chance to perform with a hundred others. These moments are etched on the memory for life.

TIVERTON SING UP UPDATE

Claire Anstee and Julian Barnicoat have been visiting Tiverton Learning Community Primary schools this term to support them in their efforts to become fully-fledged Singing Schools. There has been an enthusiastic response from the schools. Castle Primary School and Bickleigh-on-Exe Primary School are now going for their Sing Up Gold Awards.

Singing Aloud, the Tiverton Learning Community Choir, has continued to run successfully, and has been inundated with concert offers. Our congratulations go to their choir leader Katy Baker, who recently gave birth to a baby boy.

HONITON SING UP CELEBRATION

Thursday 5th March saw the very successful finale concert of the Honiton Song Cycle in Exeter University's Great Hall. Groups from almost all the Honiton Learning Community schools performed songs written by the children with assistance from Wren Music musicians, and then joined together in a thrilling series of final songs. This also saw the first performance by the newly-formed Honiton Supersingers, made up of children from local schools. This choir is led by Wren's Matt Norman (with assistance from two Dartington College of Arts students, Alice Human and Jaspreet Kaur), and is always open to new members.

The songs showed varied views of what the Honiton area means to the children. Particularly impressive was the song from Mill Water Special School, sung with enthusiastic support from their music teacher, Sue King. The Song Cycle was accompanied by a band formed from Wren and DMS musicians, and a large and appreciative audience of parents, grandparents and friends ensured that this was an event to remember.

This was one of the high spots in a two-year project stemming from a successful bid by Devon Music Service for Sing Up funding. As part of the project, specially commissioned songs will be performed at the Devon Schools' Mix at Westpoint on 24th June.



SINGING PLAYGROUNDS SPRING FROM THE SNOW

Despite the cold weather, during the first week of March three primary schools in Devon - Orchard Vale Community School, Rockbeare Church of England Primary School and Ashburton Primary School - took part in Ex Cathedra's project to re-introduce singing games into Devon's school playgrounds.

The Singing in the Playgrounds project aims to revitalise singing games in the playground through an inclusive approach involving the whole school community. Children are encouraged to play, share and create singing games, and Song Leaders chosen from Key Stage 2 lead the games for their peers. It is a unique initiative that has attracted regional, national, and international attention not only for its innovative contribution to revitalising singing in schools, but also to the personal, social, intellectual and emotional development of the children involved.

The schools will be teaching these playground singing games to other schools at Devon Schools' Mix on Wednesday 24 June on the tarmac near the arena. This project will later be rolled out across Devon.

If your school is interested in bringing singing games back into the playground, contact Devon Music Service for a pack.

MIX 4 SIX NEWS

Mix4Six is an exciting project to extend the reach and range of music-making for young people of all ages in Devon, through high quality provision based in schools and the community. Through the establishment of six locally-based music hubs, young people, music leaders and community practitioners will be brought together to develop a diverse mix of music-making opportunities. The Mix4Six hubs are buzzing with musical activity. The taster events have brought new and exciting ways of working, whilst the Networking events are helping us to find a group of people within each community, the Hub Action Team, who will champion the work beyond the life of the Mix4Six programme.

The three projects within each of the six hubs will run through the Spring and early Summer, culminating in a showcase 'Mini-Mix' in each hub and a performance at The Mix on Wednesday June 24th 2009. The networking events have already inspired links beyond the three projects originally planned in each hub.

[For full details visit the Mix 4 Six Website](#)



NEWS FROM THE HUBS

In the **Axe Valley**, a Hub Action Team of 12 teachers, students and musicians has been put together to help to shape future events. The celebration event is still at the planning stage, awaiting the outcome of the projects. Some links between Colyton Grammar and local Early Years providers have been made.

Exeter Central: although attendance at The Networking meeting was low due to the "Great Exeter Blizzard" of 2nd February, some useful contacts were made with representatives from agencies that work with young people. A number of people have been invited to form a Hub Action Team to move things forward. Wren Music have already run a number of taster sessions with young people. Wren's proposed projects are: work with preschool children in a number of settings (with training and support for staff), a Hub Orchestra of pupils from local schools, and some work with young people in Youth Work settings.

The **Okehampton** Networking Event took place in February despite the snow, and the Hub Action Team has been put together to steer the course of the Hub from this point forward. Wren are running three projects next term: a Junk Band with Okehampton College, North Tawton Youth Club and Room 13 (Youth Service), a folk ensemble in South Tawton, and a primary schools ensembles project in Northlew, Bridestowe and Boasley Cross primary schools.

A successful networking event took place in **Dawlish** with good representation from the local community, including parents, social services, Town Council, Youth Council, selection of practitioners, community musicians, school subject leaders and Wren. A vibrant Hub action team is in the process of being formed. Wren will be doing projects for Early Years & Key Stage Two, with a performance in early July.

Dartmouth Mix4Six has kicked off with energy. Three projects (Early Years, Key Stage Two Ensemble and Youth Project) have begun. There will be a showcase gig of the project and other work going on in local schools, at DECKS Youth Centre in Dartmouth on June 1st, open to children and parents. Young people of all ages - from pre-school children up to teenagers - will be performing, and there will be a café available.

On Thursday 4th June, **Ilfracombe** Mix4Six participants will showcase their music making at The Landmark Theatre (6:00-8:00pm). The event will include performances from young people involved in the 3 main Mix4Six projects as well as some other musical items.

NUMU is a safe community for young people to showcase their music; collaborate, compete and develop their talent. <http://www.numu.org.uk/>

NUMU:
www.numu.org.uk

ENSEMBLES NEWS

Look out for our Ensembles performing at The Devon County Show, as well as at the Devon Schools Mix. See Key Dates on page 8 for details of all Ensembles performances.

DYJO DOES NORTH DEVON!

On Saturday 21 March, the Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra travelled to Braunton for the second 'Devon Jazz Explosion' event. Hosted by Braunton School & Community College, the event comprised an afternoon workshop for primary school children from the area and an evening concert. The workshop focused on the 12-bar blues and involved many children from schools including Kingsacre, Caen, and Marwood, supported by their teachers. The session was led by Brian Moore, who conducts DYJO2 and manages the bands, and also involved both the senior and junior sections of DYJO.



The highlight of the evening concert was the massed performance of 'Blues in the Closet', with a large number of parents and supporters in the audience. The audience was also treated to performances by both DYJO1 and DYJO2, whose members had come from all over Devon to take part in the event.

Devon Youth Concert Orchestra

As we come towards the end of the season for county ensembles, DYCO is finishing with a flourish. A successful and free children's concert at West Exe Technology College on Saturday 21st March not only gave an enthusiastic audience a taste of exciting music from the movies, but also the chance to come along and try out a selection of orchestral instruments. A small group of volunteers were also lucky and brave enough to have a go at conducting the orchestra.

The next outing for the orchestra is on 23rd May at the Devon County Show, followed by a double bill of workshop performances at the Devon Schools' Mix at Westpoint on Wednesday 24th June. These are designed to get rid of the mystique surrounding orchestral music, and will give the audience plenty of opportunity to get involved.

Any players at around grade 5 level and above should please keep your eyes open for the open session early in September which will start the new season. No audition, just come along and see if you fit in.

DEVON YOUTH WIND ORCHESTRA

In March, DYWO had an exciting weekend of music-making with their annual Learning Community workshop and concert at Exmouth Community College. The Band had approximately 25 members joining in for the workshop in the morning, playing *Movie Blockbusters* and *Mamma Mia*. After lunch they performed these two pieces as part of DYWO's concert in the Main Hall to an audience of over 400 students.

Later that weekend, 60 members of DYWO gave a public performance to over 200 guests for their fund-raising Spring Concert. The concert very nearly didn't start at all, due to the fire alarm going off just as the downbeat was going to be given for the opening number! After this false alert, the concert got underway without too much delay. As part of the evening's entertainment, two Gemini presenters took up the challenge to conduct the band. Miranda Devonish narrowly won the vote over Natalie Oram, Steve's assistant, who was a last minute replacement being that she was also a Gemini presenter. Natalie had to make things interesting so she did it blindfolded, facing the audience and with her left hand. Better luck next time, Natalie!

The next thing on the calendar for DYWO is their tour of Belgium. All members who are able to go on this trip are looking forward to it, especially as DYWO's tour of Germany in 2007 was such a success.

DOUBLE REEDS—An Endangered Species!

All endangered species like the panda, humpback whale, oboe, bassoon or cor anglais need their champions. If no-one fights their corner we are in danger of losing them forever. Rhiannon Morgan is one such campaigner who is not going to stand by and watch this happen. “We all love the sound of orchestras backing our favourite movies and we do not always appreciate the huge contribution double reed instruments make to that amazing sound.”

Since 2000 the Double Reed Ensemble, for players aged 12 to 18, has rehearsed and performed at the Torbay & South Devon Music Centre. “They learn to play anything from JS Bach to Phil Berthoud who is an amazing local musician and composer. *Shamrock Shore* is a fantastic piece and is like nothing else we have ever performed before and now he is writing another piece for us. We can hardly wait!”

What is next? “These young players now play in other youth ensembles around Devon and Torbay, and we aim to start a Junior Double Reed group this year at the Music Centre for young players between Grades 1 to 3.”

Where else is the Double Reed family fostered? “My colleague, Carol Dewis, runs a group at the North Devon Music Centre and I also have a Trio at Ivybridge Community College.”

For more information about ensemble opportunities, see the Music Service website.



CUBAN PROJECT

Students at KEVICC, West Exe Technology College, Park School, Teignmouth Community College, and Totnes and Barnstaple Local Learning Communities have been working on a two-year Cuban Music project.

With the help of local band members from Siga La Salsa, the Music Service team and dance teachers from Salsa Corazon, the schools have learnt to play Cuban music, dance salsa steps and sing vocal lines in Spanish. They have also learnt about the rich history of Cuban music.



The primary schools used Wider Opportunities instruments and classroom percussion to create a piece together, whilst the secondary schools had a more in-depth Cuban music workshop experience. Using percussion, vocals, brass, woodwind, guitars and keyboards, they learnt two songs which were performed to other classes at the end of the day.

“We were knocked out by the quality of work in engaging students”! - KEVICC

“There was a nice balance of healthy challenge and a friendly atmosphere to keep them learning but relaxed”! - Matt Street, Park School

Park School students are hoping to come along to the Mix to perform. In November, acclaimed band Asere will be coming to Devon, targeting the same students with workshops intended to stretch them even further.

‘Have a Go’ with Kentisbeare Children’s Orchestra

Sunday 17 May 2009
Kentisbeare Village Hall

Come along and find out more about our unique and brilliant orchestra here in Kentisbeare. Bring your instrument, join in and listen to a short performance. See some unusual instruments in action.

All players are welcome - pianists and Guitarists, come and try your hand at percussion.

From 1.30pm to 4pm. Cost: £5
Contact Sandra (sandra@go-kco.org.uk)
01884 266284 to book a place.

Supporters, please join us for a short performance at 3pm.

www.go-kco.org.uk
Making Music Fun



Music Service Key Dates 2009



SUMMER TERM 2009

Monday 27th April	KS2 Wider Opportunities INSET, Buckfast Abbey
Thursday 7th May	Gospel Singing Workshops and INSET, Bideford LLC
8th, 9th and 10th May	DYJO performing at the Dart Music Festival
Saturday 23rd May	Devon County Show, County Ensembles Perform
Thursday 4th June	Mix4Six Mini Mix, Landmark Theatre, Ilfracombe
Friday 12th June	DYJO performing at the Salcombe Festival
Friday 12th June	DYCE performing Bohemian Rhapsody, Exeter Summer Festival Opening Party On The Quay
Saturday 13th June	Chorister Outreach Concert, St Andrew's Church, Plymouth
Saturday 20th June	Devon County Junior Choir Summer Concert, Exeter Cathedral Chapter House, 12 noon

Wednesday 24th June	The Devon Schools Mix
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Thursday 2nd July	Kingsbridge Learning Community Singing Day, Kingsbridge Community College
Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th July	5th UK Taiko Festival, Northcott Theatre, Exeter
Tuesday 7th July	Shaugh Prior and Cornwood Gospel Concert 1
Wednesday 8th July	Tavistock Gospel Day, Tavistock Community College
Thursday 9th July	TAIKO INSET in partnership with Kagemusha Taiko, Tavistock Community College
Wednesday 15th July	Shaugh Prior and Cornwood Gospel Concert 2
Saturday 25th July	Devon County Junior Choir Concert, St Peter's Church, Budleigh Salterton
Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th July	DMS Workshops, Dartington Youth Summer Programme

AUTUMN TERM 2009

Thursday 1st October	KS2 Wider Opportunities INSET, Exeter
Friday 2nd October	KS2 Wider Opportunities INSET, Tiverton

Music Service Contact Details

Please address any queries to your Music Development Leader (MDL) before contacting the Music Service office. Please see below for a list of MDL areas and telephone numbers.

Olly Davey - 07989 497886 Clyst Vale Culm Valley Exeter - Central Exmouth	Paul Painter — 07989 497901 Axe Valley Exeter - Beacon Honiton Sidmouth
Ben van Weede — 07974 988867 South Dartmoor Dawlish Teign Valley Newton Abbot Teignmouth	Debbie Kent — 07974 987584 Barnstaple Bideford Braunton Chulmleigh Ilfracombe Torrington
Elfyn Jones — 07989 497890 Exeter - West Exe Crediton Tiverton South Molton Holsworthy	Kip Pratt — 07974 988837 Totnes Dartmouth Kingsbridge Ivybridge Tavistock

Ken Parr	Head of Service	01392 386483
Sally Raynes	Project Manager - Mix, Sing Up + Major Projects	01392 385605
Mandy Shobbrook	Ensembles & Music Centre Queries	01392 385601
Christine Goldsworthy	Instrument Hire Queries	01392 385602
Martin Trivett	Finance Queries	01392 385606

Music Centres The Music Service supports four music centres:
 North Devon Music Centre for Contemporary Music, Barnstaple (Colin O’Leary 01271 346763)
 North Devon Music Centre, Barnstaple, Wednesdays (ndmc@btinternet.com)
 East Devon Music Centre, Exeter-Fridays, Honiton-Thursdays (contact Anne Kimber—
 annkimber@yahoo.co.uk)
 Torbay & South Devon Music Centre, Torquay, Fridays (sdmc@btinternet.com)

**The Music Service wants to celebrate music-making across Devon.
 What’s going on in your learning community? Let us know...**

Music Service
 Learning and Development Partnership
 Great Moor House, Biffert Road, Sowton
 Exeter, EX2 7NL

Website: www.devon.gov.uk/musicservice
Phone: 01392 386483
Fax: 01392 385610
E-mail: dmsprojects@devon.gov.uk