

Our Work With Primary Schools

Music Centres supported by DMS:

- North Devon Centre for Contemporary Music
- East Devon Music Centre (branches at Exeter & West Hill)
- Torbay & South Devon Music Centre
- North Devon Music Centre

Foreword

Our mission is to give high-quality musical experiences to as many children and young musicians as possible.

In September 2004 we reorganised Devon Music Service (DMS), set up Music Development Leaders to work with schools, and launched a series of projects to give young musicians unique and inspirational opportunities.

Over the last 18 months we have worked with schools and learning communities throughout Devon.

Here is some of our work...

Molten Metal

February 2006: Sing & Play—this year the community music festival doubles the opportunities for participants. On Saturday 4 February schools can take part in steel pan workshops, and be wowed by **Molten Metal**: a collaboration between **The North Stars Steel Orchestra and Dennis Rollins**. Members of North Stars will be giving workshops for the area hosted by Highweek Primary School on Friday 3 February.

County Youth Orchestra

Devon Youth Wind Orchestra

Devon Youth Concert Orchestra

Devon Youth Clarinet Choir

Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra

Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra Too

Devon Youth Flute Ensemble

Devon Youth Brass Band

And introducing...

Devon Youth Djembe Ensemble

Instruments for your school

In the last 18 months Devon Music Service has developed sets of instruments for schools to use in 'Wider Opportunities' projects, currently running in more than forty Devon schools.

A wide variety of instrument sets are available on loan from DMS: mixed classical, ukuleles, violins, guitars, recorders, cornets, mini-horns, fifes, mini-bass, harmonicas, percussion, flutes, and C-Clarinets, whose lightweight nature make them suitable for younger musicians.

Percussion projects have proven particularly popular: class sets of samba instruments and djembe drums have been available through DMS for several years now, and schools have been delighted with the resource.

This year in response to requests from schools, DMS has purchased class sets of taiko drums

and steel pans. The **taiko drums** will spend the Spring and Summer terms at Chudleigh CE Community Primary School. There, music co-ordinator Sheena Taylor will teach 56 pupils in an after-school club. Sheena is ideally suited to lead the project, having spent three years training with Exeter-based group Kagemusha Taiko.

The **steel pans** were made especially for DMS by The North Stars Steel Orchestra. The pans will debut in Newton Abbot as part of Sing & Play music festival on 3-4 February. Following two days of workshops by members of North Stars Steel Orchestra, the pans will then go on to Halberton Primary School.

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DMS, Great Moor House, Bittern



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THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT



The London Community Gospel Choir

October 2004: The London Community Gospel Choir (LCGC) worked with teachers and students across Devon for three days, and delivered three sell-out evening concerts.

All workshop participants performed on stage with LCGC in the concert, which for many was an extraordinary moment: ‘Sometimes it’s all about stepping out of your comfort zone’, said young Exeter singer Matthew Call, ‘It’s the only way you’re going to grow in life. It was a brilliant experience—I’d love to do it again!’

Jazz Jamaica

September 2005: DMS brought Jazz Jamaica to Devon for four days of workshops and one superb concert. Members of the group (including **Denys Baptiste** and **Gary Crosby**) worked with primary pupils on Jamaican songs and their context.

Listed by *The Guardian* as one of the must-see shows for the autumn, **Jazz Jamaica:**

Motown Reloaded wowed the capacity audience at the Queen’s Theatre on 23rd September.



“This is our music”

Last year DMS worked with a group of headteachers to develop new approaches to supporting musical activities in Devon.

The resulting strategy is called "**This is our music**". The strategy was sent to all schools and governors for comment and feedback. “This is our music” was launched by **Billy Bragg** at Devon Schools Mix festival on 29th June 2005.

Music Comes 2 Town

A new project format for DMS: all county ensembles come to town for a day of rehearsals, performances and workshops. Young musicians from the area join in with the ensembles, members of the public take part in workshops, and local music groups can showcase their talents.

DMS has brought MC2T to **Newton Abbot** (featuring funk trombonist **Dennis Rollins**, djembe and string workshops), **Dartmouth** (with **The Zephyr Ensemble of London**, wind and samba workshops), and **Tavistock** (with **Tubalaté**, brass and djembe workshops). In March 2006 MC2T will come to **Barnstaple** (with **Tapatak**, percussion & rhythm workshops).

Devon Schools Mix

June 2005: The launch of a new music festival: **Devon Schools Mix**. Over 5000 children and young people came together to perform, do workshops and see top performers live. What a day!

The Mix was **for young people by young people**: they performed to, learned from and inspired each other. Audiences were able to see and hear the music that is made across Devon and come together to celebrate their achievements.

In addition, young people had the opportunity to work with top professionals,



The Big Sing at Devon Schools Mix