

HELLO!



Welcome to our first Music Education Hub edition of 'Notes' for 2019.

Congratulations to the thousands of children and teachers who took part in our five Snappy Christmas Big Sing events - you were all amazing! We have had such lovely feedback from everyone who took part and from the audiences and we're really looking forward to our 'Snappy Spring' Big Sings for Key Stage 1 later this term. (Hartlepool 12th March, Stockton 13th March, Middlesbrough/Redcar & Cleveland 15th March). Look out for the email about these events from your TVMS Area Coordinator - their contact details are on the back of page of this newsletter if you'd like to get in touch to reserve your place.

On Friday we interviewed for the role as the new Chair of the Tees Valley Music Education Hub Advisory Board and we're delighted to announce that Stuart Easby is our new Chairman. Stuart is a local businessman who has had a lifelong love of music and he's really looking forward to working with TVMS and the Hub partners in the future.

You may have seen the announcement by Nick Gibb, Minister for Education, that there will be further investment in Music Education Hubs and a panel of music experts has been gathered together to write a brand new music curriculum. Here is the link to his statement: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-young-musicians>

Our fundraising for the Tees Valley Youth Orchestra's performance in Carnegie Hall, New York during their 50th Anniversary in July 2019 continues. Please find details of our fundraising campaigns on our website: <http://www.tvms.org.uk/sponsor-tvyo/>

Music has a new Manager, Rebecca Johnson. We will be working closely with Rebecca and other members of the Board over the coming weeks and months to put into effect the action plan that was agreed with Youth Music so that more young people in challenging circumstances can access musical activity.

Rebecca is also coordinating the Shine Festival, running for the third year in partnership with TVMS, The Community Foundation and Middlesbrough Town Hall. The website has just gone live - to find out more and enter please visit www.shinefestival.co.uk

Thank you for your continued support!

Susan Robertson. Manager, TVMS

Coming in 2019

This year is gearing up to be a very special year for Tees Valley Music Service. Take a look at just some of the events coming up in 2019 on Page 7.

2019

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Did You Know?

Loud music can make a person drink more in less time.

TVYJC Perform at Middlesbrough Town Hall

The recently formed Tees Valley Youth Jazz Collective band performed their first concert as an ensemble on Saturday 20th October. The jazz group, led by TVMS leaders Jud Down and Phil McFarlane, took part in a jazz event at Middlesbrough Town Hall. They were joined by the National Youth Jazz Orchestra who performed alongside TVYJC for their closing performance. Expect great things from this fresh new group in 2019.

TVYC 'War & Peace'

TVYC commemorated the ending of World War One in November, 100 years on from the end of the conflict, in a special War & Peace tribute concert. The programme consisted of music composed and performed during the First World War including Arnesens 'Even When He Is Silent' and Elgar's 'Spirit of England'. The programme featured numerous impressive soloists from TVYC.

New Administrative Software for Parents

New software is expected to go live for parents in February, which will allow them to view their child's attendance records, view instalments and account details, make direct secure payments and have an overview of all activities amongst many other options. Parents can expect to receive a unique username and password to log into their account. This software is 100% compliant with GDPR guidelines.

Snappy Christmas 2018

Snappy Christmas has long been a highlight of the TVMS event calendar and it's no surprise that the large-scale singing concert series is such a favourite with both schools and parents. 68 schools took part in the Snappy Big Sings across 5 days which equalled to more than 3000 children joining in on the festive fun. This year the theme was 'old and new' as the songs reflected different musical styles - some classical and some contemporary. With this in mind, the variation of music included traditional carols such as *Oh Come All Ye Faithful* and *Oh Holy Night* with more modern offerings mixed in such as school favourite *Believe* and even the unconventional *Baby Shark* jingle. *Starlight* and *When You're Hanging Baubles* and *Beautiful Baby* were the Snappy Music original pieces chosen by the Snappy Music Band. Speaking of the Snappy Band, 'Shakin' Sawdon' was back to perform *Merry Christmas Everyone*.

As is customary with Snappy Christmas, choreography played a massive part in the performance. This highlighted the level of concentration and dedication the children contributed to the concerts and made big impression on those who attended.

TVMS would like to thank every pupil who took part in Snappy Christmas 2018, the schools and the parents, guardians and friends who attended the concerts. Without your support, opportunities to get involved in music like this would not be possible.



An Afternoon at the Musicals - Recap

In past performances, Locomotion and Showstoppers have never been afraid to step out of their comfort zones but even by their standard this was a challenge. Tackling the wide range of styles and techniques that encompass some of the greatest hits from stage and screen musicals was no small feat. Family and friends joined the choirs on a drizzly Sunday afternoon in St Peter's Church but were rewarded with uplifting and moving performances from choir members. Locomotion Choir sang a medley of hits from Jersey Boys while Showstoppers included tracks from Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and Shrek The Musical in their repertoire. Soloists also took to the stage including Tom Snowden and Conall Deane who mesmerised everyone with their performances. The concert is just the latest from the rising choirs as all have enjoyed a successful concert program in 2018.

To be a part in one of these choirs in 2019 contact TVMS.



Did You Know?

David Bowie played guitar, piano, saxophone, harmonica, synthesizers, vibraphone, xylophone, drums, koto, viola and cello.

TVYWO Shines at Stockton Sparkles

Tees Valley Youth Wind Orchestra were invited to perform at the annual event Stockton Sparkles, a staple in the Stockton Borough Council event calendar. Each year thousands of people converge on the High Street for the Christmas



lights switch on. This year the event spanned an entire weekend which saw a Christmas market and a range of festive celebrations including TVMS' TVYWO who performed at 'The Infinite Town' in the centre of the High Street. The concert lasted an hour as the group played a medley of Christmas festive favourites.

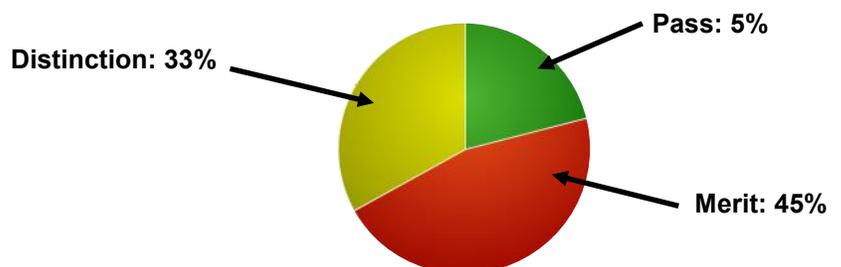
TVMS Move to Frederick Natrass Centre

The Tees Valley Music Service's offices recently relocated to the Frederick Natrass Centre in Norton. After closing down for a couple of weeks we are back up and running and are looking to the future. The change of building marks a new chapter for TVMS as we hope to offer more opportunities for children in the Tees Valley and the addition of three practice rooms, a spacious hall and the return of our popular SoundPod will ensure this.



Trinity Exam Results

The results have been released from the Trinity Exam Board for the 10th December examinations, held at the TVMS centre. As depicted in the pie chart, 5 pupils received a Pass, 11 pupils achieved a Merit and a further 8 were awarded a Distinction. There were no fails recorded. The highest mark achieved was 94%. Candidates should have received a report from the exam board detailing their grade and they should expect to receive their certificate in the coming weeks from their TVMS music teacher. Congratulations to all exam pupils!



The Influence of Music on Dance

Have you ever heard a song on the radio and just felt the sudden urge to get up and dance?

Many people have that feeling more often than not and it's because of the tremendous impact music has on dance, as it would not exist if it were not for the music that goes along with it. Dance needs music to set the mood, drop the beat and create the motivation needed to start moving. Music has that ability to make us feel a certain way, which is why it plays such an immense role in dance. Different styles of music create various types of beats, which all correspond to a specific dance style.

While some dances can be performed to any kind of music, there is always a typical genre that it matches with. For example, slower tunes would be used when performing dance styles such as the waltz, lyrical or ballet, while fast, upbeat songs would be used for hip-hop, tap dancing or the salsa. Although it can be argued otherwise the traditional version of each of these dance styles respectively corresponds to either slow or fast music. It is often hard to realise the importance of music in everyday life, however music plays a very integral role in daily activities. Most people usually listen to music when exercising, driving or during study periods as it creates a lively and enjoyable atmosphere.

Music and dance do not only affect our personal lives, they also play a major role in shaping cultures across the globe. For example, many countries incorporate dance and music into their celebrations including weddings, graduations and birthdays as a way to express excitement.

Furthermore, the lyrics of a song can be portrayed through dance just further enhancing the relationship they share. A song in itself can evoke so many emotions through its lyrics, but when combined with dance the impact it leaves can last a lifetime. When dramatic music is conjoined with intricate movement, the aesthetic qualities and awe inspiring way it is depicted is one of the best things to ever witness.

This article is the first in a three part series that looks at how music enriches our lives and offers new perspectives on how music is important to each and everyone of us.

A Look Back at TVYO

Tees Valley Youth Orchestra has now entered its 50th year and is celebrating in style, with a return to Sage Gateshead for a special Anniversary Concert in May and a performance at Carnegie Hall in New York in July.

The Orchestra, in its present form, dates back to 1969 when the Teesside Youth Orchestra was formed to bring together the most advanced young players in the area. After local government reorganisation the Orchestra became the Cleveland Youth Orchestra, and achieved their first Outstanding Performance Award in London at the National Festival of Music for Youth.

In the late 80s the Orchestra founder and conductor, Edwin Raymond, retired and was succeeded for over twenty years by David Kendal, Head of the Music Service, during which time the Orchestra became known as the Tees Valley Youth Orchestra. On David Kendal's retirement in 2006 the baton was handed to Chris Johns who left at the end of 2010 to take up an appointment as Director of Music at Leicester Cathedral.

Since 2011 the Orchestra, now known as Tees Valley Youth Orchestra has been conducted by Nicholas Nowicki.

There have been numerous highlights during the Orchestra's history, with tours throughout Europe (and this year to America for the first time), and performances in outstanding venues such as the Vigado in Budapest, the International Festival of Youth Orchestras in Florence, Symphony Hall in Birmingham, the Sage Gateshead and the Eden Project in Cornwall.

Many former members have themselves gone on to achieve great things in the music world, and we hope to catch up with as many of them as possible at the Orchestra's Anniversary Concert at Sage Gateshead in May.

We are extremely proud of the Orchestra's achievements in the last fifty years, and we look forward to many more successes in the next fifty!



Assistant Music Leaders Wanted at *musinc*

Teesside's musical inclusion champions *musinc* currently deliver a project at Breckon Hill Youth Club, Middlesbrough. This project aims to increase musical understanding, appreciation and ability, enabling them to play and perform popular music and music of their own cultures. The hope is this will raise their confidence, self-esteem and well being. The group consist of young people of various cultural backgrounds, who are highly skilled multi-instrumentalists and beginners who are eager to learn!

musinc are currently seeking two Assistant Music Leaders to join the team who have the relevant skills and experience in one to one and group instrumental tuition, are able to work in a flexible youth club environment and who have the potential to deliver Rock School accreditation.

Sessions are delivered weekly on Wednesday evenings 6 - 8pm (5:30pm arrival time) at Breckon Hill Community Centre and they would be hoping that those in post would be able to begin working on the project as soon as possible.

If you feel you have the skills necessary and would like to apply for this position please email musinc@middlesbrough.gov.uk for the Person Specification and application form.

Did You Know?

87 years ago, there was a day when the BBC had no news to report so they just played piano music.

Madeline Mary Walker Foundation - TVMS Sponsor

The Madeline Mary Walker Foundation is a north eastern memorial foundation and registered charity created in 1997 to assist people of all ages and abilities who may have difficulties in financing educational opportunities.

The Foundation supports:

- People with their education at all levels
- Students with the purchase of their books, equipment or tools
- Students with their tuition fees
- Students with the purchase of their musical instruments
- Students with their travel, projects abroad and field studies

For further information and application form email m100pfb@yahoo.co.uk.

Tees Valley Music Service would like to thank the Madeline Mary Walker Foundation for financially supporting Tees Valley Youth Orchestra's tour to New York City in July 2019.

The Christmas Gala Concert

This year's Christmas Gala Concert took place in Stockton Parish Church, as apposed to Teesside High School where it had been held for the past several years. The annual festive celebration featured Tees Valley Youth Orchestra, Tees Valley Youth Choir, Locomotion, Barbershop Choir and Showstoppers. The concert started with an audience rendition of *Once in Royal David's City*, promptly followed by Barbershop and Locomotion Choirs who each performed carol pieces composed by *Schubert* and *Pachelbel*. TVYC and TVYO then took to the stage for the first time that evening to play *O Holy Night*, with solos from Rachel McMurray and Patrick Graham. The Youth Choir then tackled a medley of festive tunes including *I Wish You Christmas* and *The Snow*. Following the interval, TVYO took to the stage with *Sleigh Ride*, ever a favourite with audiences. The concert ended with a *Christmas Festival* which featured the orchestra and all the choirs as well as the audience in a variety of music that left everyone feeling suitably festive.

Drumming Helps Children with Autism

Drumming for 60 minutes a week can benefit children diagnosed with autism that supports learning at school, according to a new scientific study by the University of Chichester. The study shows pupils' ability to follow instructions improved after 10 weeks with significant improvements in rhythm, timing and dexterity being highlighted in the report. The project enhanced their social interactions between peers and members of school staff.



Research was centered around pupils from Milestone School in Gloucester who took part in a ten-week drumming programme comprising two 30-minute sessions each week. Classroom observations were conducted which looked at the children's responses to musical technicalities including rhythm and timing. Class teachers evaluated behavioural changes within the classroom across the ten-week drumming intervention, with preliminary evidence highlighting positive outcomes. Each lesson was delivered by drumming tutors using electronic drum kits provided by charities in Gloucestershire. The focus of the sessions was on learning and having fun while playing popular songs. An in-depth explanation of key findings related to changes in social, behavioural, and motor control will be reported following the completion of on-going data analysis.

The intense course proved to be successful in strengthening understanding of beats and melody as well as vastly improving movement control while playing the drums. Movement control was enhanced while performing daily tasks outside the school environment, including an improved ability to concentrate during homework. A range of positive changes in behaviour within school environment, were observed and reported by teachers, such as improved concentration and enhanced communication with peers and adults.

Lead researcher Dr Marcus Smith, a Reader in Sport and Exercise Physiology at University of Chichester said: "This is a unique and remarkable research project that has demonstrated the positive impact on a pupil's health and well-being following rock drumming practice." What's more, the benefits raised in the study do not apply only to students with autism: Dr Smith went on to say "Rock drumming can be a potent intervention for individuals experiencing brain disorders of all kinds."

Although a number of studies over the years have made headlines with similar claims, the Clem Burke Drumming Project's ten years of research into the effects of drumming on brain health and behaviour give this study particular weight. Still, as always in scientific research, more evidence can help refine the applications. Another researcher in the study, Dr Ruth Lowry, sounds both excited and cautiously optimistic in her assessment of the findings, expressing hopes that more research will "provide further evidence that not only does rock drumming have positive benefits in terms of changes in dexterity and concentration but that wider social benefits can be observed."

In time, the evidence presented in this study as well as the research conducted in other high profile projects can bring about meaningful and transformative change to the methods we adopt in teaching children who are on the autistic spectrum; a challenging feat, but one worthwhile nonetheless.

Did You Know?

In 1989, The US military blared ACDC music at General Noriega's compound in Panama for 2 continuous days. The dictator surrendered.

Events for January - March 2019

Saturday 12th January, Tees Valley Youth Choir, Baroque Concert, 7:30PM at St Peter's Church, Yarm Road, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 3PJ

Saturday 9th February, Tees Valley Youth Choir, North East Festival of Youth Choir, Durham Cathedral, The College, Durham, DL1 3EH

Sunday 10th February, National Festival of Music for Youth Regional Festival, Sage Gateshead, St Mary's Square, Gateshead, NE8 2JR

Saturday 16th February, Tees Valley Youth Jazz Collective Concert, Middlesbrough Town Hall, Albert Road, Middlesbrough, Albert Rd, TS12QJ

Saturday 2nd March, Tees Valley Youth Orchestra Workshop Day, 10AM - 5PM at Ian Ramsey School, Fairfield, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7AJ

Sunday 3rd March, TVYJC Great North Big Band Festival, 3PM - 6PM at Park View Academy, Chester le Street, Sunderland, DH3 3QA

Wednesday 13th March, Snappy Spring, 9AM - 3PM at Thornaby Pavilion, Thornaby, Stockton-on-Tees, TS17 9EW

Highlights in 2019

FREE Instrument Taster

Monday 14th January 2019



Come along to a free guitar or brass taster session at Redcar & Cleveland College. From 4:15pm until 4.45pm, learn the basics of guitar or brass playing. There will also be the opportunity to enrol in weekly lessons commencing on 21st January 2019. Book your place now by emailing tvms@tvms.org.uk.

TVYC Baroque Concert

Saturday 12th January 2019

For the third consecutive year TVYC will join St Peter's Choir and Guest Orchestra in a new year *Baroque* celebration. The concert is at St Peter's Church in Stockton at 7:30pm and the programme will feature Handel's *The King Shall Rejoice*, and music by Fisch and Zipoli. Tickets are £10 for all adults.

Orchestral Workshop Day

Saturday 2nd March 2019

Want to know what it's like to be part of an orchestra? Well now you can as enthusiastic players (who are grade 3 or above) will rehearse and perform alongside TVYO in a unique orchestral experience, aided by professional tutors and TVYO's conductor. You will be coached in instrumental sectionals and will work on a variety of pieces. This will take place at Ian Ramsey Academy, from 10am - 5pm. Family and friends are invited to come along for a short performance at 4:15pm on the day.

North East Festival of Youth Choirs

Tees Valley Youth Choir will perform at the NEFYC. Taking place at Durham Cathedral this 'not to be missed' event will bring choirs from around the country together for a spectacular day of choral music.

Great North Jazz Big Band Festival with TVYJC

Sunday 3rd March 2019

Tees Valley Youth Jazz Collective will take part in the Great North Jazz Big Band Festival between 3pm & 6pm at Park View Academy on Chester le Street in Sunderland. For many members of TVYJC this will be the first major festival they will be a part of as the event will not only allow them to meet likeminded peers and make new connections but also play music in a competitive environment.

Snappy Spring, Snappy Opera & Snappy Christmas

Dates TBA

Snappy Music is back in full force this year with three Snappy Big Sing events. Snappy Spring will take place in March, closely followed by Snappy Opera in April. Snappy Christmas will also return in November / December!

TVYO's 50th Anniversary Gala Concert

Sunday 5th May 2019

TVYO celebrate 50 years with a special concert at the Sage in Gateshead, featuring the current orchestra. They will also be joined with orchestras featuring many former members. Not to be missed!

TVYO Tour to New York

Monday 8th July - Friday 13th July 2019

It's the largest and most anticipated event of the year as over 100 members of TVYO travel to New York City for a once-in-a-lifetime performance at the world famous Carnegie Hall. They will be staying in Times Square, in the heart of Manhattan, so there'll be lots of opportunities for sight-seeing. Keep up to date with TVMS' Facebook & Twitter pages for the latest information as soon as it's released.





Susan Robertson—Manager of TVMS. Susan is the Manager of the Tees Valley Music Service and a qualified teacher with over 25 years of experience in the classroom. She was part of the very successful Curriculum Team at TVMS who introduced Snappy Music CPD training sessions for teachers, the very popular series of half-day courses for teachers, and Snappy Big Sings for schools. Susan has been carrying out Ofsted's 'Inspirational Conversations' with schools and can support you to get 'Ofsted-Ready.' Susan loves to get out and meet people, so if you have anything you'd like to discuss about your music provision she'd be only too happy to help.



Chris Lewis—Assistant Manager of TVMS. Chris oversees our provision in Redcar and Cleveland and Middlesbrough, our CPD programme and our events. He is a qualified teacher with over 30 years of experience in the classroom and he previously managed the Curriculum Faculty at TVMS. Chris has overall responsibility for all our orchestras and ensembles at TVMS and is the leader of our very successful Yangchin ensemble which takes its influences from music of different parts of the world.



Jeff Sawdon - Assistant Manager of TVMS. Jeff oversees our provision in Stockton and Hartlepool and is our Music Technology specialist. He has over 15 years experience teaching music and delivering workshops. Prior to that he taught at Middlesbrough College and was a professional musician. He was part of the Curriculum Team who set up the very successful "Snappy Music" workshops for teachers and he can give you advice about your IT provision in school and all matters to do with recording, PA equipment etc. Jeff is also your first-line contact if you'd like to become a Partner of TVMS. He also oversees our website



Anthony Ingledeew—Hartlepool Coordinator TVMS. Anthony is affectionately known as 'Mr I' by the children he works with. He has over 30 years experience as a professional musician and teacher. He specialises in Guitar and Ukulele and has also delivered a number of projects with Hartlepool Youth Service and with Music developing strategies to engage children who find conventional learning difficult to cope with. Anthony has worked on a number of projects with Early Years children too. Please contact tvaingledeew@tvms.org.uk if you'd like some advice or support with your music in Hartlepool.



Phil McFarlane—Middlesbrough Coordinator for TVMS. Phil is known as the 'Mr Drum' of Tees Valley Music Service due to the fantastic drumming and percussion projects and performances he has organized over the years. Phil is a published author of music teaching resources and our resident expert on all things you tap, scrape and shake! He has worked with colleagues to revamp our Snappy Workshop offer for schools and has linked them to the Cornerstones Curriculum too. Please contact tvpmcFarlane@tvms.org.uk if you'd like some advice or support with your music in Middlesbrough.



Penny Ferguson—Redcar & Cleveland Coordinator for TVMS. Penny has taught cello & double bass for the last 12 years at TVMS and been in charge of Redcar & Cleveland for the past six. Over the past few years she has developed, with colleagues, a great tradition of large scale string workshops, enabling literally hundreds of beginner pupils to have their first experience of orchestral playing very early in their musical development. The concept has grown to include special themes, mixed ability groups, mixed instruments and summer schools. Please contact tvpferguson@tvms.org.uk if you'd like some advice or support with your music in Redcar & Cleveland.



Jud Down—Stockton on Tees Coordinator for TVMS. Jud brings a vast experience of leadership having organised and led hard working bands on many top cruise liners across the world. Now he applies that expertise to running the Stockton Area for TVMS and has been instrumental in the development of new working relationships with partners in the area. Still playing trumpet in professional shows orchestras and bands, Jud teaches Brass instruments in both small groups and whole classes and is an avid advocate of music technology in this context. Please contact tvjdown@tvms.org.uk if you'd like some advice or support with your music in Stockton on Tees.



Alan Rutter—Support Services Manager for TVMS. During his time as a Royal Marine bandsman Alan learned to play most instruments known to man. He puts that skill to good use now as he is in charge of the TVMS instrumental stock, issuing and retrieving, logging and storing and even repairing them. After many years of management experience with the Royal Mail, Alan came to TVMS in 2002 and oversees the busy support team. Last but not least he is the logistical force behind the many concerts by our bands and orchestras across the county and the region.



Janice Frazer— Support Service Coordinator for TVMS Janice has been with TVMS for over 16 years and has been Support Service Coordinator for most of those years. She organises the team of TVMS Support staff and ensures all day to day operations run as smoothly as possible. Janice also arranges all aspects of our external exam board programme including ABRSM and Trinity. Always cheerful in the face of many challenges, Janice or one of her team will very likely be your first-line contact at TVMS when you get in touch with us.

Contact Us

Contact us via the TVMS website:

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