



HELLO!

We're now settled in nicely to our new TVMS building at the Frederick Nattrass Centre, Stockton.

Thank you all for your patience and consideration during 'the move'!

If you'd like to come and have a look at our new premises and spend some time looking at the vocal and orchestral score library please get in touch with Alan Rutter, our Support Service Manager (TVARutter@tvms.org.uk) Our library includes works for full orchestras and other ensembles such as wind bands and brass bands and can be accessed by schools and community groups. There is also an extensive vocal library available of choral scores, show scores and a large collection of choral pieces which was gifted to us by the National Youth Choir of Great Britain. Please spread the word about this fantastic resource to local amateur music societies and ensembles.

We've also got our Sound Pod installed on site. This is a fantastic facility to engage with young people and we've had a number of schools organise 'Reward Days' for their students - sometimes with two classes attending - one class doing drumming in our hall and the other working in the Sound Pod, then swapping activities part-way through the day. We've also ran some 'Team Building' days for school staff and for other agencies. Why not consider this for one of your upcoming training days in the summer or next academic year?

We'll be sending our new 2019-2020 brochure to schools in the next couple of weeks and the TVMS Area Coordinators will be contacting you to discuss plans for your music enrichment, curriculum and the CPD you'd like us to support you with next year.

We're also going to be offering a First Thing Music package to all schools for Early Years and Key Stage 1 from September based upon the model we've been working on this year as part of the EEF/ RSA Cultural Strategy research project.

Next week we've got over 3000 Key Stage 1 children from schools across the four local authorities coming to our Snappy Spring Big Sings in Thornaby Pavilion (Tuesday 12th March), Hartlepool Borough Hall (Wednesday 13th March) and Eston Sports Academy (Friday 15th March).

The 'Spring Chickens' will be out in force I'm sure...I can't wait!!

Susan Robertson, Manager, TVMS.

Young People vs Classical Music

For years, classical music failed to capture the interests of younger generations. So why, in 2019, are more young people turning to the classical genre? Find out inside.

In This Issue

- New Music Library Coming Soon
- Bring the Day Alive - First Thing Music
- TVYO Fundraising Nears its Target
- Great North Jazz Big Band Festival
- Snappy Spring 2019
- Two Thirds of Students Make Music
- Former TVMS Pupil Talks Helping the Homeless and Opera Singing
- The BIG Creative Teachers' Event
- Shine! Festival is Back!
- Why are Young People Turning to Classical Music?
- Upcoming Events
- TVYO 50th Anniversary Spring Concert
- Orchestral Workshop Day 2019 - Recap
- TVYWO Early Spring Concert
- Contact Us

Did You Know?

Your heart beat changes and mimics the music you listen to.

TVMS Music Library Coming Soon

An exciting new feature is coming to the TVMS website which should be of interest to local and regional ensembles as well as music organisations and that is the launch of our new music library. Soon, TVMS will be able to offer groups and individuals the chance to hire limited sheet music from our extensive library.

Once the process goes live, enquiries can be sent through the music library request form and a member of our Resources team will be in touch to give you a quote and arrange a mutually convenient time to browse the music in person before you hire it.

Initially, wind band music will be available upon launch eventually followed by brass band music, small ensemble music and then orchestra and choir pieces. The music library will also be updated gradually.

Stay up to date with our Facebook and Twitter pages for news and announcements as to when the Music Library will go live.



Tees Valley Music Service

Did You Know?

Music, painting, poetry, literature and architecture, all used to be part of the modern Olympic Games from 1912 to 1948.

Bring The Day Alive! - First Thing Music



Following the current success of the initial year of the **First Thing Music** project, TVMS is delighted to offer the chance for more schools to experience the impact on their Key Stage One children.

The concept of the research project is to deliver short, snappy music sessions to a class for around fifteen minutes each morning. Baseline assessments took place before the start and control groups are being used to compare the impact. This impact has been seen already and several schools have shared evidence.

This structured music education programme is based on the Kodály approach and is targeting 1,800 five-to-six year olds in 60 schools. The project team is led by Lindsay Ibbotson in an innovative partnership with Tees Valley Music Service and members of the British Kodály Academy. In this year, students are learning the basics of music through daily singing and musical games, while their teachers receive training led by members of the British Kodály Academy. It has begun to show that this whole-class approach can help not only to develop pupils' music skills, but also literacy, and social and emotional skills.

Further development of the research, in partnership with the British Kodaly Association, The Education Endowment Foundation and the Royal Society of Arts, is being considered. Meanwhile, TVMS and FTM are planning to offer more schools the chance to share in this exciting new approach, which offers an element of CPD for teachers to upskill and empower them to take the approach forward themselves.

Watch out for more information about how you can be involved or contact your local **Area Coordinator** (see back page) for more information.

TVYO Funding Nears its Target

Friends of Tees Valley Youth Orchestra have been working hard over the past few months to raise money for TVYO's upcoming New York tour. Calendar's have been designed and printed, fundraising events have taken place and donations have been gratefully received. And it appears all the effort and generosity has paid off as the total amount raised so far is over £25,000, only £5000 under the target. This is an incredible achievement by TVYO members, their families, friends and supporters, but with only 5 months to go can they reach their goal of £30,000?

As July quickly approaches, TVMS will release further details regarding the tour and announce if and when the fundraising target has been reached.

Great North Jazz Big Band Festival

On Sunday 3rd March between 3pm & 6pm, Tees Valley Youth Jazz Collective performed at the Great North Jazz Big Band Festival at Park View Academy in Sunderland. For many members of TVYJC this was the first major festival they have been a part of. TVMS' newest ensemble was joined by bands across the North of England so it allowed TVYJC members the chance to meet likeminded peers and make new connections but also the opportunity to play in a competitive environment.

Snappy Spring 2019

Our Snappy Music programme kicks into full gear in March as hundreds of pupils across Tees Valley take part in the Snappy Big Sing events. Snappy Spring is the first of a trio of events planned for this year and is designed specifically for Key Stage 1 pupils. Schools are already busy rehearsing a collection of Snappy Songs with their pupils. Parents are invited to a performance where they will watch everything the children have rehearsed over the day. Visit tvms.org.uk/events for dates and venues for Snappy Spring.



Two Thirds of British Students Make Music - A Youth Music Study Finds

A new poll by Youth Music shows a massive rise in music-making among young people - especially among those from lower-income backgrounds. New research has found that more than two-thirds of young people are active musicians.

The study by music charity and TVMS partner Youth Music polled more than 1000 British children aged from seven to seventeen about their music habits. Unsurprisingly, 97% of them had listened to music in the previous week - but 67% had also engaged in some form of music-making activity. It's a huge rise from 39% in 2006, when Youth Music conducted their previous survey.

Among those who said they made music, singing was the most popular activity, with 44% saying they sang compared with 17% who learnt to play an instrument - with the piano proving most popular.



One potential cause of this increase could be the shift from provision being delivered by schools to Music Education Hubs delivering the National Plan for Music. This could well have contributed to an increase in engagement with young people.

Not everything in the report was positive however, as additional evidence has found that music-making tends to fall off as children get older - 79% of all children aged 7 to 10 made music versus 53% of those aged 16 and 17. Income also affected the findings: 76% of children entitled to free school meals described themselves as musical, versus 60% of those not entitled. Activities including rapping, DJing, writing music and making music digitally were all notably higher among children from lower-income backgrounds.

Writing in the report, Youth Music CEO, Matt Griffiths recommended that "public music education funds should be targeted towards those who face greatest barriers to access" and "those involved in supporting young people's well-being should give greater consideration to the role that music can play, and how young people's passion for listening to music and their everyday creative lives can be interwoven with wider strategies to support good mental health."

Youth Music and other organisations continue to work with young people throughout the UK on musical projects to enhance their lives, and provide the facilities to make great art which benefits the wider community and has an impact on everyone's lives.

Former TVMS Pupil Talks Helping the Homeless and Opera Singing

A former pupil of TVMS has been lavished with praise in the press recently for her work with asylum seekers and the homeless. Emily Smith, an opera singer who initially received lessons from Tees Valley Music Service in 1997, has been working with MIMA (Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art) and conducting the Middlesbrough Homeless Choir. Onlookers stop to listen, overwhelmed by the impressive sound, as the voices prepare for a concert as part of the Streetwise Opera project.

Streetwise is an award-winning charity that helps people who are, or have been, homeless to stage operas, and singer Emily is readying them for a concert in Middlesbrough Town Hall. With her husband, tenor singer David Pisaro, Emily conducts a choir of asylum seekers at the Middlesbrough Institute for Modern Art for the Methodist Asylum Project (MAP).

“Asylum seekers are so often vilified,” Emily says. “They are people who fled their homes to save their lives. They enrich the group with the music they bring. Many are professionals and people with skills who would be an asset to this country. I want their music and voices to be heard”.



Emily, who is one of the teachers at this month's Stokesley Song Fest, is passionate about the positive effect music can have on people's lives. Ms Smith continued: “I always work to a high level but we have fun, and the atmosphere is supportive and inclusive,” she says. “We look at common and relevant themes within the opera stories, and they often put their own lyrics to the music. During the MAP sessions, we work with the different languages of the people we teach. They share music from their own countries, which enriches the experience, and we hope that our sessions bring a moment of peace in their often difficult lives.”

Emily has always had a passion for music. Her family are musical, her music teacher (Mr Lewis) supported her to achieving a Grade 8 in piano, singing and cello, before going to study at the Guildhall School of Music in London, where she met David. After two years working in London, they decided to move back up to the North East so they could work in a less competitive and crowded place. They quickly set up the Sage's Sing Up project, where Emily travelled around primary schools, encouraging teachers to set up school choirs.

Speaking to the *Darlington & Stockton Times*, she said she wanted to bring the experience of singing to places where there isn't much music as well as making the lives of those less fortunate better. She taught opera to people with learning difficulties which eventually culminated with a massive concert at Bridlington Spa, written by Lee Hall, the writer of Billy Elliot.

Emily says there are no obstacles to prevent people from singing. “Language is not a barrier,” she says. “Three times a year I work in Spain. I travel around the main cities in Southern Spain auditioning students for youth choirs. We worked with both the youth choirs and children's choirs of Andalusia, as well as performing in concerts and recitals ourselves.”



She also wants to expand her work with asylum seekers and homeless people and recently received a message from one of the MAP asylum seekers. It read: “The singing sessions at MAP are not just the best thing I have done since coming to the UK, but the best thing I have done in my life.”

The homeless and asylum-seeking choirs performed at Middlesbrough Town Hall on Friday 1st March at 7PM on an evening that was filled with joyful and refreshing which cut through the stuffiness of traditional opera. It also included the premiere of *After the Storm*, an opera piece created by composer Hayley Jenkins. Emily was also one of the teachers at Stokesley Song Fest over the weekend of 15-17 February.

The BIG Creative Teachers' Event

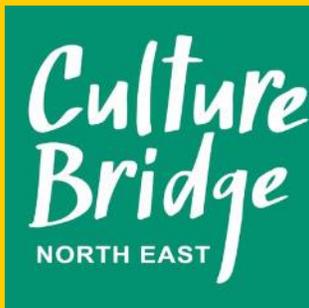
The BIG Creative Teachers' Event is a FREE arts and culture CPD extravaganza exclusively for teachers from Redcar & Cleveland and Middlesbrough schools. The event will take place on Friday 22nd March, 12:30pm - 6:30pm at Tuned In on Majuba Road, Redcar, TS10 5BJ.

Culture Bridge North East is committed to supporting creative teachers to continually inspire and enthuse young people to participate in artistic and cultural activities. They are inviting teachers to a FREE CPD afternoon, packed full of arts and culture educational training events led by a host of local and national organisations, all tailored for amazingly dedicated teachers.

Workshop sessions to choose from include: devising physical theatre, how to teach arts and crafts on a budget, Philosophy for Children, music, raising literacy through filmmaking & animation, teaching creative writing, drama, using the arts as therapy and much more!

Contact Culture Bridge North East on 0191 277 2243 to register for this day-long event.

Places on workshops are limited so book early to avoid disappointment!



Did You Know?

Leo Fender, inventor of the Telecast and Stratocaster, could not play guitar.

Shine Festival is Back!

Aiming to celebrate the quality and diversity of participatory music making in the Tees Valley, Shine Festival returns with its 2019 programme. From individual instrumentalists and singers, through to choirs, bands and school groups, people of all ages are making music in Tees Valley, and are covering a huge range of musical genres.

This festival aims to showcase this, and at the same time nurture and support this by bringing together communities of the Tees Valley to enjoy making music together.

When competing in the festival, awards will be given to all participants and trophies awarded to winners of each category. Winners are also invited to perform in the final performance on Sunday 12th May 2019 at 6pm.

With categories for piano, strings, woodwind, brass, vocal, duets and ensembles and school groups there are plenty of opportunities for pupils to take part and we are urging all schools to put forward some entries.

To make it easier for pupils to get involved there are 2 registration options available:

- 1) Parents can enter themselves on shinefestival.co.uk where they can also pay online.
- 2) Teachers can download an entry form from the website and collect the details of pupils who want to enter. These forms can be left at the TVMS Office for collection.

Categories are set by grade, and performers can enter 2 subsequent graded categories. They can enter playing any piece from any of the stated syllabuses, making it very flexible in terms of repertoire and choice.

All entries must be received by 15th March. If you require further information please contact Rebecca Johnson at shinefestivalteesvalley@gmail.com or call 07725033551.

The Shine Festival website also offers detailed information on dates, venues, individual and group entries and so forth.



Shine Festival is sponsored by Tees Valley Community Foundation and is in partnership with Tees Valley Music Service

TVMS Top Tip

Percussion Care

Try to store your drum kit in hard cases when you're not using it as it will decrease the chances of damage, especially when you're transporting the equipment. Hard cases significantly increase the lifespan of the drum kit, something that drum bags can't offer.

Why are Young People Turning to Classical Music?

Scarla Radio, a new classical radio station, conducted a fresh study into who the consumers of classical music are and what the trends show. Surprisingly, the research discovered that a growing audience for the classics are under 35 year olds.

To many, the decision to greenlight Scala Radio, a radio station founded on the belief that classical music can appeal to younger audiences, will have come as a surprise. But the study has shown clear indications of new listening trends, with almost half (45%) of young people saying they see classical music as an escape from the noise of modern life. The new digital radio station will have DJ Simon Mayo at the forefront of its presenting team when it launches in March. Mayo, who left BBC Radio 2 last year, will be joined at Scarla by the unorthodox orchestral music lover Goldie.

The launch of a new classical entertainment station aimed at younger listeners is based on more than a hunch. Research found that a new generation of listeners was switching on to classical music through different sources, with 48% of under-35s exposed to it through classical versions of popular songs such as Taylor Swift's *Blank Space*. By merging contemporary pop songs with classical arrangements it offers a new spin on the original version which bridges the gap many young people have with current music and more classical works.

Furthermore, 74% of people in the same age group had experienced classical music via a live orchestral performance at a film screening, according to analysts at Insight working for Bauer Media, owner of Scarla Radio. The Media company had this to say in reference to the research: "Our studies have shown that film screenings, experimental events such as Secret Cinema and themed performances such as Pete Tong Ibiza Classics are key drivers in exposing younger audiences to classical music." And this analysis appears to ring true as classical music is resonating more with the younger demographics than it has in decades. What has caused this resurgence is still a cause for debate but one possible indicator is the role it plays in modern entertainment and society as a whole.

Jack Pepper, Britain's youngest commissioned composer, explored this theory: Classical music is surrounded by the misconception that it's irrelevant, sterile and inaccessible to a majority of people. What many don't realise is there is an authentic modern-day narrative to accompany classical music which is really connecting with people."



Citing the appeal of soundtracks for video games as well as for primetime TV dramas and the cinema, the 19 year old said that even the greats of the conventional repertoire still had something to say: "Even the classical masters like Beethoven and Mozart have shocking, entertaining, humorous and sometimes tragic life stories. A classical composer is a normal human being with the same ups and downs we can all relate to."

These findings can only serve as a positive for the classical genre with fears it could slip into insignificance for many of the British public. This research highlights a turning point, one that is hopefully not short-lived, so that many people can enjoy the genre of classical music for generations to come.

Did You Know?

The first pop video was *Bohemian Rhapsody*, released in 1975.

Events for March 2019

Saturday 2nd March, Tees Valley Youth Orchestra Workshop Day, 10AM - 5PM at Ian Ramsey Academy, 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

Tuesday 12th March, Hartlepool Snappy Spring, ALL DAY, Borough Hall, Hartlepool, TS24 0JD

Wednesday 13th March, Stockton Snappy Spring, ALL DAY at Thornaby Pavilion, Thornaby, Stockton-on-Tees, TS17 9EW

Friday 15th March, Middlesbrough Snappy Spring, ALL DAY at Eston Leisure Centre, Normanby Road, Middlesbrough, TS6 9AE

Saturday 16th March, NEW String Workshop, 10AM - 12PM, Frederick Nattrass Centre, Swale Road, Stockton-on-Tees, TS20 1BY

Saturday 30th March, Tees Valley Youth Orchestra Concert, 2PM - 7PM, St Barnabas Church, Middlesbrough, TS5 6JR

TVYO 50th Anniversary Spring Concert

Tees Valley Youth Orchestra continues its 50th Anniversary programme with a spring concert at St Barnabas Church in Middlesbrough on Saturday 30th March, 7:30pm to 9:45pm.

The programme will include *Triumphal March from Aida* by Verdi, *Carnival of Venice* by Briccialdi and *Symphony no. 1 in D minor* by Mahler.

Following on from this concert the Orchestra have got three very special performances to look forward to. The first being their UK-based 50th Anniversary Concert at the Sage Gateshead on Sunday 5th May at 7:30pm. The second is the widely anticipated Carnegie Hall Concert in New York on Thursday 11th July at 8pm (local time). Expect lots of coverage from New York during the tour. The third event is the Leavers Concert on Saturday 7th September at 7pm at St Barnabas Church where the Youth Orchestra will say farewell to members leaving the ensemble for University or other opportunities.

Auditions for membership of TVYO are held in the summer term. For more information on how to join, email TVNNowicki@tvms.org.uk or visit TVYO's Facebook page.

Orchestral Workshop Day 2019 - Recap

Tees Valley Youth Orchestra hosted their annual Orchestral Workshop Day on Saturday 3rd March. They were joined by over 40 pupils, eager to experience what it's like to rehearse and perform in a full youth orchestra. The day consisted of several hours of rehearsing challenging pieces, with a 45 minute lunch break sandwiched between the practice, and a 30 minute performance at the end of the day in front of friends and family. The performance showcased how much the pupils had learnt over a short period of time. Nicholas Nowicki, TVYO's conductor, said the additional members added an "exciting energy" to the orchestra and hoped that many of the new players would someday become full members to experience the fantastic opportunities that TVYO could offer, including performing in some of the most prestigious venues in the world.



Yangchin Joins TVYWO for Early 2019 Concert

Tees Valley Youth Wind Orchestra, led by Blair Stanbridge and assisted by Gordon Chiverton and Mike Davison, performed their first concert of the year on the 24th January. The event also marked the first concert at TVMS' new premises. Taking place in the large hall, the Wind Orchestra were joined by Yangchin members who complemented the style of the Wind Orchestra very well. Amalgamating two distinct sounds can often be difficult to incorporate into a single performance but the contrast in styles produced a very impressive and unique concert to the delight of family and friends.

TVYWO are currently busy rehearsing for their next concert coming up later in the year and more details as to what they have planned will be released shortly.





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

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