

# Musical Connections

[www.musicalconnections.org.uk](http://www.musicalconnections.org.uk)

April 2019



## Truly a Night to Remember!

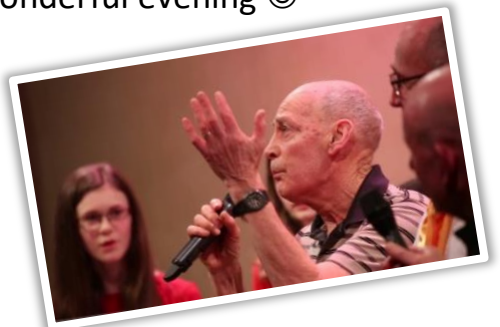
On 22<sup>nd</sup> March, we staged an amazing intergenerational concert at the National Centre for Early Music to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Musical Connections. Around 60 members from our music groups and choirs took to the stage alongside younger singers from local schools to deliver a sumptuous programme of musical treats.

Fulford School choir set the tone for the evening with a delightful performance, closely followed by our one and only George Dodd from Glen Lodge Independent Living Community who has taken the microphone for us on many occasions over the years, and sang his long-time favourite, The White Cliffs of Dover. George and the children were joined by David from our group at Barstow House to deliver a lively rendition of When You're Smiling, and our newest group, York Medical Group's 'Acomb Singers' showed no sign of nerves when they took to the stage for their first ever performance!

Singers and guitar players from Barstow House got the audience involved with a brilliant performance of George Ezra's 'Shotgun', and our amazing community choir, which now numbers over 50 members, left people open-mouthed with their incredible performance. The finale was an absolute show-stopper, with all our performers taking to the stage to wow the audience with a 4-part version of Amazing Grace, The Rhythm of Life and Ain't No Mountain High Enough (with actions for the audience!).

A final word should go to our fabulous soloists: 15-year old Rose Beckett, who took to the stage with 92 year old Beattie Hall, to sing Beattie's favourite song, You Raise Me Up – a wonderfully confident and moving performance; and Margaret Jenkins from Ebor Court care-home, who sang Moon River like an angel.

Thank you so much to everyone for making this such a wonderful evening 😊



# An Abundance of Projects with Children and Young People!

## Children of Clifton Prep bring joy to Ebor Court residents

We were delighted when Clifton Prep school got in touch to request a project with us this spring. It presented a prime opportunity to introduce our newest care-home group to the joys of intergenerational work, and our promises of some wonderful experiences did not prove unfounded. Tree and flower-themed workshops offered lots of fun material to bridge the generation gap, as may be seen in our photo opposite! We look forward to more sessions with Clifton Prep in the summer.



## Haxby Hall care-home got visits from Ralph Butterfield primary school AND Little Green Rascals Nursery this term

Both sessions had an international theme, with songs from around the globe, and the nursery children celebrated Chinese New Year with 'How much is that piggy in the window' to celebrate the year of the pig!

## St Aelred's return for their umpteenth visit to Glen Lodge!

We are so lucky to have such a strong friendship with the children of St Aelred's primary school. We have lost count of the number of times they have visited Glen Lodge Independent Living Community!



## Gamelan-Playing with York University Students

For several years now, we have been able to offer some of our participants the opportunity to take part in workshops led by York University's Community Music MA students on the gamelan, an ornate and very precious Indonesian percussion ensemble. This is always a mesmerising experience for our beneficiaries, and participants in this year's session were as engaged and focused as ever. Composition and conducting were especially riveting, as members absorbed themselves in creating the most wonderful sounds.



### A Special Thank You to the Garfield Weston Foundation

Our project has made huge strides over the last year, and this is due in no small part to the generous support of the Garfield Weston Foundation. A 3-year grant from the Foundation, awarded a year ago, has had a significant impact on our ability to extend our project to the most vulnerable and isolated members of our community, and to secure new funding going forwards. Receiving this grant has been transformative for our project, and we are hugely grateful to the Garfield Weston Foundation for their faith in our work, enabling us to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with extra confidence and optimism.



## SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR 10<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

*'The concert was an inspiration, a lovely mix of all ages, contributing to a truly memorable evening...thank you for providing us with such a lovely evening of music and good fellowship'*



Huge thanks to Tesco and the Co-Op for their generous contributions to the evening's refreshments, and to Betty's and the Hotel du Vin for donating prizes for the silent auction – we are profoundly grateful for the support of these local businesses.

**Thank you for reading! April 2019**

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