



Musical Connections newsletter

Helping people to live happier and healthier lives



Oh, I Just Can't Wait to be King!



With Cockney singalongs, Union Jacks, and scones, jam and cream, in abundance, our Musical Connections group members certainly celebrated the

King's Coronation in style, thanks to a generous grant received from [The National Academy of Social Prescribing, in partnership with The Utley Foundation](#). Joining together with children from Clifton Green Primary School, St Joseph's Church Hall was transformed into a very British street party for the afternoon, as both members and children enjoyed celebrating not only this historic occasion, but also singing together, meeting new people, and making new friends. There was even a bit of dancing, as group members and Clifton Green Children partnered together to show off their 'doin' the Lambeth Walk' skills - huge congratulations to Rolling Tones member, Roger, and Clifton Green's, Hugo - voted best dancers, and crowned our very own MC Kings!



Our MC Kings, Roger and Hugo, in action - just look at those royal waves!

From singing to Tai Chi - the University of York students visit Barstow and Glen Lodge



At the beginning of May, Glen Lodge and Barstow group members welcomed University of York students into their weekly sessions. Keen for both MC groups to experience as many varieties of music as possible, we let the students take the lead, and were transported to worlds of gamelan, Tai Chi, and origami, to name but a few. It's always so special to witness the interaction between younger and older, and this was certainly no different - Glen Lodge group members enjoyed drawing pictures in response to the students' music - a special keepsake from the session - whilst Barstow group members tried their

hand with some traditional Chinese instruments. A huge thank you to all of the students, and to their lecturer, Emily, for her guidance - what a treat for all!



With tea and coffee an all-important part of any Musical Connections session, our lovely Honeysuckle group members were delighted to be invited to sing at the most recent Askham Bryan coffee morning. Not surprisingly, it was filled with lots of singing and chatting, but also, a very kind donation of £100 from the organisers - thank you so much! If you'd like to join the next one, it will be taking place between **10-12 on Wednesday 19th July at Askham Bryan Village Hall YO23 2QU.**

**50,000 metres rowed, £416.30 raised,
and one step closer to the big £1,500
target!**



In an effort to reach our York Dragon Boat Race fundraising target, 'Moo'sical Connections group members recently enjoyed joining together on Parliament Street for a sponsored busking and rowing event. With people stopping to join in with the singing, play the big MC bass drum or even hop onto the rowing machine themselves, it was a fantastic day that truly captured the spirit of the Boat Race – an event designed to bring people together and support communities and charities. Not just that, but we managed to reach a staggering 50,000 metres and raise an incredible £416.30 – an 'udderly' incredible effort. A huge thank you to members, musicians, and passers-by – we couldn't have done it without you! As we reach the last couple of weeks of fundraising, we'd 'udderly' appreciate any final support you can give via our fundraising page, and hope to see many of you there on the riverside on Sunday 9th July!

[**Donate to 'Moo'sical Connections**](#)



5 hours of rowing, and we finally hit the target - what a moment!

'When you're all singing together, it brings things together'

- Terry Pratchett

Intergenerational events are always a pleasure to organise, particularly when they're as uplifting and joyous as our most recent concert in collaboration with both St Aelred's School and Converge, a local organisation working with adults who have experienced mental health problems. From Disney to Grease, traditional African lullabies to 'shaking our sillies out', it was a gorgeous afternoon which truly emphasised both Terry Pratchett's words, and the wonderful words of a St Aelred's school child - **'singing together is better than singing by yourself'**. The finale was particularly special as MC group members, members of Converge, and the school children joined together on stage for a collaborative performance of 'Make Your Own Kind of Music'. It's always been an MC favourite but there was definitely a little bit of magic in the air as over 60 people, younger to older, united to 'sing their own special song'.

Thank you to St Aelred's School for having us, and to Mrs Feehan, for organising everything - we can't wait to visit again soon!



Eurovision number, Love Shine a Light, complete with lights!

In conversation with Betty: our singing, tap dancing, Monkgate member!



York Medical Group have long been supporters of Musical Connections, with three of our weekly groups, Acomb, Tower Court, and Monkgate, set up in partnership with them. Recently, we sat down with one of our Monkgate group members, Betty, to find out just how much of a difference Musical Connections makes to her life, and to her husband, Terry's. We'll let the video speak for itself, but with words such as 'We're a family now', and 'We socialise as much as we sing, sometimes', it's clear to see how much her involvement means. As YMG's CEO, Zulf Ali, says, 'whilst the mode is music, the outcome is healing through the magic of music'. To experience what Betty's talking about for yourself, join us at The Hut on Wednesday afternoons between 3.15 and 4.45.



Another half-term filled with happiness!







Summer SPECTACULAR

Join us for a musical evening featuring performances from Musical Connections groups

**WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY
6PM**

**MERCHANT ADVENTURERS' HALL
FOSSGATE, YORK, YO1 9XD**

www.musicalconnections.org.uk
01904 373011



Please join us at our final event of the year - a Summer Spectacular featuring all Musical Connections groups, plus other guest performances!



LOTTERY FUNDED



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