



Helping people to lead happier, healthier lives through musical participation.

www.musicalconnections.org.uk

February 2020

‘Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens... these are a few of my favourite things...’

In the spirit of Julie Andrews, our groups at Barstow House and Glen Lodge have spent the last couple of weeks exploring their “favourite things” in an exciting collaboration with students from the University of York. Whether a show-tune fanatic, a pop classic aficionado

or a power ballad enthusiast, they have thoroughly enjoyed sharing their musical memories, been captivated by each other’s beautiful singing and relished the unique opportunity to develop new friendships across the generations. Beattie, a member of Glen Lodge, sang the student’s praises, and has even received an offer to visit one of them in the future, ‘They’re beautiful, they join in and sing, you can talk to them easy... I’ve never met children like that’.



Boom-whacking to Ben Nevis and beyond!

White-water rafting in Canada, river-cruising in Thailand and mountain-hopping in Austria, ‘the hills were alive with the sound of music’ during another enjoyable Little Sing at Rufforth Primary School... no prizes for guessing the theme of the afternoon!



‘Friendship can be obtained from anyone at any time. It knows no difference between age, gender, or even species.’

This beautiful quote from the writer, Marlana Williams, perfectly encapsulates the essence of our most recent project at Ebor Court care home, exploring the incredible power of music and its ability to foster connections between the generations. Over the last month, our interactive workshops have given



students

at York College the unique opportunity to develop their musicianship, form social connections with individuals that they may not typically interact with and apply music in creative and exciting ways... tennis balls are all part of the fun! In true Musical Connections’ style, the project culminated in a fantastic musical lunch event hosted by the college – a very fitting celebration of the brilliant power of music, friendships and new experiences!

Don’t Leave Us Heartbroken, Grab a Green Token!

We are delighted to have been selected by Waitrose & Partners to receive support from their Community Matters initiative. If you, your friends or family are shopping in Waitrose this month, then please don’t forget to collect a green token from the checkout and pop it in our collection box... it’ll keep the smiles on Stan and Abby’s faces! At the end of the month, Waitrose will donate a proportion of £1,000 to us, based on the votes cast by Waitrose customers towards ourselves and two other local causes. So... happy shopping everyone!



Fantastic Funders 'Fuelling' Our Fun!



Our newsletter would not be complete without an enormous 'thank you' for the support of our wonderful funders. A special mention goes to local business, Portland Fuel, for their generous donation of £500 at Christmas, and also, to the Academy of St Olave's Chamber Orchestra who have kindly agreed to raise funds for us at their upcoming concert on Saturday 27th June. It would be fantastic if you could join us for this wonderful evening of music... all in aid of a very good cause! Last but not least, 'many thanks' to Ways for Wellbeing for their current funding for our two singing groups developed in association with York Medical Group, who are going from strength to strength, both in musical expertise and in number! Acomb have now 'outgrown' the surgery and are thoroughly enjoying their new rehearsal space at Acomb Methodist Church!

The Winner Takes It All...

...on national radio show, Scala! They've always been champions to us, but the Rolling Tones were officially crowned Community Choir of the Week in an exciting interview with our very own Charlotte Yandell and the show's host, Angellica Bell, at the beginning of January... a fitting tribute to the fantastic singing, laughter and enthusiasm of all of our wonderful singers!



Thank you for reading! February 2020