

Musical Connections

www.musicalconnections.org.uk



May 2016



New Tang Hall Community Choir!!

On the 19th April, we began a new community choir at Tang Hall Community Centre. Tenants from neighbouring Alex Lyon sheltered housing scheme have been in to rehearsals to see what we're up to, and we are hoping they will soon join us as fully fledged members. The choir is open to everybody of all ages, there are no auditions, and we will be doing a range of pieces in different styles, to cater for everyone's interests and abilities. We are very friendly and relaxed, so do give us a try. Rehearsals take place on Tuesdays during school term-times 10.15-11.45am.

April Big Sing

puts 'spring' in our step

Huge thanks to music students from York St John University, who joined regulars from all the Musical Connections groups to participate enthusiastically in the Spring Big Sing on 22nd April at the Priory Street Centre. The university's African drummers, soul band, ukulele players and the 'house band' all performed to huge applause, while our regular participants demonstrated their own talents - despite complaining that the backing track was more suitable for Katherine Jenkins than for him, Michael Faul from Gale Farm Court did a great rendition of Funiculi Funicula, which got the whole room joining in. He also sang Ver in die ou kalahari - in Afrikaans! Michael May from City Mills performed You'll Never Walk Alone with great panache, while Pam Samuels and Joan Lucas from Barstow House delivered their old favourite 'Are You Lonesome Tonight, are your corsets too tight?' with typical theatrical flair. Special thanks must go to Edna Sulejmanovic, who did an amazing job of taking overall responsibility for York St John's contribution - it was her 21st birthday on the day and she said *'What a way to celebrate my 21st, I had a blast!'*





Carehomes abound with designer cushions!

We were delighted that Emily Harvey, local textiles artist, was able to join us once again for an extended art project across all of our care homes. Emily has worked with us on several occasions, and is adept at designing projects which will engage and inspire participants. On this occasion, she helped us design and make individual cushion covers over the course of three weeks, and the colourful and comfortable finished products can now be seen dotted around our various venues. We like to include different art forms in our project, as they add variety to what we do, and can sometimes bring in new participants. As ever, however, music played a key role in the sessions - filling gaps while we waited for things to dry, and ensuring that everyone remained fully involved.



A Trip to Brazil with Sixty children from Clifton Prep!!

Residents of Haxby Hall, Morrell House and Willow House have thoroughly enjoyed a 2-week, Brazil-themed project with three separate classes from Clifton Prep. The theme provided a rich source of material for our musicians, from Carnival to the Olympics with some samba in between, and both old and young thoroughly enjoyed participating together in the various songs and activities on offer. Clifton Prep had not worked with Musical Connections previously, but such was the success of this project that we hope it will prove to be the first of many. More photos of this and our other sessions and projects may be found on our website www.musicalconnections.org.uk and Facebook page.





The Big Sing and other projects.....

