

# Musical Connections

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



February 2017

## Ukuleles and samba drumming with York University's Music Education Group

We are delighted that students from York University's Music Education Group (MEG) have been very active on our project this half term. Ukulele and samba drumming workshops have been held at Barstow House, Gale Farm Court and Honeysuckle House, and participants have thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with the instruments and learning new skills.



## Radio York helps spread the word!

Some of our most enthusiastic performers were delighted to be interviewed by Radio York early in the New Year. Jericho Keys came to Barstow House on 9<sup>th</sup> January to record music and interviews with participants, who relished the opportunity to share their views with the wider world. A few days later, Michael Faul of Gale Farm Court was interviewed alongside Musical Connections' musicians during Jonathan Cowap's live Friday morning show. Totally at ease in the studio environment, Michael did a fantastic job of championing our project and encouraging others from the wider community to join our groups. Please visit our website to hear a full recording of the 15 minute interview.



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## Fun, laughter and new experiences with York College, St Aelred's and Hob Moor Primary Schools...

Residents of Morrell House have absolutely loved spending the last few Mondays with music students from York College. Both younger and older participants have been hugely enthusiastic and energetic in their interactions, and have produced some amazing music together.

At the younger end of the scale, Woolnough House residents were joined by sixteen Year 4 pupils from St Aelreds school. Lots of fun was had by all in this holiday-themed session and everyone is now looking forward to our intergenerational 'Wild West' project, which will take place at Woolnough in March.

The half term was rounded off by a fabulous World War II session at Hob Moor primary school, which was attended by several care home residents and sheltered housing tenants. Some of them were driven there by Hazel Brown, one of our trustees, who has undergone specialist minibus training to provide transport for participants to attend events outside of their care settings. The children were enthralled by stories and songs from the era, and the older people were delighted to be able to share some of their experiences with such a rapt audience.

## Fantastic fundraising efforts!

We are hugely grateful to the managers, tenants and relatives of Barstow House, City Mills and Honeysuckle House, who have raised a fantastic £570 for Musical Connections over the past few months. Tony Samuels, the son of a Barstow House tenant, deserves particular recognition for his efforts as leader of the unstoppable trio 'Wrong Direction', which led two of the fundraising events. Tony can be seen in the photo opposite alongside Fiona Chapman of Musical Connections, John Carney, one of our participants and Kerrie Smith, Barstow House manager.

