

Musical Connections

www.musicalconnections.org.uk

December 2018

The logo for Musical Connections, featuring the words "MUSICAL" and "CONNECTIONS" in a stylized font, with a musical note icon, all enclosed in a dark blue oval shape.

A Wonderful Christmas Big Sing!

On 5th December, we had the most wonderful festive afternoon with Millthorpe School's fantastic jazz and ukulele bands. Although 'the weather outside was frightful, the mood was so delightful', as members from several of our groups were warmly welcomed by Millthorpe's staff and students. Tucking into mince pies kindly provided by the Co-Op, everyone threw themselves into a packed programme of performances and communal singing and dancing. Extra thanks to Millthorpe's Ed Atkin, who sang You Raise Me Up as a special treat for Beattie from Glen Lodge sheltered housing scheme, ably assisted by George Dodd, also from Glen Lodge, and to Santa (aka Trevor Burton, Millthorpe's Executive Headteacher), who made a surprise entrance to serenade the room with 'White Christmas' and 'I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus'. All the performances were amazing, but the real highlights of the afternoon were the times when the students and their guests joined forces to sing, dance and perform together, demonstrating yet again the simple fact that making music brings people together 😊.

Thank you to our funders!

As we reach the end of 2018, some significant grants are coming to an end. Huge thanks to the Two Ridings Community Foundation, Comic Relief and the National Lottery's Awards for All programme – their support has made an enormous difference to what our project has been able to achieve this year.



Celebrating Co-operation and Community

The Co-Op is not called 'co-operative' for nothing!

We have been incredibly fortunate to have enjoyed the support of the Co-Op over the last couple of years. Not only have they and their members raised almost £7,000 for our project, they have gone above and beyond in their efforts to create a genuine relationship with us; providing refreshments for a number of our events, inviting us to sing carols in store and, most recently, highlighting our project in their national Christmas TV advertising campaign. Above is the choir saying thank you by singing carols in one of their local stores!



A Little Sing at Hob Moor Primary School

While our Big Sings are usually large 'productions' held in partnership with secondary school and/or university students, our Little Sings are more intimate affairs with local primary schools. The latest, which took place at Hob Moor Primary School in November, was, as always, a very special occasion, with the child in this photo telling us she had made a 'forever friend'.

Flower Power

Before the Christmas season kicked in, our group at Glen Lodge spent a lovely afternoon with Flower Power, a fabulous organisation that uses flowers for therapeutic purposes. The group produced some gorgeous arrangements!



A Christmas Photo Gallery

We still have lots of festive events taking place before Christmas. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy these special moments from our Christmas Big Sing:



Thank you for reading and Happy Christmas! December 2018