

newburyspringfestival

EDUCATION REPORT 2019



Front Cover: Music students from St Bartholomew's School and Trinity School, Shaw, with Ambassadors from the National Youth Jazz Orchestra on the jazz workshop March 2019.

NONE OF THE EDUCATION WORK COULD BE DONE WITHOUT THE CONTINUED SUPPORT FROM OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS AND FUNDERS TO WHOM WE ARE Hugely Grateful.

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EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY WORK REPORT – SPRING 2019

In 2019 the Festival's aims once again included raising the profile of live music in schools, giving children the thrill of experiencing live music and working with, and learning from, professional musicians.

These opportunities provided inspiration, developed self-confidence and opened horizons for younger children and older students alike.

Even though learning live music may not be particularly high on the teaching agenda for some schools, there have been many studies that prove the benefit of music education, and the influence it has on all areas of a child's development.

The benefits of learning to play music are many and profound. Many children and young people who study music outperform in their academic studies, over their peers who don't. Children who play an instrument learn that hard work, practice and discipline is rewarding. It develops creative thinking, social and motor skills. Music helps to develop active listening skills and enhance confidence and self-esteem. Skills learnt at an early age stay with them for the rest of their lives.

We are very proud of all we do for children and students in and around West Berkshire, when we deliver a free opportunity to children to experience live music. We would like to thank all the many teachers, head teachers and children for their encouragement to participate in the programme in 2019, particularly when it comes in March, April and May, some of the most challenging and busiest times in the academic year.

None of this would have been possible without all our sponsors, supporters and Trusts supporting our education and community programme in 2019. We sincerely thank them all.

Vij from National Youth Jazz Orchestra (standing), working with the music students from both St Bartholomew's and Trinity Schools, with Ambassadors playing along with the students.



Outreach Workshops

Secondary School music students

Tuesday 26th March 2019 “Making Music Together”

NYJO Ambassadors x5 at St Bartholomew's School, Newbury

Music students invited from Trinity School and St Bartholomew's School

We were delighted to engage 5 key musicians being Ambassadors of National Youth Jazz Orchestra to come to St Bartholomew's School, Newbury to conduct and join in with instrumental students from age 11 upwards. St Bartholomew's provided 22 music pupils who played Saxophones, Bassoon, Clarinets, French Horn, Flutes, Guitar, Drum kit and Percussion, Tuba, Trombones, and Trumpets.

Trinity School brought 8 students to participate bringing their instruments, being Flutes, Cornets, Saxophones and 2 top grade Cellos!

The sessions focused on developing playing and listening skills, and confidence in improvisation through aural based activities. The outcome of the sessions was then performed at an informal sharing performance at the end of the afternoon.

Mr James Maunders, Co-ordinator: Provision & Development of Extracurricular Music from the Music Department, Faculty of Expressive Arts, St Bartholomew's School, Newbury kindly hosted the artists, the Trinity students and Festival staff on the day.

James Maunders, Co-ordinator: Provision & Development of Extracurricular Music (CoPaDoEM), St Bartholomew's School :

"It was one of the best NSF workshops we have done and I felt that the students involved all got something out of it to take away with them, as well as having a great time". "We are always very excited about working with the Newbury Spring Festival and NYJO! Thank you!"

Philip Tebbs, Director of Music, St Gabriel's School:

"Thanks very much, Jane for the free tickets for the girls. We really enjoyed the jazz group, they were a bit different, but the musicianship really shone through, and I think pupils could recognise that. Thanks again."

Outreach Masterclass – Secondary School music students

Thursday 28th & Friday 29th March 2019

Piano Masterclass with Robertas Lozinskis at Horris Hill School, Newtown, Newbury

Robertas Lozinskis, former Sheepdrove Piano Competition Winner. Robertas was engaged to work with piano students from all over East and West Berkshire. Horris Hill's Headmaster and his wife, Mr Giles & Mrs Molly Tollit, were delighted to welcome us to use their music studio, along with their Grand piano for the two days. We have to thank them both, plus all the other colleagues and catering staff that made us all so welcome at Horris Hill.

We were delighted to fly Robertas over from Berlin and back again, in order for him to be with us those two days. He spent the Thursday afternoon and the Friday morning with 6 piano students per session, listening carefully to them, then advising, encouraging and recounting amusing tales of his own student days and always putting the students at ease.



We have to thank Mr & Mrs Tollit and staff from Horris Hill School for their kind hospitality, all the students who came to take part, and of course Robertas, who was amazing throughout.

Feedback from student's parents who took part:

Ellie found the whole even extremely rewarding. Ellie, and I am sure all those attending, found Robertas very knowledgeable and insightful.

He communicated very clearly and engagingly. He is able to get the player to try to focus on what the music is trying to say and therefore, for example, where to go louder or softer or faster or slower and which hand should be dominant. He then draws out from them their own realisation of what they can do to improve.

He has the knack of drawing attention to errors of technique in an encouraging way (paraphrasing) "you can do that but you may find this is easier (or sounds better)". At no point did you get the feeling that he was simply giving instructions. We as onlookers found him equally engaging - a true educator - and are very grateful for the Newbury Spring Festival making the opportunity possible and for you putting Ellie forward.

Please pass our thanks on to Jane Pickering at the Festival. Many thanks once again.

"Thank you so much for organising this wonderful event. It was a great pleasure for me to be a part of it. And thank you for such hospitality, it was amazing!

With best wishes, Robertas.

Dear Jane,

Thank you for the piano masterclass that Robertas gave to Camilla today. She thoroughly enjoyed it and has been very inspired by him. She was particularly impressed by the modulation of finger pressure for chords.

Listening to Antonia afterwards has now inspired her to learn that piece, by Ravel. We are very grateful for the opportunity. Thank you.

Alexandra and Camilla Hale



Outreach Music Touring Workshops – Primary Schools

Tour of 3 Primary schools – 2nd April 2019

3 members of Orpheus Sinfonia:

Rosie Taylor	Clarinet/Sax
Anna Roder	Violin
Sam Pearce	French Horn



Rosie from Orpheus Sinfonia showed children from St Nicolas CE Primary School how to play a Clarinet. She talked about how the sound was made via a reed and how it worked. She explained about the “Woodwind” section in an Orchestra, the history of when it was made and the type of music that it typically played.

She then performed the tune that the Clarinet plays in “Peter and the Wolf”, and asked what animal the children thought she was portraying? Eventually, they got it right, the Cat! She later asked if one or two would like to go to the front and try and blow a note out of it! Some squeaked, and overblew - this created much hilarity and amusement!

Sam showed the children how to blow down a brass pipe and how to make the sound of a French Horn. He explained the history of the instrument and demonstrated funny noises and played tunes that the children knew, like the tune that the Wolf represents by the Horn in “Peter and the Wolf”.

Anna performed her 200 year old Violin for the children. She explained how the sound was made via vibrations on the strings. The children had to listen carefully for the vibrations as she played it.

She also demonstrated “Pizzicato”, playing without a bow and just her fingers. Anna performed the familiar fun, skipping music asked the children what they thought the tune represented in “Peter and the Wolf”. Yes of course, Peter!



Rosie, Sam and Anna finished the one hour workshops by telling the children all about their performance of “Peter and the Wolf” by Prokofiev on the middle Sunday of the Festival in the afternoon, being the family concert, and suggested that they asked their parents if they could go to see it performed to see the musicians again!

After St Nicolas School (x250), we went to St John’s Evangelist School (x200) before lunch and then finally to The Willows Primary School at Greenham (x180).



“On behalf of everyone at St John's I just wanted to say a huge thank you to Rosie, Anna, Sam and yourself for coming into school on 2nd April. The morning was a huge success and the children gained so much from the music workshop. We hope we might be able to participate in the Newbury Spring Festival again sometime.”

Mrs Gaynor Zimmerman, Headteacher
St John’s the Evangelist School, Newbury.



Rosie, Anna and Sam from the Orpheus Sinfonia with Mayor of Newbury Councillor Margo Payne - on 2 April 2019 at the final workshop at The Willows Primary School, Greenham.

Saturday 18th May – Festival Evensong, St Mary's Church, Speen, Newbury

The general public were welcomed to this special service conducted by the Rev Will Hunter-Smart at St Mary's Church, Speen at 3.30pm.

The Festival Chorus members sung the evensong service and were in fine voice, drawing a large congregation to the church.



Free Tickets Scheme May 2019 - Young Artists Programme of Lunchtime Recitals 12.30pm – Corn Exchange

All children of school age were invited to attend six lunchtime recitals free of charge and the numbers of children/students who attended were as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Artists</i>	<i>Number of children attended and from which Schools</i>
Monday 13 th May Corn Exchange	Foyle-Stsura Duo (Violin & Piano)	St Bartholomew's School x16 St Gabriel's School x17 Winchcombe CE Primary School x10
Wednesday 15 th May Corn Exchange	Vario Duo (Alto Sax & Piano)	St Bartholomew's School x16 St Gabriel's School x16 Winchcombe CE Primary School x10
Friday 17 th May Corn Exchange	Tom Millar Quartet (Jazz)	Falkland Primary School x66 (3 classes) Shaw-cum-Donnington Primary School x25 St Bartholomew's School x16 St Gabriel's School x16 Winchcombe CE Primary School x10
Monday 20 th May Corn Exchange	Sheepdrove Piano Competition Winner	St Bartholomew's School x12 Winchcombe CE Primary School x10
Wednesday 22 nd May Corn Exchange	Figo (Early music strings)	Spurcroft Primary School x14 St Bartholomew's School x16 St Gabriel's School x11 Winchcombe CE Primary School x10
Friday 24 th May Corn Exchange	Samantha Crawford & Gavin Roberts (Soprano & Piano)	St Bartholomew's School x16 Winchcombe CE Primary School x10

TOTAL FREE TICKETS USED 2019

317 *

** This number is slightly lower than previous years as one local school, who usually bring over 90 children, were not able to attend the lunchtime concerts this year, due to SATS and a residential course taking place during the dates.*



Tuesday 14th May – Ballet Central – Corn Exchange 12 noon – 1.30pm

All local Schools and dance companies were invited to the Corn Exchange for 12 noon, to learn about the “Company Class”. This is where the Director asks all the dancers onto stage and the bars are bought onto the stage, to enable balance. They then go through their set stretching and exercise poses and make sure that all their muscles are warmed and flexible before beginning the rehearsal for the show.

A total of 156 children came to see the Ballet at the Corn Exchange. These were as follows: 71 from St Nicolas Primary School, 18 from Winchcombe Primary School, 26 from Inkpen Primary School, 23 from Shaw-cum-Donnington Primary School and 18 from Linden Ellicot School of Dance.

There were a few questions asked by the children after the class finished and the dancers were nominated to answer the various questions. Much amusement was made after a little girl asked one of the male dancers “Is she heavy to lift?” he laughed at her and said “Yes, very!”

Thursday 16th May – Sarod Maestros – Corn Exchange 1.30pm – 2.30pm



Indian musicians, Amaan Ali Bangash and Ayaan Ali Bangash represent the 7th generation of a musical lineage, as sons and disciples of the Sarod icon, Amjad Ali Khan. They have performed across the globe, and at many festivals, performing both traditional and contemporary music.

We were delighted that they performed to 146 children. They introduced themselves, their instruments and explained the history of the Sarod, what they were made of and how they were made and why they were so hard to play and they said that practice was the key to making it look so “easy”!

Children came from St Nicolas Junior School, St Gabriel’s, Winchcombe Primary School and Shaw-cum-Donnington Primary School.



These are the children that came from reception class, some for the first time into the Theatre!

When I asked how it was they said “Okay – bit dark first but when the music started, it was good”!

Tuesday 21st May 2019 – Budapest Café Orchestra – Corn Exchange

2pm- 2.45pm

The Budapest Café Orchestra who are a quartet, led by Chris Garrick on fiddle, Eddie Hession on button accordion, Kelly Cantlon on double bass and Adrian Zolotuhin on guitar, saxophone, balalaika and the dorna came to perform a school performance in the afternoon of 21st May 2019 on stage at the Corn Exchange.

They play traditional folk and gypsy-flavoured music from across the Balkans and Russia. Highly entertaining, immense skill and profound musicianship was experienced by 330 children. They were from Speenhamland Primary School (x93 including children in wheelchairs), St Nicolas Primary School (x71), St Gabriel's School (x43), Whitelands Park School, Thatcham (x59), Shaw-cum-Donnington Primary (x54) and Winchcombe Primary School (x10).

Chris led the performance by introducing his band to all to the children, and asking the children if they played any instruments at all? Many hands shot up! He was very pleased. They then went on to explain what instruments they played, a little about their history and what they were involved in the band i.e. what sound they made to accompany the folk songs performed.

He talked about the music they play and how they had built up their music repertoire. They then played both really lively music, asking the children to clap to the beat and then really slow almost a "Blues" jazz tune, to get them all to listen carefully. He asked one child to the stage to conduct them all and get them all to play fast, slow, loud and soft... great hilarity by all!



**For 2019 the following numbers of children/students who attended the
Newbury Spring Festival 2019 Education Programme:**

National Youth Jazz Orchestra (outreach) = 30

Piano Masterclass – Robertas Lozinskis = 12

Young Artists Lunchtime Six Concerts = 317

Orpheus Sinfonia (outreach) = 630

Ballet Central Company Class & Q&A = 154

Sarod Maestros afternoon School's performance = 146

The Budapest Café Orchestra School's performance = 330

2019 – TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN INVOLVED = 1,619

**THANK YOU ALL FROM THE NEWBURY SPRING FESTIVAL, OUR ARTISTS
INVOLVED THIS YEAR AND ALL THE CHILDREN AND MUSIC STUDENTS
WHO PARTICIPATED.**



**Jane Pickering
Administrator/Education Co-ordinator
Newbury Spring Festival Spring 2019**

