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Newsletter no. 11

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Music for the Many is a registered charity no. 1185526

We've got an exciting programme of events lined up for 2022, but first let's look back at what has been happening in the world of Music for the Many over the past few months:

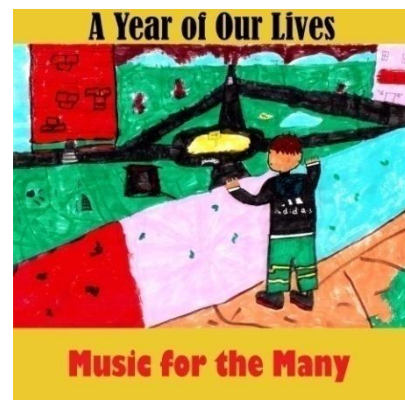


M4MCREATE

The summer term ended with a surprise outdoor performance, marking the end of our M4MCREATE project funded by Arts Council England. After so many attempts to stage a live performance of our children's new works were thwarted by the covid pandemic and after having to cancel our usual concert series for more than a year, it was

especially meaningful to be able to give a real-life concert, especially on such a beautiful, sunny day in beautiful Pollination Street in beautiful Todmorden. It was marvellous to see so many of you, our supporters, there. The children accompanied their singing with BSL signing, led by our visiting artist, Amy-Rose Atkinson, as they performed songs from our new album of original music inspired by life during the pandemic. For many of the young people, this was their very first M4M live performance.

The album, *A Year of our Lives* by *Music for the Many*, is available to download from itunes and other online music shops, with all proceeds helping to fund our work with Todmorden's children and young people.



M4M Christmas Song Festival

For the second half of the Autumn term each year, much of our work is focussed on Christmas music, which is always a wonderful way for our young musicians to connect their music-making with their families and the community. This year we set them the challenge of composing some new

festive songs. The results were fantastically varied, from Kodi's rock 'n' roll style "Santa's Coming to Town" to Nicola's mysterious "It's Midnight". We recorded them and released them online to raise funds for Music for the Many's work. You can listen and download the scores to them on our website:

<http://music4themany.com/m4m-christmas-song-festival-2021/>

The term ended with three marvellous performances from our pupils at St. Joseph's, Ferney Lee and Todmorden High, where the new songs were

premiered. Each concert also included a different pupil-led arrangement of *Last Christmas*: At St. Joseph's this was a classical guitar trio with a brilliant

It's Christmas Night

Words and Music by Lerla
Arrangement by Music for the Many

Dreamily
INTRO G A (m4) A D/F# G Em/A G/A D

VERSE
G D G Em/A
It's Christ-mas night and you're drea-ming of fly-ing a-way, on a sleigh

It's Midnight

Words and Music by Nicola
Arrangement by Music for the Many

Misterioso
INTRO Am G F G Am G

CHORUS
F Em Am G F G Am G
In the dark black sky the wind will howl. In the snow filled fields where the

Because it's Christmas

Words and music by Yuta
Arrangement by Music for the Many

Dreamily
C Dm Dm
Be-cause it's Christ-mas Oh, be-cause it's Christ - mas.

It's Christmas Time

Words and Music by Erin
arrangement by Music for the Many

INTRO F Am7 Bb Bb/C F Am7

solo singer; at Ferney Lee it was an original trio of keyboard, violin and tabla; and at Tod High it was a big, loud rock band. Other highlights were our more advanced violinists braving some new high notes in *Silent Night*, an astounding tabla solo at Tod High and the debut of St. Joseph's School M4M brass band, playing *Jingle Bells*.

Many of our musicians were performing in public for the first time ever. Well done to all!

Santa's Comin' to Town

Words and Music by Kodie
arrangement by Music for the Many

$\text{♩} = 180$
Rock 'n' roll shuffle
(INTRO)



This **bucket**, a familiar sight to any of you who have attended a M4M event, is the most important part of the M4M infrastructure. We are extremely grateful to all of you who contribute whatever you can spare towards our work.

This time, big fundraising thanks go out to **Antony and Friends**, a series of chamber concerts run by our musical Todmorden friend, Antony Brannick; to

Sentimentalists, for the proceeds from their gig at Hope Chapel, Hebden Bridge; to **Glossop Labour Club** collecting for M4M at their Derbyshire Carols Night; and to **Ryburn 3 Step**, collecting at their performance of traditional Yorkshire mumming plays at Todmorden's Golden Lion.



Our **fundraising concerts** make their long-awaited return this month at Fielden Hall, Todmorden. This season promises to be especially inspiring, getting off to a splendid start on **Friday 21st January** with rising star of the British folk scene, **Alice Jones**.

Renowned for her spellbinding interpretations of traditional song, spritely whistle playing and dazzling

clog dancing, Alice brings us the best of Yorkshire in music-form. Living Tradition magazine said of her debut album: "*This record sets musical standards few established artists could match. Just stunning.*"



On **18th February** we welcome back our good friends **Manouche North**, a feelgood, flamboyant blend of gypsy jazz and klezmer. **1st April** sees a performance from the highly inventive **Red Hippo**, led by woodwind wizard Peadar Long. On **13th May** we are very excited to be welcoming a true virtuoso, international star of classical guitar, **Robin Hill**.

Because we truly believe that these musical opportunities must be available to all, admission to all our concerts is pay-as-you can. However, in order to be safe during the pandemic we are limiting audience numbers for our January concert, so if you would like to attend **Alice Jones'** concert, please book ahead online here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/237171936647> and make an online donation of however much you can afford.

Finally, every week we tutors are delighted, humbled and moved to see and hear the huge difference that learning an instrument makes to the lives of children, their families and our community. Without Music for the Many, most of these young people would not have such an opportunity. Your donations are vital to fund our continuing work with Todmorden's children and young people. You can donate at www.justgiving.com/musicforthemany or at www.localgiving.org/charity/musicforthemany/ or you can get in touch with us at music4themany@gmail.com to set up a standing order.

Don't forget to follow Music for the Many on facebook, twitter and instagram.

Thank you for all your support!