

Head's Lines - Gerard Booth - Director of Music

I am delighted to welcome all of our amazing and talented Oldham Music Centre musicians back to the start of another packed and exciting year. I am especially pleased to welcome the many new members of the Music Centre at the start of what I am confident will be an exciting and rewarding musical journey, bringing with it a host of exceptional experiences.

After the success of the Summer Tour (you can read about it below), our focus is now, once again, on building the next generation of musicians and supporting them to ultimately achieve the lofty standards achieved by generations of Oldham Music Centre students before them. Our 'building-back' programme since the end of the pandemic has already resulted in the return to a four-tier structure in the Brass Band Department. We are also having a massive push to develop opportunities for our pre-school and early-years students. The pathway of progression for our youngest musicians is fully comprehensive, taking them through Musical Beginnings for pre-school children, Musical Explorers for the next stage in their development and now on to our Starter String Group. In this new ensemble, children get to learn a violin in an orchestral environment right from the word 'go'. We're welcoming new members of this group on a weekly basis and, if you know of a young person that might benefit from this opportunity, please spread the word to their parents or carers.

As well as all this, we are now running special classes on Monday evenings throughout the year for children with special or additional educational needs. Each term will have a different musical focus and you can find out more about this on page three of this newsletter.

The Music Centre has been serving the young people of Oldham for almost sixty years and more recently expanded its work to citizens of all ages. Throughout all of that time we have been fortunate in having some of the best, most talented and dedicated teachers one could ever imagine. Peter Martin, the Music Service's former Deputy Head and Head of Strings, was a perfect example of this and we were therefore deeply saddened and shocked when he passed away suddenly last year. To recognise and celebrate Peter's life and work, the Music Centre is holding a special concert next month. Details are shown below.

As you can see, the year through to next summer is planned to be full of fantastic musical highlights and none of this would be possible without the enthusiasm, commitment and engagement of everyone involved. Sincere thanks for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you at many of these events celebrating and showcasing the wonderful artistic talents of Oldham's citizens.

Peter Martin Memorial Concert

Tickets for the **Peter Martin Memorial Concert** are now available. The **2pm concert on Sunday 16th October** will feature original works and arrangements by Peter and they will be played by the current OMC string groups and orchestras as well as a 'Reunion Orchestra' featuring Peter's former students, friends and colleagues.



Tickets are available exclusively online here:
<https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BVJY>

Also, it's not too late to sign up to play in the orchestra using this link:

[Peter Martin Memorial Concert – Reunion Orchestra Expression of Interest form - Oldham Council](#)

Please share with anyone for whom this might be relevant but perhaps might not be aware.

Many musicians... one harmony

T: 0161 770 5660; F: 0161 770 5670; E: musicservice@oldham.gov.uk
Facebook: Oldham Council Music Service Twitter: @OldhamMusic
Website: www.oldhammusicservice.co.uk

OMC Belgium Concert Tour 20th-26th July 2022

Seventy-five of Oldham's best and brightest musical students have completed a concert tour of Wallonia, southern Belgium, giving fantastic performances throughout the region.

The students toured Belgium from 20 – 26th July along with Oldham Music Centre staff, to show off their musical skills. The group formed a Brass Band, a Wind Band and an Orchestra, giving joint concerts at three prestigious venues, Wavre Town Hall for the Belgian National Fête, The Collegiale Cathedral at Nivelles and the Church of St. Remacle in Verviers. All three concerts were met by enthusiastic audiences who were amazed at the level of performance the young students from Oldham produced. Standing ovations and multiple encores were requested by the audience after each skilled performance.



skilled musicians we have coming out of OMC.

“This tour had been postponed in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic so it was brilliant to see our students out in the world enjoying themselves and having these experiences.

“A big thank you from me to the students and of course the Music Centre staff who helped make this trip possible.”



“Bravo Oldham Music Centre, you've shone such a positive light on your town.”

However, it was not all work for the students, they also visited chocolatiers in Brussels, the Brussels Musical Instruments Museum, and had day trips to the Caves at Han-sur-Less, the citadel at Dinant and Phantasialand for some white-knuckle rollercoaster rides. The Oldham Music Centre staff praised the students' behaviour and attitude throughout the whole trip, saying they were a great credit to Oldham.

Jonathan Leedale, Deputy Head of Oldham Council Music Service said “I was thrilled to see young people from Oldham being able to travel abroad and make us proud. Their performances show off the amount of



Our Belgian hosts were happy to have the students and were complimentary of their visit. One resident said: “It's wonderful that young people from the UK would come to Belgium to perform in our church. This is our first event since the COVID-19 pandemic and what a way to start again!





Long Service Award

Congratulations to Jonathan Leedale and Simon Prince who will be receiving their Long Service Award for 25 years service to Oldham Council Music Service. They will attend a special celebratory event at Chadderton Town Hall on 26th September. We are grateful to Mr Leedale and Mr Prince for their many years of dedicated service to music education in Oldham.



Music Group for children with SEND

We are delighted to have been granted some funding from the Oldham Council Short Breaks team to run a music group for children age 8-13 who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Come along to

- explore and learn to play a musical instrument, find your singing voice
- create music with other young people in a group
- have fun
- develop your self-confidence

AUTUMN TERM 2022: Samba and Djembe drumming 5.30pm-6.30pm

Exploring pulse, rhythm and musical texture using a variety of percussion instruments.

SPRING TERM 2023: Vocal Project 6-7pm

“Find your voice” through a range of musical genres including popular, music theatre and classical repertoire.

SUMMER TERM 2023: Toot your Flute 5.30pm-6.30pm

A first step into playing a woodwind instrument. Participants will learn to play the toot (plastic flute) and will be provided with an instrument for the duration of the project to take home to practise.

Venue: Oldham Music Centre, Lyceum Building, Union Street, Oldham OL1 1QG

Find out more: angela.preen@oldham.gov.uk

Register: www.oldham.gov.uk/music_centre_application



You can sign up for one, two or all three projects!

Join a Music Centre Choir

Recruitment is ongoing for all our Music Centre choirs. We cater for singers of all ages. No previous experience necessary, just lots of enthusiasm!



The period from their first attendance until the end of that same term is a **free trial period** so there has never been a better time to join us!

| Junior Choir | Vocal Recall* | Intermediate Choir | The Candymen | Oldham Youth Choir |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Y3-Y5 Boys & Girls</i> | <i>KS2 & KS3 Boys</i> | <i>Y6-Y9 Boys & Girls</i> | <i>KS4/5 Male voices</i> | <i>KS4/5 Mixed Voices</i> |
| Wednesday 4.15pm-5.15pm | Wednesday 5.15pm-5.45pm | Wednesday 5.45pm-6.45pm | Wednesday 5.45pm-6.15pm | Wednesday 6.15pm-7.45pm |

* Vocal Recall: Boys must also attend either Junior Choir or Intermediate Choir

To join one of our choirs, complete the online registration here:
www.oldham.gov.uk/music_centre_application or scan the QR code



SCAN ME

National Children's Choir of Great Britain Auditions

Applications are now open for the National Children's Choir of Great Britain. Find out more by watching this short [video](#).

Junior Choirs

Treble choirs for boys and girls aged 9 - Year 10

Senior Choir

An SATB choir for girls Year 10+ and boys with changed voices

2 residential courses per year | Bursaries available

To apply for an audition please go to: www.nccgb.com/joining-us
 or for further information please email: info@nccgb.com or call: 07894 021279

nccgb.com

[f](#) NCCGB [@nccgb](#)

Hug. Charity No. 1102252

Musical Beginnings

If you have a child 0-4 years old, you may be interested in our Musical Beginnings sessions at the Lyceum. Currently only £56 per term, they are excellent value for money and very high quality.



We have various sessions throughout the week.

Monday 9.45am (0-4 years)

Monday 1pm (pre-school)

Wednesday 10am (0-4 years)

Friday 10am (babies)

Friday 11am (toddlers)

Additionally, we have **FREE Musical Beginnings Extra sessions on Tuesdays:**

10am: 0-5 year olds who are fostered or adopted

11am: 0-5 year olds who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities



Contact musicservice@oldham.gov.uk to find out more about any of our Musical Beginnings sessions.

Register online for these classes here www.oldham.gov.uk/music_centre_application or scan the QR code

Library Service Survey

Oldham Council Library Service is undertaking a consultation. Share your thoughts here:

[Have your say on our library service | Have your say on our library service | Oldham Council](#)

Primary Music Network

The Primary Music Network is for all teachers, trainees and TAs (not just Music co-ordinators).

Integrate composing, performing, listening and appraising into your music lessons and develop your confidence to deliver a high-quality and enriching music education which:

- enhances class topics
- develops children's confidence
- improves collaborative skills, literacy and communication
- meets the requirements of the National Curriculum and is guided by the framework of the DfE Model Music Curriculum
- is underpinned by the principles of The National Plan for Music Education

Whether you are an experienced music co-ordinator or an ECT with no musical experience whatsoever, the Primary Music Network is your **FREE** opportunity to develop your knowledge, skills and expertise.

Book here: <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BVIY>

Or scan the QR code



2022-23 Network Dates

Tuesday 27th September 4pm-5.30pm

Traditional Tales EYFS & KS1: Explore composing, listening and performing linked to the well-known tales including 'The Gingerbread Man', 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and 'The Princess and the Pea'

Tuesday 8th November 4pm -5.30pm

Using notation in KS2 composition: This is often one of the aspects of teaching music that can be the most daunting. This session will give you practical ideas and the confidence to teach this aspect of the curriculum.

Tuesday 24th January 2023 4pm-5.30pm

The Instruments of the Orchestra... and beyond! Discover the instruments and listen to some amazing pieces of music that you can use as a stimulus for performing and composing in KS1 & KS2.

Tuesday 25th April 4pm-5.30pm

Environment & Climate Change: Explore a unit of work linked to this theme. All resources provided for you to take away and try with your own class.

Using Music to support Speech & Language Development in EYFS

Thursday 2nd February 1.30pm-4pm

- Develop/refresh your knowledge of children's speech, language and communication (SLC) development.
- Consider the role that Music can play in supporting SLC development
- Gain an understanding of the Tune-in to Talking programme and how it can be used in your setting

£50

(Free for: DMG schools; Tune-in to Talking & Musical Beginnings SLA schools; Manchester Nexus SCITT students)

Book here:

<https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BVRK>



Oldham Primary Music Conference: Let's Get Rhythmic!

Thursday 2nd March 9am-3pm

An exciting day of composing, performing, listening, improvising and singing! Workshops, discussions, new resources and lots of freebies! Lunch included.

£50 for DMG-paying schools

£80 non-DMG

Free for trainee teachers in Oldham Schools/Manchester Nexus students

Booking details will be shared nearer the time

Secondary Music Network

In partnership with Oldham Learning and The Cranmer Trust

Monday 14th November 2022

Tuesday 28th February 2023


Thursday 8th June 2023

Many musicians... one harmony

Oldham Music Service and Music Centre, Lyceum Buildings, Union Street, Oldham, OL1 1QG

T: 0161 770 5660; E: musicservice@oldham.gov.uk

 @OldhamMusic

 Oldham Council Music Service

Music Centre Term Dates 2022-23

First rehearsal of Autumn Term: Monday 12th September
Last day of first half of Autumn Term: Friday 21st October
First day of second half of Autumn Term: Monday 31st October
Last day of Autumn Term: Friday 16th December

No rehearsals week commencing 12th December

First rehearsal Spring Term: Tuesday 3rd January
Last day of first half of Spring Term: Friday 10th February
First day of second half of Spring Term: Monday 20th February
Last day of Spring Term: Friday 31st March

First rehearsal of Summer Term: Monday 17th April
Last day of first half of Summer Term: Friday 26th May
First day of second half of Summer Term: Monday 5th June
Last day of Summer Term: Tuesday 25th July



Calendar of events

| | |
|--|---|
| Sunday 16th October 2pm | Peter Martin Memorial Concert |
| Saturday 12th November 2pm | Children in Need concert (Youth Choir only) |
| Sunday 13th November | Remembrance Sunday (Youth Brass Band) |
| Tuesday 15th November | Mayor's Cheese & Wine event (Adult Choir) |
| Sunday 4th December 3pm | George Street Chapel (Intermediate Choir only) |
| Wednesday 7th December 7pm | Junior Christmas Festival (Groups tbc) |
| Friday 9th December | Pop Department Christmas Concert |
| Sunday 11th December 3pm | Christmas Festival (Groups tbc) |
| Tbc | Adult Groups Christmas Concert |
| Saturday 14th January | Music Theatre Showcase |
| Friday 10th March | Mayor's Civic Ball (groups tbc) |
| Monday 13th March | Departmental Concert: Wind |
| Tuesday 14th March | Departmental Concert: Strings |
| Wednesday 15th March | Departmental Concert: Voice |
| Thursday 16th March | Departmental Concert: Brass |
| Friday 17th March | Adult Groups' Concert |
| Wednesday 22nd March | Gallery Concerts tbc |
| Sunday 26th March | Easter EGGstravaganza (EGG groups) |
| 26th -29th June | Schools' Music Festival Week |
| 1st July | Glass-Don-Bury Festival (Adult Guitar/Uke groups) |
| Saturday 8th July all day | OMC Summer Festival (all groups) |

Keep in touch

Twitter: @Oldhammusic
Facebook: Oldham Council Music Service
Website: www.oldhammusic-service.co.uk
Email: musicservice@oldham.gov.uk