



**75 YEARS OF SUPPORTING
AND CHAMPIONING
VOLUNTARY MUSIC**

Case Study

No. 32

Soweby Music Club

One of Making Music's five areas of activity is working with and for young people. Through Making Music's Young People's Programme a substantial library of youth project case studies has been developed. These case studies are designed to highlight and share best practice from the experiences of Making Music member societies undertaking youth projects. Many of the case studies arise from Making Music's two national youth programmes *tuned in* (2001-2002) funded by Youth Music and The Carnegie UK Trust and RESOUND (2003-2005) funded by Youth Music, Scottish Arts Council, The Carnegie UK Trust and Headley Trust.

1. Project Description

Project Aims

To encourage a life long love of music within local young people who live in isolated areas. The society have been providing professional concerts & workshops for the past 5 years to 30 schools a year under the title 'Music for Life'. The new features of this particular project included:

- Piloting a fresh approach to the workshop activity
- Introducing a performance element for the children.
- Producing support materials for teachers.
- Evaluating the impact of the sessions in the schools several months later.

Other aims included, offering the young people more time to practice & refine their responses and thus develop their vocal & instrumental skills, and through the performance element, contributing to the growth, self-confidence of the young people and co-operation skills with pupils from other schools.

Project Description

Music for Life 2002 began in February and ended in June and was located in 18 different primary & special schools and involved a total of 32 schools from the area. 6 groups of musicians were employed for a total of 13 full days, giving the young people the opportunity to explore themes, moods, rhythms, pitch & dynamics in more depth.. 2,500 pupils at key stage 2 and 1,000 pupils at key stage 1 participated as well as 60 young people at key stages 3&4 from special schools. The extended workshops involved at least 30 pupils & culminated in a performance for the whole school. The most ambitious extended workshop involved two large schools and culminated in a joint rehearsal prior to an event performance for families and friends of the school. A member of the society attends every session to provide a link and monitor events.

Legacy

The project consolidated and developed the partnership between 32 schools and Sowerby Music. It also provided encouragement for Music for Life to be more inclusive of Key Stage 1 pupils.

Improvements

The society systematically monitored National Curriculum elements by using a grid in order to identify how much was actually covered in the performances & workshops. The learning from this will be build into future programmes.

A questionnaire was used for formal evaluation visits which proved to be very useful & provided information which the society would not have received from informal monitoring. They plan to use this tool in future projects.

Two of the schools identified particular musical needs which the society plan to support in the future (i.e. percussion skills at Key Stage 1).

2. Project Details

General Details

Nature of Youth Project	Workshop followed by performance
Number of Young People involved	3560
Age Range of Young People	7 - 11
Type of Young People involvement	workshops participation and performance
Recruitment of Young People	through contact with schools
Level of LEA involvement	none
Project budget	Over £5,000
Sources of funding	tuned in (1,500), schools (£1,200), Society (£3,800)
Video available	False
Audio available	False
Photographs available	True
Programme available	True
Publicity leaflets/posters	False

Society Details

Name of society	Soweby Music Club
Type of Society	Promoting
Size of Society	0
Age profile	Mixture of adult and youth
Under 19s in society	0
Under 19s from project	0
Repertoire	Mixed
Typical concert budget	£500 - £1000
Typical performance	
Number of performances	Over 5

Created by Making Music

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Willing to be contacted
Contact name
Contact phone
Contact address
Contact email
Contact fax

True
Mrs Pat Elton
01609 883267
Horizons, Ruebury Lane, Osmotherley
pat@elton39.fsnet.co.uk
01609 883267

2-4 Great Eastern Street, London EC2A 3NW
T 020 7422 8280 F 020 7422 8299
info@makingmusic.org.uk
www.makingmusic.org.uk

This information sheet can be made available in large print and other formats on request. Please telephone 020 7422 8280.

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