

The Cat's Whisker

Community Music Wales



Autumn Newsletter '12



Welcome to the autumn edition of the Cat's Whisker!

What a brilliant summer it's been! We've had some really exciting projects and workshops and they keep on coming. Our big project of the summer was Stats in Sound, which I'm pleased to report was a great success. You can read all about it opposite.

Working with Arts Active on MusicMix at the St Davids Hall in Cardiff was once again great fun and a highlight of our summer. We've also had some great workshops through Reach the Heights Icon project, including a great day out at Aberavon for the Iconic Beach workshop. We're currently enjoying working with Cardiff Family Support Service Smoothstarts on fun filled music workshops for children with Autism.

Community Music Wales have also had some fantastic interns come and give us a hand this summer. We'd like to say a huge 'thank you' to Helen James, the wonderful photographer who has captured many of our favourite moments over the last few months. Another big thanks goes to Ioan Morris who has been helping us out in our Head Office in Cardiff and did a lot of good work to support the launch of our Stats in Sound project.

We are also grateful to South Wales Annual Dance Event, who donated their profit from their night in Newport this year to CMW. Thanks to Paul Blandford!

As we move into autumn/winter we are getting prepared for more tutor training (see our section on page 3) and many new commissions. We're also looking forward to our favourite bobble hats and autumn boots making an appearance!

Thanks for reading

Hannah Jenkins
DIRECTOR



Aberavon iconic Beach Workshop

Stats in Sound: A Sonic Exploration into Big Data



An innovative new Community Music Wales project, which developed a series of media and technology workshops to explore and capture the data generated by our environment, saw great success recently as it blended music, science and technology in a unique and educational way. The project was developed by Adam Williams, Project Officer at Community Music Wales and artist Matt Jackson with initial consultancy from Guy Evans.

Stats in Sound worked with Big Data, a term that is slowly creeping into the public consciousness, and how this data can be represented in sound. Sixty children from Greenway Primary School in Cardiff and Llanharan Primary School in Llantrisant were involved in the project. They visited the National Botanic Garden of Wales and G24i's Wentloog Environmental Centre and used sensors to collect information such as temperature, humidity and light levels. They learnt how these effect the environment. With this information along with the videos, photos and sounds they collected, the children composed an original piece of music and made a series of films that will be available to visitors exploring the Botanic Gardens. The workshops provided an opportunity for the children to learn more about sustainability and to connect with their environment. In addition they created a greater awareness of the technological, social and cultural changes that are affecting us all. The process was documented using social media to further engage and include the wider community.

In July 2012 Community Music Wales celebrated the success of Stats in Sound



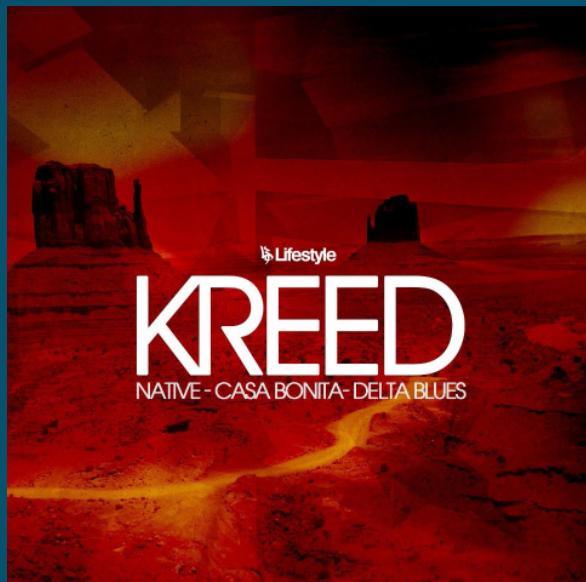
with a special event in Cardiff. The films created by the children were shown and Matt Jackson launched a new 'plant player' app, a Reactive Music Application that utilises environmental data captured by sensors placed throughout South Wales. 'Plant Player' produces different types of music depending on the speed and progress of the photosynthesis process, and can be listened to on the Stats in Sound website: www.statsinsound.org.uk.

The children really enjoyed taking part in the project. Nic Naish, Head at Greenway Primary School in Cardiff and Bethan Price, Head at Llanharan Primary School in Llantrisant expressed their enthusiasm for the project, saying that the skills and knowledge that the children had gained by taking part were invaluable and thanking CMW for the opportunities the project gave their pupils.

Stats in Sound was funded by the Arts Council of Wales. CMW worked in partnership with G24 Innovations LTD and The National Botanic Garden of Wales.



Album release for CCM participant



Community Music Wales music mentoring scheme Complete Control Music (CCM) are thrilled to report that one of our participants has signed to release an album on Lifestyle Records.

15 year old Joe Baker from Haverford West has been making Drum & Bass music since he was around 10 years old. He goes under the name of Kreed. His CCM mentor Joel Lipman is delighted with Joe's progress, saying he is really talented. Joe was in the process of self recording an album when he started the CCM mentoring scheme and mentor Joel guided him through the process of finishing and promoting the album. The album is set for release by London based UK Drum & Bass label, Lifestyle Records. Joe has also been playing live and recently played an exciting set at the Blue Lagoon festival in St Davids.

Joe says: "I really enjoyed my time with Community Music Wales. It was great being able to share music and ideas with someone involved in the city scene. Living in an area with a very small variety of music, time spent with someone with a similar taste was a great breath of fresh air."

For more information on CCM or Community Music Wales other schemes and projects please visit communitymusicwales.co.uk.

For up to the minute news and project information: www.communitymusicwales.co.uk

Training News

CMW's Training schemes aim to increase the skills of musicians who want to become self-employed community music tutors, those with music skills, those who work with disadvantaged groups or who would like to incorporate music into the work of their organisation, those with music skills who would like to use those skills in a community setting and individual music teachers/tutors who would like to work with groups. Increasing these skills will ensure higher quality music delivery and more effective intervention. In this section of 'The Cat's Whisker' we keep you up to date with all of CMW's training news.

Peer Mentoring in the Arts

Community Music Wales are continuing their history of ensuring a high standard of training delivery and sharing best practice by running a series of courses across Wales with an aim to train people to mentor their peers. CMW provided two successful workshops over summer; one in Cardiff and one in Newport. The training will next be held in Narberth on 28 & 29 September and Bangor on 27 & 28 September. For further information please contact Chris Dawson: 029 2083 8060 / chris.dawson@communitymusicwales.org.uk

Ciwdod trains Welsh speaking tutors in Cardiff

CMW's Ciwdod project is providing a 3 day tutor training course for Welsh speakers to be held in Cardiff on 18,19 & 20 September 2012.

The course is for people who would like to increase their skills, knowledge and understanding in community music. It is suitable for those who already work in music or those who want to start using music in a work or voluntary context. The course aims to present trainees with a basic understanding of community music and to support trainees to deliver good quality, inspiring and safe music sessions for their own purpose through the medium of Welsh. Over the 3 days, participants will be provided with a combination of information, explanation, practical experience and case studies. There will be a presentation on Welsh Language Psychology and various practical workshops. The course will be accredited by Agored Cymru.

If you are interested in a place on this course please contact Mirain Evans: 029 2083 8060
mirain.evans@communitymusicwales.org.uk



Big fun at Bwrlwm!

In early August, Menter Caerdydd arranged various activities around schools in Cardiff to promote the use of play through the medium of Welsh during the summer holidays. CMW's Welsh Language project, Ciwdod, worked with Menter Caerdydd to provide band workshops for the children taking part in the activity days. Over 3 days, Ciwdod's tutors led exciting samba drumming sessions and rock band workshops, introducing the mini rock stars to playing with drums and keyboards. As you can see in the below photo, a lot of fun was had by all!



Tutor Meilir Gwynedd with Bwrlwm girl band!

CMW is a registered Charity and relies on grants and donations to survive. For more info on donating please visit:
www.communitymusicwales.co.uk/get-involved/donate

Harry is not a number

In summer 2011 we reported that Harry the Noiseworks dog set off in his VW campervan around loads of music festivals. This year Harry has been saving himself for one festival only, Festival No.6 in Portmerion. A big New Order fan and also a fan of the Prisoner TV series, he has been looking forward to this festival since it was announced. Harry won't be taking his van this time, instead he will be snuggling up in a four poster bed in the historic Portmerion Castle. When we asked Harry how much he was looking forward to this this he replied; "I am not a number. I am a free dog."

Number 1 was unavailable for comment.



Staff Profile:

Kathryn Slattery

ADMIN ASSISTANT
SOUTH WALES

Kathryn supports the organisation's Administration, recently joining the team from her previous role as an Administrative support officer for Jobcentre Plus. Kathryn has recently completed a PGCE course in Post Compulsory Education and teaches part time in Film and Media studies.



If you had to be stuck in a lift with anyone who would it be?
Mark Kermode, Corey Taylor, Marilyn Manson and Ryan Gosling

Favourite film?

My least favourite question, I find it impossible to answer, depends on the genre

What was the last album you bought?

Pantera – Vulgar Display of Power

What is your greatest fear?

Having many regrets and turning 30!

Which person do you most admire and why?

Anyone who has the passion and determination to achieve what they most desire

What's the first gig you went to?

This is embarrassing- East 17 Steam Tour at the CIA

Cat or dog?

I like all animals but I am partial to cats

Star sign?

Sagittarius

If you could have an alternative career what would you be?

Film lecturer

What do you like to do when you're not in work?

Create mayhem and laugh lots!

Diary of events



Creative Choices

Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff:

Tuesdays 10.00am – 12.00pm from 21 August - 6 November

Community Music Wales are working with Vision 21 in Cardiff to provide drumming, singing and participatory workshops for adults with learning difficulties.

The Icon Project Tasters

The Princess Royal Theatre, Civic Centre, Town Centre, Port Talbot:

Wednesday 12 September 9.30 - 11.30 am

CMW are delivering a rock/pop song-writing workshop as part of Neath Port Talbots Icon Project. The workshop is for 15 - 20 year olds and based on the theme of Welsh Icons.

This project is not open to the public.,

Community Music Tutor Training for Welsh speakers

Wesley Methodist Church, Cardiff:

September 18, 19, 20

CMW's Ciwdod project is providing a 3 day tutor training course for Welsh speakers. For further info please see the training section on page 2.

Peer Mentoring in the Arts - Narberth & Bangor

The Queens Hall, Narberth, 28 & 29 September

Diocesan Centre, Bangor, 27 & 28 September

Community Music Wales are continuing their history of ensuring a high standard of training delivery and sharing best practice by running a series of courses across Wales with an aim to train people to mentor their peers.

This course is open to the public. If you would like further information please contact Chris Dawson - chris.dawson@communitymusicwales.org.uk / 029 2083 8060.

Industry Day Brynllwarch

Brynllwarch Hall School, Powys Kerry, near Newtown, Powys:

Friday 14 September, 9.00am - 3.30pm

CMW is running drop in DJ taster sessions at a careers awareness day in Powys. This workshops is not open to the public.

What's Next?!

Merthyr Leisure Centre, Rhydycar Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Village, Mid Glamorgan:

Friday October 19

CMW is running Drop in DJ taster sessions for school pupils with learning difficulties as part of the annual Careers Wales 'What Next' conference.

These workshops are not open to the public.



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 Esmée Fairbairn
FOUNDATION

