

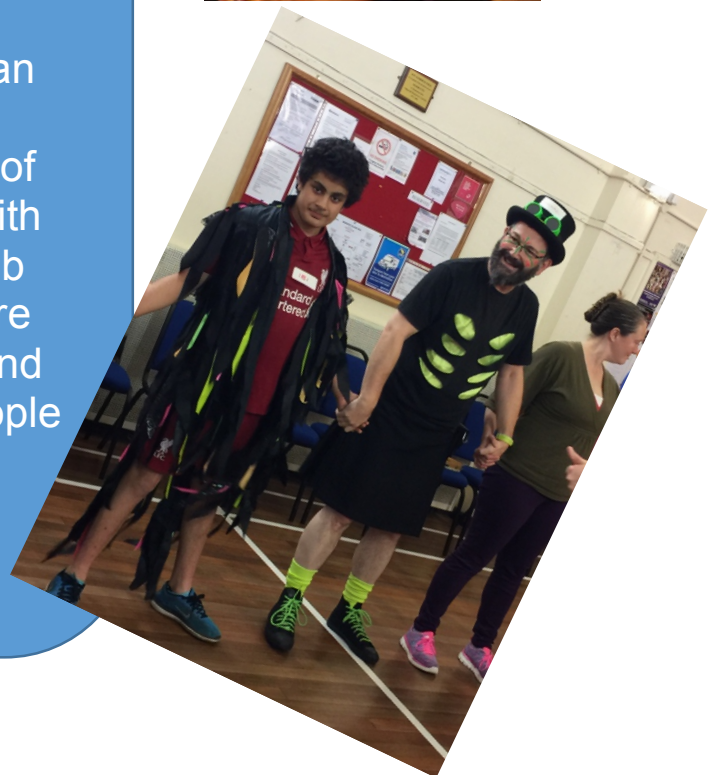


## The Music Club: Changes for the better!

Welcome to **The Music Club** Newsletter!

The Music Club was set up in 2010 to support children with disabilities and special needs and their families. We believe in the power of music to bring people together. We also believe in the joy and fun music brings to the life of children and families living with disabilities.

We understand that music can also help in the overall development and well being of children and young people with learning disabilities. This club aims to provide a place where families can feel supported and where children and young people develop social, creative, emotional, mental and communication skills.



THE MUSIC CLUB  
65, St Helen's Avenue, Benson  
OX10 6RU Tel: 07768 298 297  
[www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk](http://www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk)



— SHANLY —  
FOUNDATION



## The Music Club Committee

The club is managed by a committee of 5 members Sophia Nicholls, Sally Tallent, Omera Waheec, Alice Cooper and Julie Hinton. As parents with children or relatives with special needs, *we understand the needs of the membership*. We meet monthly to plan the year and discuss future projects.

### All Changed in 2018!

Sometimes change can be unnerving and disruptive but for the Music Club change has been for the better! We experienced three major changes in 2018.

#### First Change

Last year (Dec 2017) we were requested by the Crowmarsh Village Hall committee to find another venue as they required the hall for the local Beaver club. This was initially a big challenge for The Music Club as we were concerned about the effect the change would have on our members. **We are pleased to say that the move created a number of opportunities.** We now meet at the **Woodcote Village Hall Reading Rd, Reading RG8 0SD**. The attendance has increased significantly with an average of 30 - 40 people in attendance at our monthly events.

#### Second Change

We now meet on a **Sunday with one or two sessions on a Monday**. (see the dates below). Meeting on Sunday has allowed an increase in families to be able to access our events. The evenings were becoming difficult for some families with small children and also for those needing to get children to bed on time. Sunday has also allowed for the whole family to attend as some families have to work away in the week.

#### Third Change

The Music Club now **meets in the afternoon at 2pm - 4pm**. This new time offers the Music club more opportunities such as longer timing for the music workshops and more time for families to get to know each other. Our Carers now have more time to spend sharing experiences and gaining confidence in peer support. We are planning to have a **Carer's meal** later in the year. **WATCH THIS SPACE.**

### Fundraising in 2018

At the beginning of the year, the committee recognised the need to raise significant funds to help keep the club on a sustainable footing. We would like to thank the following organisations for awarding the music club funds in 2018 for work in 2018 / 2019.



In October / November 2018 we were awarded just over £7,200 from Awards for All, National Lottery. Thanks to Sara and Omera for their input in securing these funds.

In November we received £2,000 from the Coop grant making arm of the organisation. Thanks to Alison for her efforts in securing these funds  
 In September 2018 we received £500 from Skipton and £240 from Waitrose thanks to Julie and Sophia for their efforts in securing these funds.  
 We thank Benson for awarding £200 towards our work.  
 Thanks also to all our club members for individual contributions - from birthday parties and other fundraising activities.

In total, we have been able to secure **just over £9,000 in 2018** which will enable us to continue the work of the music club. The club aims to address issues of social isolation, exclusion and lack of services for children and young people with learning disabilities.

### THE MUSIC CLUB AIMS:

1. To provide **music making workshops** for children and young people with disabilities and special needs with the aim of
  - o addressing isolation and exclusion

### THE MUSIC CLUB

65, St Helen's Avenue, Benson  
 OX10 6RU Tel: 07768 298 297  
[www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk](http://www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk)



- developing self awareness,
  - developing creativity
  - making new friends
  - creating opportunities to have fun.
2. To provide a **place for Carers to meet** for peer support
  3. To provide **outings to provide further access to musical opportunities**

Please feel free to make a donation to the music club by sending a cheque to Alison Cook our treasurer. Email [info@music4disabledchildren.org.uk](mailto:info@music4disabledchildren.org.uk) for our bank details or for our postal address to send a cheque.

## New in 2019.

Next year, we would like to make a few more changes to the way we administer the club to ensure we can help our families avoid the challenges of isolation and exclusion. We are keen to establish sustainable and more secure systems and we really need your help to make this happen.

1. In 2019, we will be making a **small charge to families for membership**. This will enable us to work towards a sustainable future for the club. The membership fee will enable members to continue to receive discounted fees to the events and outings organised by the club, It will also go towards the cost of the workshops and other projects and resources provided by the club. Please click here to [complete or download the new membership form](#). All details regarding payment can be found on the membership form. **The cost will be £10.00 per family**. We hope to be able to complete this transition by the end of January. We are asking all our families to complete this new form online. It can also be downloaded and printed off. It can then be posted to the address below or submitted to Sophia Nicholls or Alison Cook at the Music Club events. Please note our data protection policy on the membership form.

2. In 2019, we will be **increasing the number of outings** we offer. Families find these events supportive and a good opportunity to make new friends. We will be sending out ideas in the new year. We are also keen to hear from our families if there is an event you would like us to organise.

3. In 2019, we would like to **increase the number on TMC management committee**. We are therefore appealing for anyone interested in becoming part of the committee. We are looking for people with good IT skills and willingness to volunteer at our events. If you are willing to volunteer your time, please send an email to [snichollsatthemusic@gmail.com](mailto:snichollsatthemusic@gmail.com).

## Events 2019

Here is a list of the outings, music fun days and music leaders for 2019. Please note that this information is correct at the moment of publication. The information is occasionally subject to change. Any changes will be updated on the [website](#).

THE MUSIC CLUB  
 65, St Helen's Avenue, Benson  
 OX10 6RU Tel: 07768 298 297  
[www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk](http://www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk)



## The Music Club Winter Outings:

### Doctor do little

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Time: Sunday 1pm

Venue: Oxford Playhouse, Oxford

This event is now full.

Cost - £18.00 per person.

### Madagascar

Date: 20th Feb 2019

Time: 2.30pm

Venue: Hexagon Theatre, Reading,

Cost: £15.00 (1 free Carer ticket per member)

[Booking form](#)

## Monthly Music Workshops

Winter:

Sunday 27 Jan - Barn Dance

Sunday 24 Feb – Musical Chinese New Year Celebrations

Sunday 20th Feb – Madagascar, Hexagon,

Spring:

Sunday 17 Mar – Yodelling with Lynne

Monday 22 April – Dare to Dance with Darren

Sunday 19 May – Rock Choir

Summer:

Sunday 16 June - Soundabout (TBC)

Sunday 21 July - Andy from Rythmzone

Sunday 18 Aug - Samba

Autumn:

Sunday 15 Sept – Reading Pipe Band

Sunday 20 Oct - TBC

Sunday 7 Nov – Morris dancing

Winter 2019 / 2020:

Sunday 15 Dec – Roke Band

NB: Fee for monthly events - £2.00 per child or £5.00 for a family of 4

THE MUSIC CLUB

65, St Helen's Avenue, Benson

OX10 6RU Tel: 07768 298 297

[www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk](http://www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk)



## SPECIAL THANKS:

Thanks to our volunteers. We could not provide this service without you!



**Thanks to everyone for all your support in 2018. We have had a great time together. Looking forward to a brilliant 2019 with our children and families. We hope you have found the music club a support for your family. We are thinking about our members that have had a difficult year and those who are no longer with us. We are also thinking about those children having medical treatments and those going through transition.**

WISHING YOU A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR  
FROM SOPHIA, JULIE, ALISON, OMER AND SALLY.

THE MUSIC CLUB  
65, St Helen's Avenue, Benson  
OX10 6RU Tel: 07768 298 297  
[www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk](http://www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk)



— SHANLY —  
FOUNDATION



BIG  
LOTTERY  
FUND



NATIONAL  
LOTTERY FUNDED