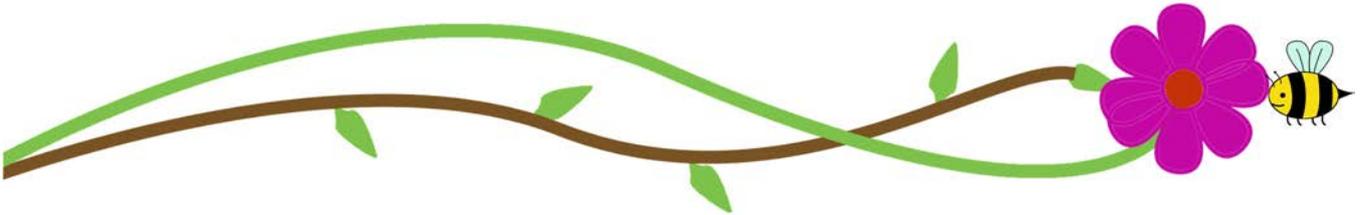


# The Cat's Whisker



cerdd  
gymunedol  
cymru  
community  
music  
wales

## Community Music Wales *Summer Newsletter 2014*



**tocyn**  
An Ethical Box Office

### Say Hello to Tocyn!

If you have ever bought tickets for a performance, you may have been charged a booking fee on top of the price of your ticket. This is fairly common practice with most online retailers as well as box offices. To some these fees can seem a nuisance, especially when they are not advertised up front and it is unclear exactly what the fee is for, which is where Tocyn comes in. Currently in the research and development phase, this Community Music Wales project will develop a ticketing and crowd funding platform to direct booking fees towards local community projects. The project is run in partnership with the free fundraising platform **Zequus** and is supported by the Digital R&D Fund for the Arts in Wales – Nesta, Arts & Humanities Research Council and public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council of Wales. Upon completion of ticket purchases audiences will be able to select a local community project to support with their booking fee. As well as raising money from ticket sales the website will also allow users to support the fundraising campaigns through direct donations. The aim is to develop an innovative digital ticketing system that re-purposes booking fees while at the same time taking the concept of crowd funding to a more philanthropic, socially inclusive and community funded level.



#### About the Digital R&D Fund for the Arts in Wales

The Digital R&D fund for the Arts in Wales is a £400,000 fund to support collaboration between organisations with arts projects, technology providers, and researchers. It is a partnership between **Arts Council of Wales, Arts and Humanities Research Council** and **Nesta**.

We want to see projects that use digital technology to enhance audience reach and/or develop new business models for the arts sector. With a dedicated research consortium as part of the three-way collaboration, learning from the project can be captured and disseminated to the wider arts sector.

Every project needs to identify a particular question or problem that can be tested. Importantly this question needs to generate knowledge that can be used, developed and adapted by other arts organisations.

If you have any further questions about Tocyn please use the following contact details:

• Adam Williams 029 20838060 • adam@communitymusicwales.org.uk

**ZEQUUS**

**Nesta**

Arts & Humanities  
Research Council

Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru  
Arts Council of Wales

Health and  
Lifestyle Research  
Council  
Supported by  
Welsh Government

Supported by  
The National Lottery  
Cofrestrwyd gan  
Y Loteri Genedlaethol

### Welcome to the summer edition of the Cat's Whiskers!

Summer is already underway and a lot of exciting stuff is happening at Community Music Wales. Sadly we've had to say goodbye to our development manager Esyllt, who spent 10 fantastic years with us and we are sorry to see her leave. However we wish her all the best in her new role as Strategic Director for Butedown History & Art Centre! On a brighter note, we're very happy to welcome a new member of staff; Greig Halliday has joined us as a marketing assistant and will be involved with raising our profile on social media and the web. We would also like to congratulate our project assistant Nastia for getting married!

On the work front we have a number of different training programmes available in the coming months and our Children in Need projects are already underway. It's looking like a busy few months but hopefully the sun will keep shining!

Thanks for reading—Hannah.





# Choo Choo! All Aboard the Train(ing)

CMW have a number of different training opportunities in the coming months. Chief of these is our Community Music tutor training, which we will be running in Cardiff and Wrexham.



Community Music Wales have been running courses such as these since 1992 and has striven to ensure a high standard of delivery and of sharing best practice. The course is a five day practical course designed to give an understanding of community music and a taste of community music tutor training. It covers a range of theory and practice in community music, with practical workshops from professional community music trainers.

As well as tutor training, in response to a tutor survey at the end of last year, Community Music Wales have secured funding from Arts Council Wales to run a number of different development days specifically for tutors working in a Community Setting. The training days will include first aid training, health and safety, safeguarding, skill sharing, ice-breaking techniques & dealing with challenging behaviour as well as drumming workshops for those who wish to use drumming in a workshop setting.

We have also arranged for Ben Lawrence to run a day workshop of West African & Ghanaian drumming in Cardiff. Ben is an excellent musician with over 25 years of experience playing West African music as well as a fantastic workshop facilitator. The day is for people who already use drumming in a workshop setting and would like to explore different approaches to drumming workshops.

For a full list of courses, turn to the back page. If you would like any more information on the courses please don't hesitate to contact us on 029 20838060(South Wales) or 01286 685248 (North Wales) or visit our website at: [www.communitymusicwales.org.uk](http://www.communitymusicwales.org.uk)

All courses are accredited by Agored Cymru, and funded by Arts Council Wales.

# OLÉ!

We know what you're thinking, but no, sadly Osian hasn't been deported to Mexico. Osian sent us an email asking if he could buy sombreros, and obviously we were thinking, 'stag do?' but we were wrong. They actually make great ice-breaking props in workshops! Good job Osian!



# The Return of MUSICMIX

Do you play an instrument, MC, Sing or Beatbox? Are you aged 14-18? If so MUSICMIX2014 is for you! Once again we're working with ArtsActive and St David's Hall Cardiff bring you this fantastic project. Last year MusicMix 2013 worked with 21 young people to form an eclectic rock orchestra with guitars and drums, as well as traditional orchestral instruments, MC's and voice. Hopefully this year will be just as good (if not better) so make sure you book your place!

**The course runs from the 28th July to the 1st August and costs £50.**

Places are secured through application and will be allocated on a first come first served basis - don't miss out, book online at <http://artsactive.org.uk/musicmix/> or by emailing [artsactive@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:artsactive@cardiff.gov.uk)



# Wala Bala Bing Bang

This summer our Ciwdod project once again visited the Eisteddfod Yr Urdd in Bala, where thankfully the sun was shining ready for some musical antics!

Our tutors Dan Amor and Huw Owen led the shenanigans with drop-in workshops; including a full band setup as well as African and Samba drumming & percussion workshops. This year we also set up a stage with live acoustic bands, rounded off with an open mic at the end of the week. This was all in our Ciwdod corner of Pentref Mr Urdd—a dedicated area with activities for children and young people. We had an excellent turn out this year (the weather helped!) and everyone had an amazing time away from the stresses of competition. In Huw's words, 'It was great to see children and young people come and try the instruments and jam with us, especially because the Workshops were open to everyone'. We also had some very good feedback about the bands who played on our stage, Y Rhacs and Fleur de Lys, and we'd like to thank them for playing for us, and everyone else for coming to see us and getting involved!



## Harry's Got Carnival Fever!

Amidst all the excitement of something called "The World Cup" Harry has been going Samba crazy. He never misses an opportunity to bust a move, and not a waking moment goes by where he isn't practicing his footwork. It all started a couple of weeks ago when Dave was watching TV. There was a lot of noise and bright colours on the screen and a very infectious rhythm; which must have captivated our Harry. He was disappointed to find out that this broadcast didn't last for very long, and what followed was a series of mundane events involving grown men kicking a ball around a field. When asked to comment Harry replied, 'Balls is for chewing, not kicking'.

Sepp Blatter was unavailable for comment.



# Staff Profile



## Greig Halliday

Greig works with the Senior Management and Programme team to prepare and distribute all of Community Music Wales' marketing material. He also has the responsibility of maintain our website and social media pages.

**If you had to be stuck in a lift with anyone who would it be?**

Bill Nye.

**Favourite film?**

All of them, especially things with dragons. I'm very excited for How to Train Your Dragon 2.

**What was the last album you bought?**

Ayreon—The Human Equation.

**What is your greatest fear?**

No internet.

**Which person do you most admire and why?**

Nikola Tesla—he pretty much invented most of the modern world before we even knew it needed inventing.

**What's the first gig you went to?**

Funeral for a Friend in Newport.

**Cat or dog?**

Definitely dog.

**Star sign?**

Cancer.

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

A tree surgeon. I like climbing trees.

**What do you do when you're not in work?**

Play and listen to music, get lost in a book or a video game, skateboarding, kung fu and cooking.

## Cultural Connections Project

The Cultural Connections project, piloted by PE and School Sport (PESS) aims to connect schools with local artists offering new arts experiences to pupils. Working with a small group of just 8 pupils, selected by each school, the project is focused on using practical engagement in workshops as an opportunity to develop & evidence skills in literacy. Using data provided by the schools, artists have been selected to deliver workshops in their specialist field to meet both the needs and interests of the pupils selected. We are currently working with groups from primary schools in Merthyr, Penarth and Bridgend. We are delighted to be involved with this pilot project and look forward to developing the cross-disciplinary workshops for future rollout.



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## Contact Details

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[twitter.com/CMW\\_CGC](https://twitter.com/CMW_CGC)

[facebook.com/communitymusicwales](https://facebook.com/communitymusicwales)

Registered Charity: 1009867

We love to hear from you!

If you ever have any questions about Community Music Wales or our projects then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

If you've been involved with a project feel free to like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and stay in touch with us!

## Training Schedule

### Community Music Tutor Training:

Cardiff: 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th July.

Wrexham: 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 16th July.

### Top Up Training:

Cardiff: 28th—29th July.

### Tutor Development Day:

Caernarfon: 5th August

### First Aid Training:

Cardiff: 22nd August

Caernarfon: 22nd August

### Health and Safety + Safeguarding:

29th August.

*INSPIRING THROUGH MUSIC*

