Everyone Matters

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~ Music for a while shall all your cares beguile ~

Everyone Matters draws on a pool of freelance professional musicians to take live music and music-making to people of all ages who cannot readily access it themselves. Its activities include:

- informal concerts in care homes, day centres and other community venues;
- hands-on workshops in schools for children with special needs;
- intergenerational projects in which professional musicians rehearse with young instrumentalists and singers in order to perform together in care homes and day centres;



- intergenerational performance workshops for disadvantaged and autistic children, led by professionals and supported by young musicians;
- opportunities including residential courses at Benslow Music in Hitchin for amateur musicians to join professionals in performing for local care homes;
- a series of "Music Matters" lecture-recitals.

Since the first lockdown in March 2020 Everyone Matters has sent some 45 videos, many specially commissioned from professional and young musicians, to care homes and to its Friends. Many are freely available on the <u>YouTube channel</u> Everyone Matters Music.

The mission of Everyone Matters is summed up in its motto that quotes the beautiful words of John Dryden "Music for a while shall all your cares beguile".

Everyone Matters believes that music has a unique ability to bring people together, with its power to speak directly to the emotions, to conjure up memories from a distant past, to overcome barriers of language, culture, age, ability and to be entirely disregarding of all kinds of prejudice.



Everyone Matters seeks to provide services that are tailored to the needs of each specific group with

whom its musicians work, and is constantly trying to extend the usefulness of what it does in an evolving collaborative process.

"...the music stimulating each client's mind... was extremely varied which allowed all to interact." - Day Centre, Bromley.

"I was with [child D] who was very engaged and enjoyed playing percussion throughout." - School for children with special needs, Croydon.

"...fantastic music and the musicians were good with the residents...organised perfectly and wonderful music delivered." - Nursing Home, Hitchin.

"The music and instruments very amazing...we would love to have you again maybe in the summer. It was outstanding, the boys were smartly presented and so polite." - Nursing Home, Bromley.

"Events of this kind have a huge impact on our group of older people, all with a dementia, giving a massive lift to their wellbeing. The performance engaged and enlivened our group many of whom remained in high spirits long after the concert." - Day Centre, Chessingt.

If you would like to know more about this charity's work, <u>please visit their website</u>

