



## NEWSLETTER NO.1 – SUMMER 2014

Hello!

At Winnall Rock School we believe music is for everyone, so we get on with making it available to as many people as we can. Sometimes however, we're so busy doing the work, we forget to tell people about it. In a bid to address that, here is our first ever newsletter with all the latest info on WRS projects, people and plans. Thanks for reading. I hope you enjoy it.

All the best

**Chris Redmond**  
**Music Leader - and all the team at Winnall Rock School**

*a-one, two, three, four...*

### It's our Birthday and we're having a party!

#### 10<sup>th</sup> July – Theatre Royal Winchester

To celebrate 10 brilliant years of Winnall Rock School we want to make our summer show the biggest and best ever! We're inviting everyone who's ever played a part in WRS – members, tutors, parents and friends, to come to what promises to be a spectacular show at the Theatre Royal, Winchester on 10<sup>th</sup> July. We'd love it if you could join us, and please do spread the word. Our current crop of young musicians are working really hard to make this show extra special.



Tickets are available here: [www.theatroyalwinchester.co.uk](http://www.theatroyalwinchester.co.uk)

#### Boomtown



In summer 2013 we were lucky enough to be chosen by Boomtown Festival as one of their designated charities. Festival-goers donated over £7000 to us, which makes a huge difference to our finances for the year. We're so grateful to Boomtown for their support and are talking with them about how we can get some of our young people involved with running sessions at the festival this year.

We've also received funding from Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council, and as always we are immensely grateful for this support.

## WRS Tuesday Band Sessions

Our regular Tuesday night sessions kicked off 2014 with quite a bang. We've had new members join both Rock 1 (10-13 year olds) and Rock 2 (14-18 year olds). It's always great to get new people with new skills and ideas. It keeps things fresh. We're now at full capacity again, with six bands learning, co-creating, writing and rehearsing.



In the Spring Term we did some work on covers. Arctic Monkeys, Daft Punk, John Newman, Sly and The Family Stone, U2 and Buffalo Springfield all received imaginative re-workings. Rock 1 also made music inspired by the film Man on Wire and every band has written at least one song of their own.

This term, all bands have made a plan to follow up until July with their sights set firmly on having some great new songs to perform at the summer show.

## Wednesday night Private Lessons at KAYAC

Matt Vincent-Brown and Jimmy Alford continue to offer one to one lessons on drums and guitar respectively on Wednesday nights. These are private lessons for anyone who would like to invest a little more time and money into their playing to improve on technique, musicality, listening and theory. For more info contact [winnallrockschool@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:winnallrockschool@hotmail.co.uk)

## Trailblazer



Throughout 2013-14 WRS worked in partnership with Southampton based music company SoCo, to deliver a series of music workshops for hard to reach groups in the Winchester area. Funded by Winchester City Council, Trailblazer aimed to offer young people the chance to try out and develop musical skills over several months.

Chris Redmond worked in Worthy Down, at the army barracks, forming bands with people between the ages of 10 and 18, assisted by several local volunteer musicians. Jimmy Alford has been at Swanmore College, delivering live music workshops to compliment the music technology sessions that SoCo are running. And Chris Woodsford delivered band workshops at KAYAC alongside SoCo's beat-making and MC-ing workshops.

We will soon be running some young people's music industry days.

As part of Trailblazer, WRS and SoCo tutors also engaged in a series of professional development sessions to up-skill, share good practice and explore ways we can develop our capacity to deliver more quality music workshops.

## Outreach

A big part of what we deliver, aside from our regular weekly sessions, is outreach work (where we go out and work with groups in their own settings) –

Trailblazer, being just one example of this. Each term we deliver four weekly workshops at Leigh

House Hospital, for young people experiencing mental illness. These workshops are often really powerful, a huge amount of fun and can act as a real release for the participants.

Other groups we're working with this term include young people referred from the Hampshire Post Adoption Service and the Winchester Young Carers. All of this outreach work is funded by Hampshire County Council.

## Development

WRS is currently in a process of development. After almost ten years of surviving as a small, voluntary led organisation we're attempting to shift gear into something a little more structured, with a clearer sense of vision and a better ability to deliver on that vision. We're being helped through this transition with the brilliant facilitation of Stephen Boyce. We're good at what we do, but we want to get even better at it and build our capacity to do more.



Part of this plan is to finally become a registered charity, or actually in proper terms, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. This is happening at the moment and we should have achieved that status during June. This will hopefully open more doors to funding.

In these challenging economic times, we're currently looking at a number of ways to generate more income, including, but not limited to: Adult/Parent Rock School, more private tuition, corporate training days, sponsorship and renting out our rooms as rehearsal space when we're not using them. If you'd like to talk to us about any of the above, please do get in touch.

## Here comes the big finish... Can I count it off?

I think that's plenty to be getting on with for our first instalment. The aim is to generate one of these each term. So, thanks for reading. Do get in touch if you would like to help or get involved in any way. WRS is a great project, made great by the goodwill and hard work of all the people involved. Thank you for your support in helping us to deliver this valuable work.

All the best

**Chris Redmond**  
Music Leader at WRS

**AS BOB MARLEY SAID:**

**"ONE GOOD THING ABOUT MUSIC, WHEN IT HITS YOU, YOU FEEL NO PAIN."**

**AS KING ROCKER ROBERT PLANT SAID:**

**"MUSIC IS FOR EVERY SINGLE PERSON THAT WALKS THE PLANET."**