**Beatlife Activity Report 2022-2023**

The last 12 months have seen Beatlife undertaking a range of activities, there have also been a few changes and developments to note.

**Monday Night Sessions**

The sessions on Monday have continued in the kitchen space in JAH. We changed back from the space kindly hired to us by Katumba during the tail end of the pandemic.

We have continued to enjoy attendance from familes over the last 12 months , welcoming several new people and their children

Tilo, Marty and Mandy continue to lead the drumming sessions on a voluntary basis with contributions from Kim and Alice.

An exciting development has been that of of Eve and Hughie, directing the group and leading us in playing their own composition their which they have called ‘Link Teaches Samba’

Another interesting event, the Beatlife Monday session was joined by artists from JMU who did some sketching and produced prints

Tilo has been supporting them in this by giving them tips on how to lead effectively and making suggestions to help them share their music with the group.

Attendance has varied but is usually pretty good, we have decided to start a little earlier and to spend a bit less time drinking tea at the beginning! We want to encourage people to come a little earlier to the Monday sessions.

The new space has been fine for us but Lee recently received a noise complaint from a local resident.

We are trying to address this by using foam matting on the floor for sessions, Lee has had a double glazed window fitted which we have paid towards and we are also making heavy curtains to help damp down the sound.

**Schools**

Beatlife continue their educational work in Liverpool schools.

**Windsor Primary**

Marty and Tilo continue their tuition of year groups year 1 - yr 6 they have been using our established techniques and also been teaching rhythm notation, using the samba beats and words to help the pupils understand what they see on the page. Termly assemblies & afterschool drumming club both continue in the school.

There has been a request/ suggestion from Windsor that Marty should develop a school band in the near future, this would expand the range of music activities available to the children.

Mandy and Peter continue their sessions with Nursery and reception, doing drumming and singing, supporting them with keyboard, button accordion and various percussion, helping them develop a sense of tonality as well as rhythm. The children have responded well to this. Mandy and Peter supported the children in Christmas and end of year performances for the parents.

**Abercromby**

Unfortunately Mandy and Peter were let go from Abercromby at the end of last Summer term, this was due to cost issues the school has been facing for a while, other auxillary staff were let go from Abercromby too. It was made very clear that they were highly valued by the school and that this difficult decision was purely a matter of finance. They left on good terms with the head and the other staff.

**Kingsley School**

Mandy and Peter continue a weekly session in Kingsley , alternating between Nursery and Reception on a termly basis, session content is similar to their work already outlined in Windsor. They also run an afterschool drumming club which has been enthusiastically attended. They recently did a whole school assembly and some of the children joined them at Granby St market for the Saturday performances.

**Cressington Nursery**

Beatlife were approached by Cressington as they were interested in early years drumming and music, after a taster session Mandy and Peter were invited in to do 1 hour a week of sessions with the arrangement being reviewed every half term.

**REMAT Consortium**

Mandy and Peter were invited back to do some early years music sessions for the REMAT schools consortium.

**Lakeside SEN School**

Marty Mandy and Peter went to Lakeside School in Netherley to do some percussion with the pupils there. It was really well received.

**Other Activities**

**Cubs**

Marty and Alice have ran several cubs’ music activity days including 2 days in North Liverpool, a day with Allerton Cubs and an evening held at JAH with Toxteth Saalam Scouts – all really fun and enjoyed by participants

**Granby St Market**

Beatlife have been joined by children from Windsor St and Kingsley schools for monthly community performances at Granby Market. Performances led by Tilo and Marty and Kim (sometimes Mandy)

**Africa Oyé**

Beatlife were joined by Anfield Samba Kids with contributions from Movema and Windsor, Kingsley School in a public performance at Africa Oyé music festival. We had around 50 drummers playing together.

**Liverpool World Centre Community event**

Marty led Beatlife performing at a Liverpool World Centre Community event at JAH.

**St Anne’s School**

Tilo and Marty - Beatlife ran a filmed workshop for year 2s in St Anne’s School in the Wavertree / Kensington area. This EMTAS funded project was very well received, Donna was delighted!

**Hospice Workshop**

Beatlife ran a drumming workshop for hospice staff as part of their ‘Living Well’ project.

**Liverpool JMU Final year Art Degree Show**

Beatlife performed in the foyer of JMU art building to celebrate the opening of the degree show.

**John Moore’s Freshers’ Week**

Beatlife played an outdoor event at JMU to welcome Freshers to Liverpool.

**CHILD SAFETY TRAINING**

Mandy, Tilo, Marty and Peter undertook NSPCC online courses and certification on child protection in schools.

**Karen Wyn**

Karen left as a board member as she had family commitments and a promotion in her job.