

Ovingdean Hall News

Summer 2023



2012-2022

Ovingdean Hall Foundation

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES
FOR DEAF CHILDREN AND
YOUNG PEOPLE

Celebrating community

We are supporting two fantastic projects to bring Deaf children and young people together in London.



Remark! Community runs a weekly youth club in North London. Our grant has supported the appointment of a new co-ordinator to lead activities. Recent highlights have

included a cookery workshop led by a professional chef in a commercial kitchen, and a tour of Dulwich Picture Gallery from a local Deaf historian. *The club has given the opportunity to many Deaf young people within London to come together, build their social skills, make new friends and feel like they belong within a community,*' said Trustee Jonny Nelson, who is also the founder of the charity.

Natalia, a former Ovingdean Hall School student, is now a support worker at Remark!, while another former student, Victoria, recently delivered an inclusion workshop at the youth club.

We have also helped Remark!'s charity partner Deaf-SELF to deliver their summer play scheme in South East London. *Your support has gone a long way in allowing us to continue providing our Deaf play scheme, which has now been supporting Deaf children for the past 19 years,*' said Annie O'Shea, Treasurer of Deaf-SELF.

Around 60 children and young people participate in the play scheme each summer, with activities including football, arts and crafts, and day trips to the seaside. OHF's support at a critical time has helped Deaf-SELF not only to continue its service, but also to secure match funding from another grantmaker. Find out more at www.remarkcommunity.org

OHF also supports groups for D/deaf children and young people and their families in Cheshire, Walsall and Cardiff. All of these groups share the aim of reducing isolation.



Thank you to Dr Don Wild

During autumn 2022, we received donations in memory of our kind friend Dr Don Wild.



The Elizabeth
Foundation

Dr Wild loved music and thus Trustees felt it a fitting tribute to direct the donations to The Elizabeth Foundation to buy musical equipment. 'Music is such a big part of our language and listening programme and we are so honoured to receive these funds in Dr Wild's memory to enrich our musical resources for deaf babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers,' said Chief Executive Officer, Julie Hughes, 'Thank you so much for thinking of us.'



Children play one of the new musical instruments

Sharing Alice's Adventures



A captivated audience follow Charlotte (as Alice) and her team Down the Rabbit Hole (photo by Nick Rutter)

We have supported soprano Charlotte Hoather's project to bring opera to schools.

Charlotte toured her *Alice In Wonderland*-inspired opera *Down the Rabbit Hole* during March 2023, delivering 25 performances across schools in Winsford and

London. *Down The Rabbit Hole* was written by Charlotte, with music provided by Zollino. Charlotte also wrote and illustrated a guide to accompany the opera.

Fiona Maddocks, writing in *The Guardian* on 8 April 2023, gave the show a five star review:

'The free flow of song, dance, clever piano riffs, mime and sign language absorbed every child present. This tiny enterprise has incalculable resonance.'

'I wanted to create an inclusive and enjoyable opera for both hearing and deaf children,' said Charlotte, who was diagnosed at birth as profoundly deaf in one ear. *'My aim was to remove barriers to classical music caused by access, location or finance and show that anyone can be creative. OHF provided crucial support for this project, and your belief in the idea and generous donation made it possible.'*

One student who saw the performance at Frank Barnes Primary School for Deaf Children said it was his, *'favourite show to watch.'*

A HUGE thank you to all of our friends for funding these important projects for deaf children and young people.

If you would like to help our work, please can you donate online at www.ovingdeanhall.org.uk/support-us or please send your cheque or CAF voucher (payable to Ovingdean Hall Foundation) to the address below.

Thank you very much!

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