

It been a very interesting and exciting year for Belltree, now ending its fifth year. The service has expanded with an increased provision for both children and adults across Brighton and Hove, and Sussex. We currently provide 1:1 or group music therapy for around 80 clients aged 1 to 90. The types of client groups have also expanded, particularly towards adults with learning disabilities and dementia. In April 2013 we began a 3 year contract with Demelza Children's Hospice, as part of their East Sussex Community Team, generously supported by Jessie's Fund. Its very encouraging that the service continues to grow despite current financial climate.

Music Therapy Week, June 2013

In June we celebrated National Music Therapy week with 'Songs for Belltree' at the Latest Music Bar which saw many of our music therapists performing their own music, plus guests such as the renowned singer songwriter Jan Allain. This proved to be a really enjoyable afternoon which also provided an opportunity for people to ask questions about music therapy in an informal setting.



Community Support

During music therapy week 2013 we were very fortunate to receive support from Susanna Cassam Music Tuition in the form of raffle ticket sales and donations made at her annual SCMT Music Competitions, held at St. Nicolas Church Brighton. This event was attended by the newly elected Mayor of Brighton and Hove, who spoke of her support for music activities and music therapy in the area.

Brighton Institute of Modern Music (BIMM) generously donated £1000 to Belltree in 2013 and after hearing how we spent the funds donated another £1000 in 2014.

These funds have been used to support a therapeutic drumming projects at July House, a local children's home, and a dementia group in Woodingdean. It has also bought 3 sets of instruments for our community work with children, subsidised music therapy for families on a low income and contributed to some new technology.

Image shows Linda Malone with Rachel at July House.



