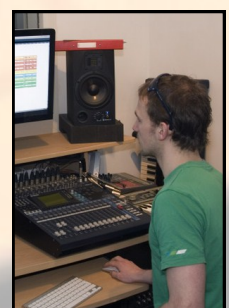


COMMUNITY ARTS

**Creative & Learning Opportunities for
Vulnerable People in Yorkshire**

Brochure 2015-16

The Garage,
Elephant & Castle Yard,
Off High St,
Knaresborough, HG5 0EQ
Telephone 01423 202028
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Music Studio

DJ Suite

Garden

ArtSpace

IT Suite

Rehearsal Room

Community Events

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“To promote mental health and well-being amongst vulnerable people in Yorkshire by engaging individuals in meaningful creative and learning activities, with an emphasis on social inclusion, basic employment skills and personal development.”

mission statement

Welcome to Orb!

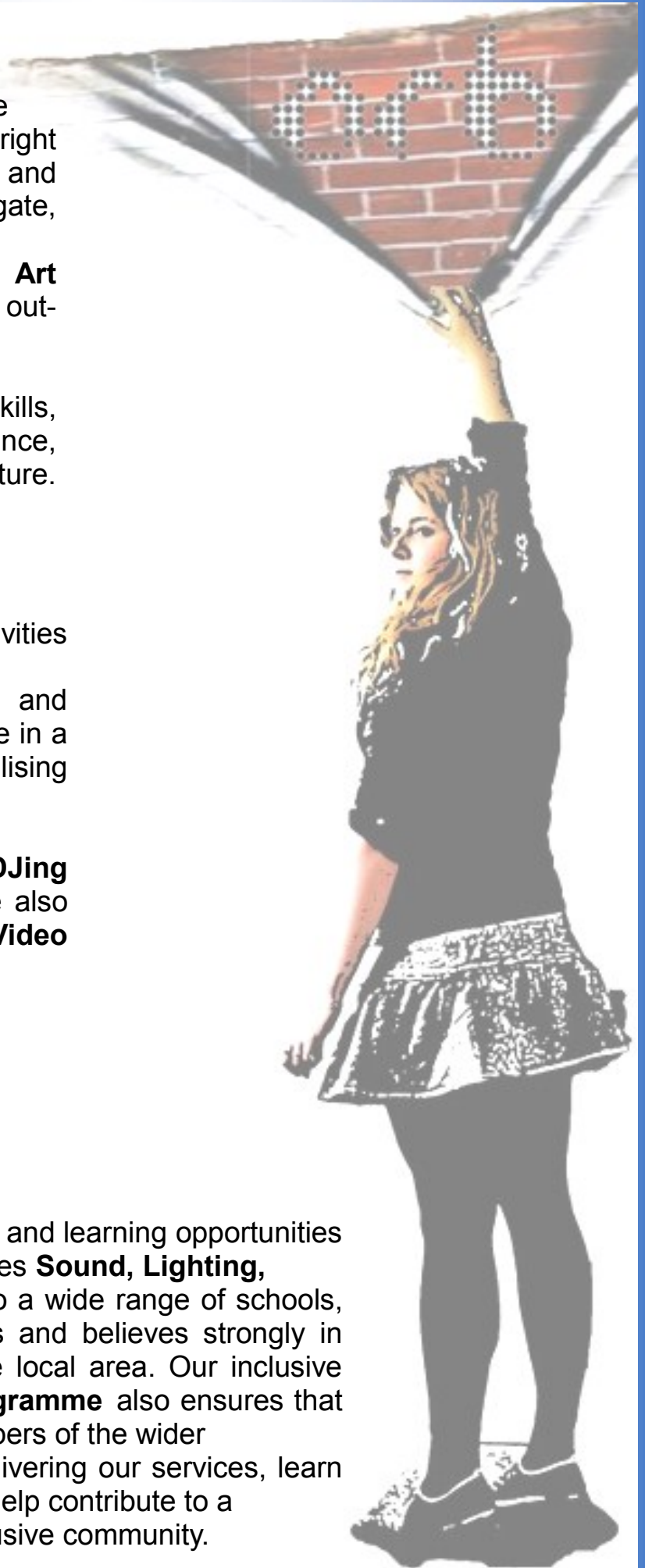
Orb Community Arts is a unique creative and educational space right in the heart of **Knaresborough** and easily accessible from Harrogate, York and Leeds. With up to date **Music** and **IT** facilities, an **Art Space**, an **Eco Garden** and an outgoing team of teachers, staff and volunteers, Orb is here to help people develop invaluable life skills, grow in confidence, gain experience, and think positively about their future.

What do we do?

Orb delivers a wide range of activities and courses, designed to equip clients with the relevant skills and knowledge to give them the edge in a range of creative fields. Specialising in **Music Production and Technology, Performance, Composition & Songwriting, DJing** and **Instrumental lessons**, we also provide learning in **Film & Video Production & Editing, Digital Photography, Blogging, Web Design, Basic IT Skills, Art** and beyond.

In the community

We don't just offer these creative and learning opportunities though. Orb also regularly provides **Sound, Lighting, Recording & Event Support** to a wide range of schools, charities and community groups and believes strongly in playing its part in the life of the local area. Our inclusive and dynamic **Volunteering Programme** also ensures that both our service users and members of the wider community can participate in delivering our services, learn new skills, gain experience and help contribute to a stronger, more dynamic and inclusive community.



What courses do we do?

Orb prides itself on its flexibility. We try and offer our Service Users a course that reflects their individual interests and goals, in a way and at a time that suits them. Teaching can be group based but is often one-to-one and every effort is made to accommodate service users own particular learning styles. We also encourage people to get involved in mentoring & volunteering opportunities and put their new skills to use getting some real, practical experience. Here is a flavour of the course content we can offer.

- **Digital Music Production**
- **Studio Engineering**
- **DJing Skills**
- **Band Performance**
- **Song Performance**
- **Song Writing**
- **Instrumental Lessons (Piano, Guitar, Bass, Saxophone, Drums)**
- **Creative Writing**
- **Art Classes**
- **Basic IT Skills**
- **Web Design**
- **Blogging & Social Media**
- **Desktop Publishing**
- **Digital Photography**
- **Film making & Editing**

“I got a good feeling about the place ... it’s a comfortable place to be. There’s a nice atmosphere, it’s calm.” PH (service user)

Who do we support?

Orb aims to support those most at risk from exclusion from mainstream support and provision. This includes people who are:

- **Experiencing Mental Ill-Health**
- **Learning Disabled**
- **On the Autism Spectrum**
- **Have Low or Outdated Skills (including the elderly and digitally excluded)**
- **Homeless**
- **Recovering from Substance Misuse**
- **Unemployed**
- **Carers**

We accept funded referrals from a range of partners and are keen to develop relationships with new ones. Current referrers include:

- **Health & Adult Services**
- **Community Mental Health Teams**
- **the local PCT**
- **the Crime Reduction Initiative**
- **Stonham & Foundation Housing Associations**
- **the University of the 3rd Age**
- **the National Autistic Society**
- **Youth Services**
- **Your Consortium**
- **the DWP**

Orb is an approved provider of North Yorkshire County Council Health & Adult Services and can accept referrals for anyone in receipt personalised payments/an individual budget or spot contracts if applicable

Self-referrals can sometimes also be accepted if accompanied by evidence of economic inactivity and benefit entitlement and we have access to funding to support this. This is not always possible but we encourage people to check with us on a regular basis.

How Much Does It Cost?

Our regular provision to referred service users is based on half day or full day sessions. These include guided learning hours and supported access to the facilities. We can often offer free access to some services and facilities though availability and eligibility can vary. Contact us for current opportunities.



FREE

A number of courses are fully funded and there is no cost to the user*



£27

Regular referrals from partner organisations are currently charged at £27 for a half day session



£54

Regular referrals from partner organisations are currently charged at £54 for a full day session

Prices are subject to revision.

* contact us for current funded course availability and eligibility

Volunteering

Orb's inclusive and well established **Volunteering programme** is open both to service users ready to progress to a more active role, and to members of the local community who have time to contribute to the work we do. We recognise that everyone has different reasons for volunteering but try to offer people the chance to develop their skills, help others and gain valuable experience at the same time. If you are interested in volunteering with us please contact us to discuss whether there is an appropriate vacancy. With a **Music Studio, Artspace, IT Suite** and **Garden**, not to mention our programme of **Event Support**, there's a surprising and varied amount of roles on offer.

Work Placements

Orb is also able to support a number of **Work Placements** from local schools during the year. Capacity is limited but we do encourage young people with an interest in music, art or creative media and health and social care to get in touch.

Community Events

With an array of high quality **Sound & Lighting** equipment, Orb is able to support a number of events throughout the year. Working with such clients as the **Frazer Theatre** in Knaresborough, **The Lions & Rotary Clubs**, and a wide variety of local schools, churches and charities, Orb aims to actively benefit the community. We want to make the place we live more vibrant and creative whilst offering our service users and volunteers the opportunity to get real life work experience and play a valued role in the local area.

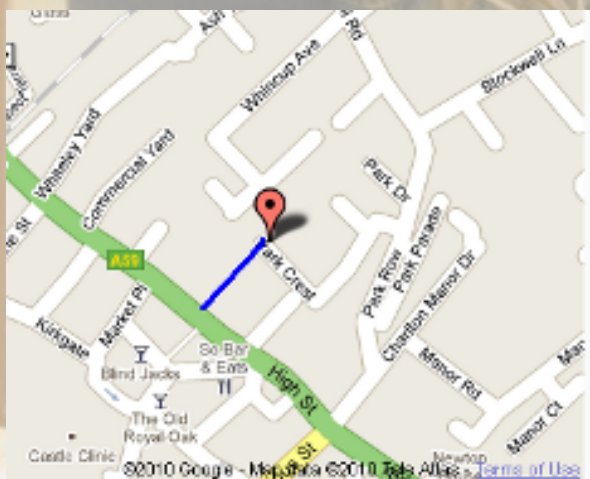
“I never thought this day would come and you've helped me enormously. There is no way I'd have a job now if it weren't for Orb. I'm going to miss my days out at the Garage!” CS (volunteer)

Where are we and how do I get there?



Orb is based in the centre of **Knaresborough** in North Yorkshire. There are over 6 buses an hour to **Harrogate** and rail connections to Harrogate, **Leeds** and **York**. Both the bus and rail stations are only a 5 minute walk away. We have limited parking in front of the building but you will need to ask for a private pass upon arrival.

Our premises are situated alongside Knaresborough Bowling Club at the end of the alleyway by Tesco on Knaresborough High St. There is alternative vehicular access via Park Crest. We are in the old garage with the black doors. Look out for the Orb logo!



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“I found your help extremely encouraging and we also realise that similar facilities and expertise are not available in our area unless considerable costs are incurred” JG(referrer)

“Orb is my life-line. It gives me much needed social interaction, company and the challenge of learning new skills. Everyone is extremely supportive.” DS (service user)

“I’ve gained confidence in using IT skills and starting to work out how to achieve what I need through practice and trying things out - I wouldn’t have dared to do this before. I appreciate learning in a relaxed environment and I feel comfortable asking questions and for help” (anonymous service user)

“I needed to go at a slower pace due to my illness and need to be shown things a number of times, so a regular college course does not meet my support needs.” PB (service user)

