

'Freedom Train' – Music in East Bristol

Dear All,

Very soon a compact disc entitled Freedom Train will be on sale for £5 per copy within the churches and at S Matthias and Dr Bell's Primary in Fishponds.

The disc contains tracks contributed by groups from across East Bristol from church choirs singing in various styles, some excellent African drumming from Year Five at the school through to soloists singing and playing and the choirs from the Fishponds Community Music Centre.

It really is a good but partial snapshot of what is happening within the communities here and a real celebration of our increasingly shared life. The funding for the project came from a Bristol Archdeaconry Grant for a project called, 'Singing for someone else's supper'. We were given a thousand pounds to make the CD and all profits from its sale will go to help fund the **Saturday Lunches**, a hospitality project hosted by S Mary's, Fishponds.

And so in June, Jonathan Lane the recording engineer, spent a day with the music centre musicians recording and I went around the different churches and school groups with a portable machine making recordings and now we have the CD.

It has been a fascinating and fun-filled experience as many have contributed their talents and love of music, further building community in the process. I am increasingly experiencing a meeting of lives, faith stories and deep pastoral care within the local community music making scene and this gives me great hope.

Enjoy joining the Freedom Train..

Keith Thomasson

The Music Centre is a Saturday project run by the East Bristol Partnership and the School for pre- school children, school children and adults. Prior experience of music is not necessary at all. Please contact Keith for further information on 0117 965 7740.