

with Community Editor
Paul Foster
(023) 9262 2229
paul.foster@jpress.co.uk

£53,600 funding gives young choir new cause to sing

Havant Urban Vocal Group awarded a grant from the National Foundation

by **TOM JACKSON**
The News

Young singers from across the area have hailed a national charity after Havant Urban Vocal Group received a £53,600 grant.

The organisation has been awarded a share of £242,000 worth of grants from the National Foundation.

The money will help support young musicians across Hampshire and Portsmouth.

Frankie Hipwell-Larkin, chairman of UVG, said: 'This is fantastic news for the UVG and is testament to the hard work and dedication of tutors, volunteers and singers.'

Founded in 2008, the Havant-based Urban Vocal Group (UVG) is a free singing group for 11 to 18-year-olds.

The group has 45 members from the Havant and Portsmouth area.

It teaches young people how to sing, write songs and build confidence when performing.

UVG members have now performed more than 40 gigs across the south coast and are determined to keep up their



SINGERS Young singers from the Urban Vocal Group, pictured, are celebrating after the group for 11 to 18-year-olds in the Portsmouth and Havant areas received more than £53,000 of funding

efforts.

Mr Hipwell-Larkin added: 'Thank you to Youth Music for giving the organisation the opportunity to inspire more young people and to make a difference to their lives through participation in music.'

Matt Griffiths, Youth Music's executive director,

said: 'We continue to do our best to target our funding where it is most needed.'

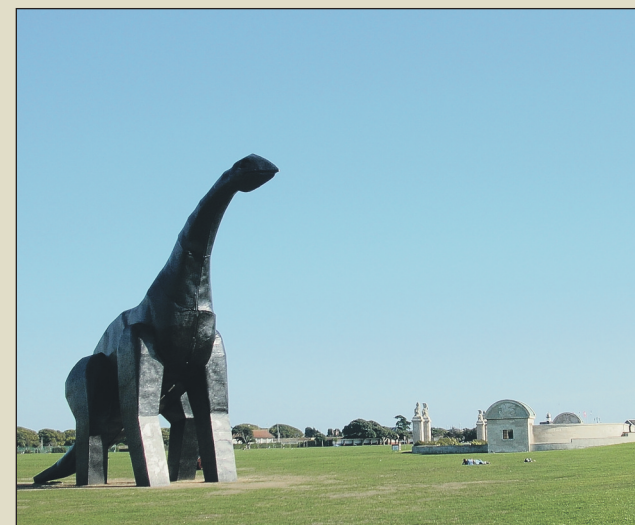
'Part of this process is to ensure that we regularly update our information on where music provision is lacking geographically and to identify categories of young people in challenging circumstances who might otherwise

miss out.'

Mr Griffiths added: 'We wish all these projects every success in delivering high-quality music making programmes that will have a very positive impact on these young people's lives.'

For more information about the organisation visit theuvg.co.uk.

YOUR PAST PICTURES OF PORTSMOUTH



Thelma Taylor sent in this picture of the model dinosaur that was on Southsea Common in 2010.

She wrote: 'Remember poor old Dino, who graced the seafront for a while until he self-ignited?'

CHECK OUT OUR NEW PORTSMOUTH NOSTALGIA PAGE ON FACEBOOK

We want to see your family snaps from the past few decades.

Did you get dressed up and parade in your local carnival? Or did you pose at a local landmark which has now changed beyond all recognition?

If so, we want to publish it here as it might bring back

some fond memories for our readers.

■ Email your picture to paul.foster@jpress.co.uk, remembering to include details of what year it was taken, the location and any other relevant information.

■ Or tweet a picture to @Paul_A_Foster

MEET THE REPORTERS

STUDENT REPORTERS

ABIGAIL WEBSTER
Student reporter
(023) 9262 2209
abigail.webster@jpress.co.uk
@pn_abbiewebster



LAURA THOMSON
Student reporter
(023) 9262 2222
laura.thomson@jpress.co.uk
@PN_LauraThomson



CHLOE ELLIS
Student reporter
(023) 9262 2630
chloe.ellis@jpress.co.uk
@PN_ChloeEllis



SPECIALISTS

MILES O'LEARY
Political reporter
(023) 92622169
miles.oleary@thenews.co.uk



RUTH SCAMMELL
Education reporter
(023) 9262 2131
ruth.scammell@thenews.co.uk
@pompeyruth



SAM BANNISTER
Defence correspondent
(023) 9262 2137
sam.bannister@thenews.co.uk
@pn_sambannister



PRIYA MISTRY
Health reporter
(023) 92622130
priya.mistry@thenews.co.uk
@priya_mistry



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