

## NORWICH

# Harmonious way to learn about music

Hundreds of youngsters – some dwarfed by their instruments – took part in the debut concert by Norwich In Harmony children yesterday.

About 140 children from Larkman, Mile Cross and Catton Grove Primary Schools in Norwich performed about eight songs including the Beatles' Let It Be at Open in Bank Plain, Norwich, alongside musicians from the Chamber Orchestra Anglia.

Hundreds of family members and friends packed into the free concert which was also attended by world renowned cellist Julian Lloyd Webber, who is chairman of the In Harmony programme, and Norwich Lord Mayor Evelyn Collishaw.

The Winter Concert showcased the youngsters' developing musical talents and celebrated the end of In Harmony's first year.

Mr Lloyd Webber said: "It's a brilliant project and it really does

By SAVID BALE

bring children together from an early age through music.

"There are no barriers in music and it's amazing that there are more and more youngsters wishing to join, as it's not compulsory.

"I see this as the future of music education."

He said he had played a few times in Norwich and loved the city and county, which he said was a special part of England.

Among the youngsters taking part were Elhana Quantrill, nine, from Stevenson Road, Norwich, who attends Larkman school, and plays the viola, and Mollie Cubitt, seven, from Cadge Road, Norwich, who's also a Larkman pupil and plays the cello, which is almost as big as she is.

Mollie said she really enjoyed playing Let It Be and Elhana said she loved the whole project.



MAKING MUSIC: Youngsters at the In Harmony event with cellist Julian Lloyd Webber.

Georgia Myhill, eight, from Hillmead, Norwich, who goes to Catton Grove school, plays the violin.

She said: "It's really hard playing it, but we are all really enjoying playing."

Ms Collishaw said the project was a great success which encouraged young children to get more involved in music. She said: "I think they're

all doing a great job."

The In Harmony programme, which is inspired by the hugely successful Venezuelan project, El Sistema, is a movement for social change.

Via the symphony orchestra, In Harmony provides children from some of the most deprived areas of England with the opportunity to

grow and develop, both socially and musically, as well as delivering benefits across the wider community.

In Norwich it's being led by Norwich & Norfolk Community Arts, in partnership with Future Projects – organisations that have considerable experience of working with deprived communities.