



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Embargo: Immediate release**

## **PLYMOUTH MUSIC ZONE GOES 'BACK TO THE FUTURE' AS FOUNDING DIRECTOR RETURNS TO TOP JOB...**

The city's biggest music education charity has gone back to its roots to appoint its new Executive Director to take the award winning organisation forward into the future. Matt Griffiths set up Plymouth Music Zone over 10 years ago before leaving to take up a director post in Dartington. After 7 years working in the arts and social enterprise sector he's now looking forward to bringing all he's learned back to PMZ. His return may have raised a few teasing eyebrows but it's certainly put a smile on Matt's face.

Executive Director Matt Griffiths says:

**"Plymouth Music Zone is one of those amazing projects that just gets under your skin because of the powerful work that it does with disadvantaged young people. My head may have ended up in Dartington but I think my heart never left Devonport! This organisation has grown and achieved so much since I was last here so it actually feels like a new place. I can't wait to work with the team to make sure Plymouth Music Zone survives and thrives through the challenging times ahead so we can continue making a real impact with the work that we do."**

Matt joins Plymouth Music Zone at its strongest time. The organisation has just been awarded Investor in People's status and its cutting edge music provision continues to make a name for itself not just locally but on a national stage. But Matt is not the only new face at PMZ. He joins this year's crop of 3 young apprentices including two Music Leader Apprentices, Josie Newton and Alex Short, as well as a new Media and Marketing Apprentice post, held by Zoe Fell. Zoe is being dubbed the 'PMZ MAMA' and will be using social media websites like facebook and twitter to engage more young people with the work of the charity.

PMZ MAMA Zoe Fell says:

**"It's funny to think I've actually been involved with Plymouth Music Zone for over 7 years as a participant and then as a member of their Youth Forum, it's been my second home. It might sound corny but having the chance to use all that experience and now get paid to do a job I utterly love is just a bit of a dream come true. Young people have a lot to say and social networking and music is a language that they really understand."**

For further details of all the free after school activities the PMZ MAMA will be promoting check out the website at [www.plymouthmusiczone.org.uk](http://www.plymouthmusiczone.org.uk) or call 01752 213690 if you want to know more.

**-Ends**

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