

BULLETIN #26 2020

This Week

Dear friends,

Well it's been an interesting and a very hot week. The government announced that next week on the 4th July we'll all be able to get away overnight, get our hair cut and go for a meal or a drink. I do think it's important that we don't get complacent about the restrictions that still exist, and that we all continue keeping up with our social distancing and follow our own stringent hygiene standards. If everybody is strict about what they do then the sooner we, and choral singers all over the country, will be able to sing safely together again.

This week Craig asked you to do a recording of yourselves singing your own part with the sound track for "Get By with a Little Help", we think this'll be a great memento of the time we've spent together doing our Zoom sessions during lockdown. The response to the request has been overwhelming, which made us so happy, even though it turned out not to be very easy. I have a memory of Craig saying at last weeks practice that we'd need to sing through our part a couple of times then do a recorded version. Well Craig...the birds in our garden make a racket, the man up the road has a very noisy mower, the ear plugs fall out so easily even with a big lump of blue tack in your ear. I continued to get by, high and try the wrong way round and joined in with the basses here and there perhaps there's no recording career awaiting me. I finally thought I was nearly there, I was at last getting it. Three quarters of the way through the song, in comes a FaceTime call from my sister. Anyway, to get something remotely worth sending from both John and I took hours. Nevertheless, it's very exciting to be doing this recording with you all, and I'm touched by your enthusiasm for wanting to do this. So

many of you have embraced this challenge well done and thank you for supporting everything we do. Week on week you've turned up to Zoom giving your support to Craig, Declan, fellow members and the committee it's been very much appreciated. Last night even though it was very hot there were still 42 of you Zooming that's a brilliant number! We have just 3 Zooms left now then we'll break up for the summer. Our last online get together will be the 16th of July. I'll do a bulletin on the 17th but That'll be the last one for a good while.

Over the summer the committee and Craig will continue to meet to discuss any changes being made to the Covid regulations that affect choral singing as and when they are announced. Please be assured that our reactions and our plans to return safely will be carefully thought through. We might have to make some changes to what form a practice takes. However, you as our members will be at the heart of everything we do your safety will be paramount.

We started last night's zoom session with Craig singing and playing his guitar for us. We did some facial exercises rather than doing our usual exercises as it was such a warm day. Our warmup song was Bella Mama. Our quarantune was at the beginning of the session this week and was beautifully and cleverly performed by Heather Ireland. She played both piano violin and sang To Make You Feel My Love well done Heather I've put the words farther down the bulletin. Don't forget to go to our website www.knotanotherchoir.co.uk where we've made a quarantunes section so that you can listen to the performances everybody has done so far. We had a great sing right through Brave, Sing and Hold Back the River. Craig was without Declan last night as he was visiting his family, it was a really lively sing.

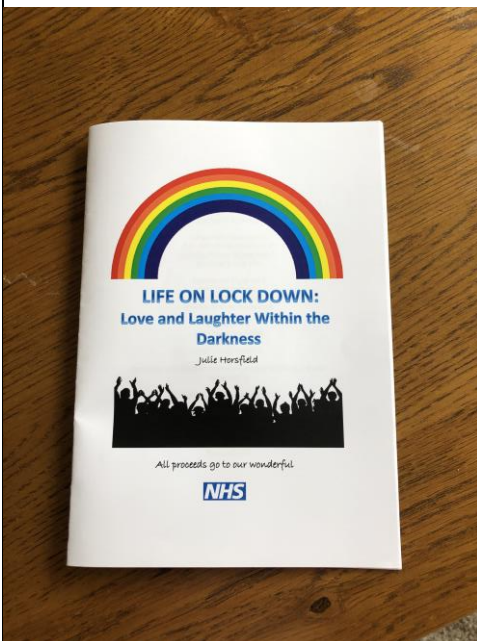
Tuition

Don't forget Craig is still offering his 1:1 lessons , they are available at the cost of just £35 an hour. Craigs lessons are on Zoom and payments can be made via Paypal and BACS. Make your bookings by emailing craig@livingvocally.com

Declan is still offering 1:1 lessons too in piano/composition. I've had a lesson and I can wholeheartedly recommend. They can be taken Monday-Sunday 9-00 am-8-00pm. Declan's lessons are just £30 . To book please email Declandaviesmusic@gmail.com

Charity Appeal

Julie Horsefield soprano has written a beautiful set of poems. Julie is selling her book for the NHS charity for just £5. I know she's sold just four to choir members, perhaps more of you might like to support both a fellow member and the NHS charity.



Poems.

Smiling Is Infectious

by Spike Milligan

Smiling is infectious,
you catch it like the flu,
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.
I passed around the corner
and someone saw my grin.
When he smiled I realized
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile,
then I realized its worth.
A single smile, just like mine
could travel round the earth.
So, if you feel a smile begin,
don't leave it undetected.
Let's start an epidemic quick,
and get the world infected!

The words of Heathers song.

Make You Feel My Love

When the rain
Is blowing in your face
And the whole world
Is on your case
I could offer you
A warm embrace
To make you feel my love
When the evening shadows
And the stars appear
And there is no one there
To dry your tears
I could hold you
For a million years
To make you feel my love
I know you
Haven't made
Your mind up yet
But I would never
Do you wrong
I've known it
From the moment
That we met
No doubt in my mind
Where you belong
I'd go hungry
I'd go black and blue
I'd go crawling
Down the avenue

No, there's nothing
That I wouldn't do
To make you feel my love
The storms are raging
On the rolling sea
And on the highway of regret
Though winds of change
Are throwing wild and free
You ain't seen nothing
Like me yet
I could make you happy
Make your dreams come true
Nothing that I wouldn't do
Go to the ends
Of the Earth for you
To make you feel my love
To make you feel my love

Source: LyricFind

Songwriters: Bob Dylan

Profiles



Sarah Carrigan.

I grew up in a large village on the outskirts of Birmingham. In a family of five I was the middle child. As if home life wasn't busy enough, I also had an imaginary friend, two dogs, a tortoise and a rabbit. Apparently I was a difficult child; I threw tantrums and often packed a bag and 'ran away' from home. As a runaway I would sit on the pavement outside the family home till it was dark. I would tell my parents that I was going to go to Australia and I'd never write.

After school and college, I started work as a receptionist and within a week I was promoted to the sales department. I had found my niche and thus began my career in the sales office and out on the road. By the age of 20 I was a regional sales rep' for a large international company.

When I was 19 years old my parents moved to Hong Kong, and I was lucky enough to spend quite a lot of time out there, travelling around the Far East with my family. Life was ticking along nicely; I had a great job, company car and an active social life, but my plans of staying young, free and single were cast aside when I met Richard, the love of my life. Six months later, Richard proposed, and we married shortly afterwards in a whirlwind, in the July of 1991. I had met THE ONE and it just seemed right.

Married life was going great! Then one evening, Richard arrived home from work and casually dropped the bombshell, "How do you fancy living in South Africa?" Two months later in the May of 1995 we were living in Pretoria.

For the next five years we travelled extensively; we saw the Big Five and held a lion cub, became 4x4 experts, learnt to fire a gun, cheered at Mandela's inauguration and also became parents to our daughter, Laura, in October 1997.

We repatriated in 2000, still moving around to various places with Richard's job, and in April 2004 we became parents for a second time, to our son, Ben.

In 2006 Richard took a role based in Yorkshire, and by June we had sold up in Brum and moved into our home in Kirk Hammerton. I found a job working full time at the village nursery and Laura attended the village school.

Whilst we were busy hanging the curtains and unpacking boxes, Richard began to suffer with severe back pain. We visited the GP. He was told to "man up" and given pain relief. Unfortunately, within days the pain became unbearable and the love of my life, was diagnosed with cancer. Richard was hospitalised and died in the January of 2007.

I am so thankful to have had the ongoing support of the close knit community of my village. My children have had a safe and caring environment in which to grow and thrive. I have felt supported throughout and have given back to village life as much as I can. I still love travelling and have been to America, Iceland, the Baltics and have a lot more places on my bucket list.

So there it is; my tale so far. Full of highs and lows, love and happiness, tears and sadness. There is a saying, that what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. I look forward to seeing you all in the flesh when we stage our comeback as a stronger choir, Together Again.



Jan Hunter

Born in Northampton, I grew up in Liverpool, Sheffield, Abergavenny and eventually settled in Leeds when I married. I have two children Matthew is 43 and Sarah is 41 both of whom live locally and I also have a granddaughter and grandson. I am now retired having been a medical secretary nearly all my working life. I have worked in various specialities at Sheffield

Royal Infirmary, Leeds General Infirmary, Killingbeck Hospital, Leeds and a GP practice, my final post being at the Maxillofacial Surgery Department at Harrogate District Hospital. A job I enjoyed so much I didn't want to retire so I worked well past the normal retirement age. I met my fiancé Chris in 2014 and I moved from Wetherby and Chris from near Yarm to Copgrove in 2016 and we plan to marry in September. We love the area and are lucky enough to walk from our front door out into the beautiful countryside which is a real bonus for us as we both love walking.

I have always enjoyed singing and sang in school choirs and my local church choir in my teens. I joined a choir called Inspiration in 2010 and we perform three concerts a year at Leeds Town Hall with the orchestra of Opera North. I have been fortunate enough to have been on choir trips with Inspiration and have sung at Disneyland Paris, the Edinburgh Festival, Vienna and Salzburg and last year we sang in Rome which included singing mass at St Peters.

My hobbies also include yoga, Pilates, walking, reading, listening to all types of music, my favourite being classical music. I learned to play classical guitar in my twenties and then learned to play piano in my fifties. I also enjoy gardening and the garden of our new home has had a makeover which is ongoing, especially in lockdown. I also love to go skiing and usually go to Les Gets in France every year where I have friends. There is nothing more exhilarating than to ski down a mountain with the sun on your face and with the backdrop of the Alps it doesn't get any better.

Chris and I both love to travel and last year we did the NC 500 which is a road trip around the west, north and east coasts of Scotland spanning 500 miles. We met people from all over the world whilst staying in various bed and breakfasts on our trip. The local cuisine was second to none and we especially enjoyed all the local fresh fish. There is so much stunning scenery in Britain, it is my favourite place to holiday and although our holiday to island hop in the Western Isles this summer has been put on hold, I am sure we will get there soon.

I joined Knot Another Choir in September 2019 and sing in the soprano 2s. After the first rehearsal I was totally hooked. Craig and Declan make the sessions so much fun, not only working us hard, but making us laugh as well. I have enjoyed taking part in the concerts too, especially over Christmas when we sang in the Trinity Centre in Leeds. I am missing our weekly meetings, but the Zoom sessions are really keeping me focused. Even though I am enjoying the virtual sessions, I look forward to being able to meet everyone again in person, but until then Stay Safe!

Make Contact

Please feel free to contact me, my email is jbradburysharp@gmail.com or ring me on 07926027676.