



BULLETIN #29 2020

This Week

Dear Members,

I'll start with an apology; I know you were all very excited to be seeing our recording on Thursday and I'm sure you will have felt a little disappointed that it wasn't yet ready for viewing. I spoke to Declan midweek and the poor man had been making tremendous efforts to sort out problems which happened due to software update issues. The issues are now resolved and Declan is working very hard editing the 40 sound files we've sent him, I still can't believe that 40 of you sent in a sound file, I had a feeling that we'd get about 25. Once Declan has completed the audio, it can then go to Craig who will do the video editing.

Just as soon as it's ready I'll arrange with Craig and Declan to do a one off short Zoom session so that we can all listen to it. I'll contact you all by email to invite you.

16 weeks as Zoomers

Firstly, I want to thank Craig and a Declan for agreeing to do our Zoom sessions over the last weeks. They've been such great fun and kept our spirits up at a very strange time in all our lives. Thanks to you all as members too for supporting us with your attendance and enthusiasm, your smiles and financial commitment.

We've missed those of you who have not been able to join us and we'll look forward to being reunited with you in the future.

Well what a way to finish for the summer, 45 of you were at our session last night. We had two brilliant quarantuners this week, as a treat for our last week. Milena sang in Serbian for us which was brilliant! the story of the song was explained to us and Milena sang unaccompanied, it was beautifully sung thanks so much. I hope we'll get Milena to sing in Serbian for us again sometime soon, thanks Milena.

One of our newest members Natalie, who has joined us since we started Zooming, very bravely and kindly asked if she could sing for us. What a treat it was to hear her sing too, thanks Natalie.

Don't forget most of the quarantune performances have been recorded and are on the website, you'll find them under Quarantunes on the main menu. Thanks to everybody who has taken part in this and also thanks to those of you who've done such beautiful profiles for us. We will continue with this when I start doing the bulletin again, so that everybody gets the chance to do a profile.

One of the brilliant things that has happened since starting our Zoom is that we've had 6 new members come to join us. It'll be lovely to give them a real Knot Another Choir welcome to our ranks when we start singing again.

Payments.

We have suspended all your direct debits for August. We will re-evaluate in September when decisions are made as to what is happening next.

Committee

We've decided to invite our members, old and new, to join our committee. If you would like to apply, please send us some details as to why you'd make a good committee member please send your email to admin@knotanotherchoir.co.uk.

Our next meetings will naturally be focusing on our plans to reunite, with the relevant measures in place to protect our members during the ongoing Covid pandemic.

Core Skills for Choral Singers:

A five-week online course covering vocal health, warm-ups, cool downs and general musicianship, including understanding time signatures, key signatures, notes on the staff and basic sight singing. The course will run for five weeks at 6:30 - 7:30pm on the dates below. Video recordings of all sessions will also be supplied afterwards, meaning that if there are any classes you can't make you can catch up in your own time afterwards at a time that is convenient for you. The cost of all five sessions will be £50.00. To register your interest please email craig@livingvocally.com.

Dates:

- Thursday 6th of August (6:30 - 7:30pm)
- Wednesday 12th of August (6:30 - 7:30pm)
- Thursday 20th of August (6:30 - 7:30pm)
- Thursday 26th of August (6:30 - 7:30pm)
- Thursday 3rd of September (6:30 - 7:30pm)

Mark De Lisser.

Mark is a highly acclaimed creative Vocal coach, Vocal arranger, choir director and Vocal producer who has 20 years' experience working with singers across different genres of music, please look him up on YouTube leading his Gospel choir.

Monday 24th August 2020, 7pm-8pm (45 minute session + 15 mins for Q&A)

THE STORY SINGS THE SONG

A focused workshop on how your personal interpretation of a song shapes your singing performance. How true are you to your story? Will the audience believe you?

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bvahome-online-lectures-august-2020-mark-de-lisser-tickets-113903925708>

1:1 Tuition.

Craig is offering his 1:1 lessons, they are available at the cost of just £35. Your 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 composition and piano. 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

Profiles



Natalie Deeley

Hi everyone,

I'm Natalie. I'm a local girl born and bred. I grew up climbing trees, building dens and putting on Plays for our neighbours. After leaving St.Aidan's

secondary school, I travelled. While travelling decided to throw caution to the wind and embark on a career in The Arts. When I returned home from my travels, I met Craig, my partner and fell madly in love.

In my 20's I trained as an Actor at Manchester Metropolitan school of Theatre, landed an agent and then worked as an Actor across the genres. I discovered my passion was actually for Writing and Directing. Which is bizarre as I am also dyslexia. I loved my work and had a bright future ahead of me after winning the Sir John Gielgud Award in 2006 - but I felt unfulfilled. I had always wanted children so in 2008 Craig and I decided to start a family. So later on that year our daughter Esmee was born.

Becoming parents was an amazing and eventful journey for us. At 6 weeks old Esmee had her first Tonic colonic seizure and after a lengthy time in hospital was diagnosed with a neuronal migration disorder and Epilepsy. Luckily, we had no preconceived ideas of parenthood and embraced our new family life. We accepted a 'what will be will be' attitude. For years Esmee's

Epilepsy ruled her daily life and it really took a toll on her. Back then we would spend large amounts of time in hospital trying to get seizure control or at home isolated due to seizures. This of course took it's toll on my career and I decided to retire. I wasn't bothered, it seemed trivial in the scheme of things. All I wanted was to be present for our girl.

In the midst of all the crazy, I'm still not sure how this happened, we had 3 more children. Our awesome boys. They're 2 years apart. Elijah now 9, Eben now 7 and Ephron now five. Life was good. We were surviving day to day and plodding along in ignorant bliss of what was to come in 2018.

2018 hit us like a freight train. I can't say it without getting a lump in my throat. Esmee's seizures hit like we'd never seen before. Over a matter of weeks Esmee became drug resistant. Meaning her epilepsy meds stopped working. It was the most terrifying time of our lives. We watch our daughter's seizures take hold of her and very nearly cost her her life. She was placed into an induce coma before being emergency transferred from Sheffield Children's ICU to Great Ormond Street ICU. After weeks of fighting for her life she underwent an emergency lobectomy of her entire right frontal lobe. She had a 50/50 chance of coming out of the Operating Theatre alive.

What happened then was nothing short of a miracle. Esmee not only came out of Theatre alive but off ventilators and not seizing!! She then went from strength to strength. Every day we worked together and she re-learnt something - to eat, to talk, and eventually to walk again. It was amazing to bear witness to.

Earlier in 2018, before all this, I had signed up for The Great Knaresborough Bed race with a choir I had joined called The Straybirds. When we returned from Great Ormond Street I decided that I would still run the race and the team agreed we would use the opportunity to raise money for Great Ormond Street. I'm very proud to say we raise well over £2500 and the experience was fantastic.

In 2019 Esmee was nominated for and won the Child Of Courage Award with Stray FM. This was the proudest moment of our lives.

Since then we have simply been enjoying and rebuilding a new way of life for our family. Doing all the little things that epilepsy never allowed us to do. Things like walking in the fells, swimming, and bike rides. Singing is a relatively new one for me and I absolutely love it!! I might not be very good

at it, but by heck it is good for the soul. And at the end of the day, that's what it boils down to for me - Squeezing all the juicy good stuff out of life.

So, yeah. That's me, Mum of 4 amazing children, wife of one corker of a bloke and that's the short version of my life so far.

I'm looking forward to eventually meeting you all in person and singing our bloody socks off together!!



Julie Dodson

Hi everyone,

I have lived in Harrogate and then Ripon since I was 14 years old, just over 5 years ago my husband Ian and I moved into a 330-year-old cottage in a very small village in Coverdale which we are currently restoring (a long project!). We share our home with 2 rescue cats and an angry sheepdog!!!

I have a daughter, son and 3 stepdaughters who's age range from 31 to 44. I also have 5 grandchildren ranging in age 3 to 20, I lead a full and happy life with some dear friends too which makes me truly blessed.

My professional life began as a Nursery Nurse back in 1972, I continued to work in Early Years up until my retirement in 2014, working as Nursery Manager for 22 years in a Harrogate Day Nursery for the local authority, and consider myself fortunate to have had a career which I loved.

Five Years ago, I became a volunteer for Home Start Richmondshire where we offer support and friendship to families with young children who are experiencing challenging and difficult times in their life. Here I find I can call upon my skills and experience and give something back to the community. In my spare time I enjoy walking, gardening, reading, music and going to live music concerts with my husband or friends.

I was asked to join KAC about 7 years ago by my best friend Julie who I have known for almost 40 years, from the time we were both young mums living next door to each other spending many a happy hour singing together at

Julies piano while our children played together, ahh happy days. Choir is very special to me as a Trustee and present Chair I enjoy helping support all we do from rehearsal concerts, festivals, to social events, and what a great bunch of people you all are. What a privilege it is to have Craig and Declan to lead us they are both very talented, charming, and fun young men and make choir so special and enjoyable their enthusiasm is infectious and knows no bounds long may it continue.

“Zoom” has brought a whole new meaning to my Thursday evenings it has kept the choir singing and interacting and I have enjoyed the experience, only time will tell if in have been singing the right notes and words!!! My husband has certainly been entertained by what he has nick named the Thursday night yodelling session especially the warmup routines.

Bye for now keep smiling, singing.
Be kind and keep safe,
Julie Dodson.

Make Contact

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