



## BULLETIN #33 2020



### The week we returned to live rehearsals ....

A very special week for Knot Another Choir as 20 members met at the Crown Hotel in Harrogate for our first live rehearsal since March. AMAZING. It's fair to say there was a real mix of emotions - mainly joy, perhaps a bit of relief and almost certainly a few tears. It was so fantastic to see Craig and Declan back where they should be and filling the room with enthusiasm and fun. We sang *Something Inside So Strong* to make the most of being able to hear the lovely harmonies that are so hard to do on Zoom. The sentiment of the words of the song seemed completely appropriate to the moment. The sound quality in the room was great and it was just wonderful to hear fabulous voices, as we sang our hearts out.

**THANK  
YOU!**

**JULIE & JOHN.** It took a lot of hard work and head scratching to get to this point, but this is a MASSIVE shout out to Julie and John who have put their heart & soul into getting us back singing together. The rest of the committee did help out, but Julie & John did much of the work. **If you want to see the recording put together by John from Tuesday night**, using 3 separate devices, then it's on the KAC website. Please take a look, I'm sure it'll make you smile!

**Important.....**If you would like to join us on Tuesday night then please get in touch with Julie on [jbradburysharp@gmail.com](mailto:jbradburysharp@gmail.com). We understand that for some the decision of whether or not to return to live rehearsals has been a difficult one, so please feel free to get in touch if you have had a change of heart and now want to come along - you will be more than welcome.

Grace Houldershaw has written a lovely and heartfelt review of the evening and we wanted to share this with you. Thanks Grace – fabulous to get such positive feedback :)

*I decided after a lot of thought that I would go along on Tuesday night to the Crown hotel to sing "live"! As I was driving to Harrogate I felt quite apprehensive...felt strange driving to Harrogate at night and sing again. However from the minute I walked into The Crown Hotel, suitably masked !! I felt reassured. Hand sanitiser and Track and Trace QR code was at the entrance of the hotel. I walked in to be greeted by the lovely Sue Creeley who told me where the rehearsal was taking place. When I arrived at The Ballroom there was more sanitiser and masks. Again greeted by smiling Julie Dodson who showed me where to walk (marked out by cones) to get to a chair. Smiling Julie Bradbury-Sharp ticked my name in her contact register. All chairs were spaced out according to COVID protocol, and the fire exit door was opened to provide suitable ventilation. Craig and Declan were suitably masked on the stage.*

*At the beginning of the rehearsal Craig said we could remove our masks if we felt comfortable to do so. And then the joy of live singing began...I cannot put into words how emotional the atmosphere was in the room. The rehearsal was delivered in the usual fun but professional way by Craig and Declan. The whole experience was filmed for the whole choir to enjoy later. At the end of the rehearsal we left the ballroom row by row to maintain social distancing.*

*I would like to thank the committee, Craig and Declan for all the hard work, research and organisation they put in to making last night happen, it was amazing!*

*I would like to reassure other choir members who were perhaps thinking about coming along and might have had doubts, that all COVID procedures that possibly could have been placed were.*

*Now I just can't wait for next Tuesday's practice.*



**Zoom on Thursday ...** Back to technology on Thursday (where would we have been without Zoom in the last 6 months?!). Craig commented on how weird it is that Zoom is almost our new normal.

We did the usual warm-up but Craig picked up on the fact at the live rehearsal that maybe we had gotten lazy in our articulating - you have been warned! We then sang *La Donna Dar*, ending in a round of 2 led by Declan and Craig. Great fun but not easy to keep up or is it just me?

Straight into *Don't Stop Me Now*, our song for the next video recording. People had obviously been practising hard which is great because this arrangement has lots of difficult bits, but it'll will be worth it. This song is all about singing together and then some harmonies interspersed. Craig suggests that you mark your Score where the harmonies are so that it's clear. Here are some of the tricky bits that we looked at on Thursday:

## **Intro**

**Basses** – pay attention to the “Ooohs” (Bar 9). Bar 24 is your moment as you sing “Godiva”! Craig said think of jazz singers here.

**Tenors** – pretty much on melody, enjoy singing Bar 7/8 “and the world”. Watch for Bar 17 where the 2nd “havin” jumps up 3 notes and Bar 18 where you jump down an octave.

**Altos** – lots of difficult moments so listen carefully to the alto track (headphones make it easier to distinguish your notes). Watch for the note jump in Bar 27 on “stopping me” and try the bluesy shoulder! Enjoy Bar 32 where you sing a dipping “Fahrenheit”!

**Sopranos** – starts with the melody but don't forget the bluesy shoulder on the “ooohs” in Bar 9 and then the eyebrows (!) in Bar 11. Another eyebrow moment in Bar 32 with “Fahrenheit”

**Next week ....** We'll look at the chorus and verse 2 – Bar 38 to 71. Verse 2 very similar to verse 1 but as always get those parts on your phone and sing it out as often as you can.



**Quarantunes** .....We were in for a real treat this week. Julie's powers of "persuasion" had returned and worked wonders so Natalie was all ready to sing *A Black Horse and a Cherry Tree*. Most of us were tapping away and moving along to her "sassy" rendition. A fabulous way to finish the evening – thank you so much Natalie. Please think about doing your very own Quarantune. We all love them and even if you are nervous, once you start, you feel great.

***Thanks to everyone that has supported us so brilliantly over the last 6 months and of course to Craig and Declan. The numbers on Zoom (48 this week) have been amazing and we hope that some more people might join us on Tuesday nights. You all make Knot Another Choir really special.***



**To infinity and beyond . . . .**

Sue Creeley – Committee member

## **Profiles**

### **Christine Hines**



Hello , I'm Christine Hines and I joined the Choir in May 2020, so I had only met other members on Zoom until this Tuesday when I attended my first "live" session. I am really enjoying learning the songs, Craig's positive leadership, Quarantunes, plus the lovely support from Julie and John.

I have been in choirs of all descriptions since primary school, ranging from choral societies that do the big choral pieces to small groups that just sing for fun. In 2010 I helped to start a musical theatre choir in Harrogate which

was great fun. Through this I met Jeremy Walsh-Harrington and it was him who told me about this wonderful choir in Knaresborough and encouraged me to join. So here I am.

I was born in Workington, Cumbria and I am proud to be half Irish due to my Dad. Having gained my A levels at the local grammar school I went off to Manchester University to study Maths and Education and became a teacher. Initially I taught maths in secondary schools, first in Leicester, where one of my colleagues had taught Gary Linkear; and then in Burton upon Trent. However, I decided that I would be happier teaching in primary schools and transferred. I taught in schools in Staffordshire, Derbyshire and then back to Leicestershire, where I became the headteacher of a church school in Oakham. During my time as head there was a change in the county borders and Oakham became part of Rutland.

I enjoyed my time as head but personal circumstances meant a move to Birmingham where I worked as an advisor for the Diocese before being asked to lead a Foundation degree at a local FE college and this led to me coming to Yorkshire to work at a Leeds Beckett University. So you can see I have lived in a few places, before arriving in Harrogate. In 2016 I decided that I would take early retirement and I now work part-time as a Diet Clerk at Harrogate hospital.

Apart from choir I have a number of interests/hobbies. I like cooking, sewing, needlework, walking, going to the theatre, live music, Harrogate U3A, and I am currently Vice President of Ripon Inner Wheel. I have also spent some of my retirement travelling and have visited India, Singapore, Dubai, Sri Lanka and Bali. I was due to go to Japan and Hong Kong earlier this year but hope to do that trip in the future.



Having lived on my own for a number of years it was a great surprise to me to meet my lovely partner Kevin last year. Like me, Kevin took early retirement from the Civil Service and now works part-time. We divide our time between Harrogate and Wombledon (which is near Helmsley) and I have been adopted by Kevin's dog Honey, a collie/retriever cross.



I am looking forward to getting to meet more of you and hopefully taking part in performances.

## Beatrice Hann



I was born in London however when I was 8 our family moved to Richmond North Yorkshire. As a young girl I enjoyed performing Youth Theatre 🎭 and dancing at The Georgian Theatre Richmond, I played the oboe at school, I also had a great love of exercise and sport. I went skiing with the school in the first year of secondary school, from then on we went skiing as a family for the next 10 years or so. I also played hockey for the school.

After school I attended Leeds Metropolitan Uni where I studied for a degree in Sport and Exercise Science. In 2000 I moved to London to do another BSc degree this time in Physiotherapy. Although still very active I began to be drawn to singing again so I joined the university choir at Kings College London, I performed with them at Southwark Cathedral a wonderful experience and memory.

I was diagnosed in 2003 with relapsing remitting multiple Sclerosis (RRMS). I began to work part time, as recommended by my Neurologist, as a junior Physio in the community, this involved cycling in the Hammersmith area. I also did rotations with a job share in Orthopaedics, Musculoskeletal and Elderly care.

Jonathan and I moved to Harrogate where I started a new job at Harrogate hospital (HDFT). I worked for 18 months in Paediatrics based at the child development centre.

Jonathan then qualified as an accountant, shortly afterwards we had the wonderful trip to Australia where we travelled round and saw the most amazing sights, we visited Uluru (Ayers Rock), walked on Sidney harbour bridge, went surfing, scuba diving and horse riding on the beach.

On our return Jonathan who was a newly qualified accountant transferred to **KPMG** Leeds, which is a global network of professional firms providing Audit, Tax and Advisory services.

We moved to Knaresborough and were married Easby in 2007. I then moved onto women's Health for nearly a year before getting a permanent paediatric post based at Northallerton Child Development Centre. In 2009 my beautiful

daughter Eleanor arrived, and Elijah arrived in 2014 looking very like Eleanor. As my MS had flared up during pregnancy, I couldn't lift Elijah for the first six weeks and had to rely on my parents for support. I loved to sing and sign with both my children, I attended a lovely library group led by a couple called Len and Liz Golding.

After I'd had Elijah my occupational therapist at the time decided I couldn't go back to work as a Paediatric Community Physiotherapist at Northallerton because of my health as it was too far to travel after my maternity leave so I went back to work in Harrogate where I worked as a Paediatric Occupational Therapy Assistant. It was during this time that I saw an advert in the library for Knot Another Choir. I've been in the choir for approx five years now, I've performed with the choir on lots of occasions and made many friends.

Sadly, my MS meant it got too hard to learn new skills so I had to retire from work on ill health grounds. I like to keep myself busy by volunteering and supporting local projects including Knaresborough Toy Library, Thula Mama - a local mums and babies singing group. I'm also on the committee for the Harrogate and District MS society, I started a group called "Young and United by MS", I enjoy organising events, keeping members in touch and connected, and arranging therapy for members. A few years ago I had the joy of working with a little girl called Rosie who was suffering from cancer, we played games and exercised, I got her riding her bike again, it was lovely to have the opportunity to do some paediatric physiotherapy in a voluntary capacity. Rosie went on to make a full recovery and has started secondary school this year. My children are at Aspin Park Academy where I like to go and volunteer as a teaching assistant, hearing children read is so rewarding.

I am currently fundraising for the MS Society by walking, rolling or strolling 100K. The money raised from My MS Walk will fund life-changing MS research and take us even closer to finally stopping MS. I have currently done 4 miles by bike and 4 miles on a scooter so that is nearly 13 km yippee



Any donation will make a difference to the lives of people affected by MS. Here is the link to my fund raising page if you feel you would like to support the MS research. Thank you Beatrice

<https://mymswalk.mssociety.org.uk/fundraising/Beatrice-Hann>

## **Make Contact**

Please feel free to make contact, my email is [jbradburysharp@gmail.com](mailto:jbradburysharp@gmail.com) or ring me on 07926027676.