

BULLETIN #39 2020

This week

Well we're just two weeks into our Christmas Zoom sessions, I wonder what's everyone been up to? So many people have been working hard

(paid and unpaid). Keeping us safe & healthy, our fridges stocked, our homes warm & lit, our online orders delivered, sharing companionship & kind deeds ... and much much more. There are millions of real heroes out there, sometimes it feels as if we take them for granted a bit more now? No more banging saucepans and clapping every week. So, here's an enormous and extremely massive shout out to everyone who keeps things going each and every day.



Thursday Zoom – A fantastic 51 joined us on Thursday. News is obviously spreading about the wonderful way KAC can still meet up each week, have a bit of fun and even suspend reality for an hour. Welcome to our newbies - Sheila, the Sarah's & Lorna. It's lovely to welcome you to our choir community at this weird time. **We've still got 4 weeks left so if you know anyone who would still like to join us for the remaining weeks then please get in touch with Julie Bradbury-Sharp. It's a great way to get nice and Christmassy!**



We warmed up with "Danger Men at Work" this week. I must admit I found having the words on screen such a big help and for the first time managed to keep up with most of the run throughs. Then straight into *Merry Christmas Everyone*. I heard this on the radio a few days ago. Craig has asked us, as always, to stay one step ahead by listening to the soundtracks. We say it every week, but it really does make a massive difference and when we all sing together again it will really be worth it.

Merry Christmas Everyone – We went over the sections that we learnt last week and by the end of the session had worked through most of the song.

All

- Remember to bring the **childhood magic of Christmas** as you sing – that moment when you ran downstairs to find the presents round the tree, the turkey cooking, flames flickering in the fire, stockings stuffed with satsumas and 2p pieces, Dad wearing a silly hat, snow falling outsidesorry, getting carried away there 😊



Sopranos

- You now have competition – Dec’s rendition of Bar 42 was amazing!

Altos

- Bar 42 - watch the “*party tonight*” all one note, not quite the melody

Tenors

- Intro – nice pouty lips please
- Bar 42 – watch the minim 2 beat hold here on “*kiss by candlelight*” – imagine you are Jean Valjean on the barricades in Les Misérables

Basses

- Bar 12 – taking the part of the double bass
- Bar 15 – watch the 2 crochet rests here
- Bar 20 – the “*whoa*” here is sung in legato
- Bar 26 – back onto the double bass



Back by popular demand – Covers 19 – A chance to sing to the rafters, let go and just enjoy yourself (Craig & Dec certainly do!). We sang *Last Christmas*, one of our favourites from last year. It was great to re-visit the George Michael classic, it got me feeling Christmassy (I don’t normally do Christmas until the second week in December at the earliest).

Quarantunes – This week Graham treated us to a lovely rendition of Budapest by George Ezra, singing and playing the guitar. Everyone sang and swayed along as Graham crooned, Craig likened his version to a Jonny Cash version. Thanks Graham, that was very special.

Thought for the week – Returning to how fortunate many of us are, despite so much tough stuff around. This one just resonates somehow

“It’s a funny thing about life, once you begin to take note of the things you are grateful for, you begin to lose sight of the things that you lack.”
Germany Kent

Stay safe everyone

Sue x

Profile



Chris Nixon

I'm a second soprano so that's where you'll find me at the rear of the soprano grouping.

I was born and grew up in Scarborough. I always think of myself as a 'seaside girl' and I miss the sea now that I live in Harrogate. I passed my 11plus and went to Scarborough Girls High School, which I left at age 16 after taking my O Levels to join the Civil Service - The Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance or whatever it was called at the time. I enjoyed my teenage years in Scarborough, but re-reading my diaries see that my main focus in life was having fun - boys, discos, pubs, bands (or groups as we called them then). One of my claims to fame is that at one point as well as my day job, I also had a part time evening job helping a friend out who was running a seaside attraction, and I became "The Girl in the Goldfish Bowl" on Scarborough sea front.

By the time I was 21, the joys of Scarborough were not sufficiently attractive, and so I moved to London with two friends. The civil service were very keen on attracting staff to work in the capital and paid a 'transfer fee' of a massive £40. This transformed my life when I spent it on contact lenses. Now I could see the bus numbers! We lived in north west London in the Ladbroke Grove area, and spent most Saturdays down Portobello Road.

I met my first husband while living there. These were 'hippy days'. We stayed together for four years but after splitting up I decided that I needed more qualifications (A levels) so left the civil service to take them, while pondering on a career change. A short spell in retail made me realise that it was not for me, and after moving to Reading to live with friends, started working in research and information for a private research company. Being single again, I once again started having a fun time going to pubs, parties and discos and then found another husband. I lived in Reading for 13 years where I worked for the same company while managing to produce two wonderful children George and Robert.

We moved to Harrogate in 1992 due to my husband's work situation and I have lived here ever since. I've worked in various admin jobs since then; the last being for the Yorkshire Ambulance Service where I 'looked after' the A&E staff for eight years before I retired in 2009. I've spent the last 11 years fulfilling various hobbies such as walking, swimming, dancing, book group, cinema, croquet and also volunteering for Cats Protection, Harrogate Homeless and Shelter.

Having never been chosen for my school choir, I was always under the impression that I couldn't sing. But I've always sung - in the car, at home, at work - everywhere. I joined my first choir 'Rock up and Sing' when it first started in 2009, as it advertised itself as being for everybody and it would be singing soul, Motown and rock - my sort of music. I loved singing and performing with them for nine years. I joined Knot Another Choir in 2018 when it was acapella, which was a change and a challenge, but now under Craig and Declan's wonderful leadership we are back where I feel best - rock and pop. And hope to be for many more years.

Knot Another Choir have joined Amazon Smile

Our charity Knot Another Choir CIO have joined Amazon Smile! So if you're making your online Christmas purchases from Amazon please consider using Amazon Smile and selecting our charity as is explained below.

 smile.amazon.co.uk

What Is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile offers all of the same items, prices, and benefits of its sister website, Amazon.co.uk but with one distinct difference. When users shop on AmazonSmile, the retailer's Foundation contributes 0.5% of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice. For frequent Amazon users, this additional perk is a great way to give back to charities effortlessly.

AmazonSmile can be a bit confusing for first-time users. Here are some things to remember.

- The Internet address is <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1182311-0>.
- If you already have an Amazon account, when you click on smile.amazon.co.uk you will be asked to sign in. If you don't have an account, you will need to set one up. It doesn't cost anything to set up a standard Amazon account.
- You must remember to go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1182311-0> each time you shop for all of this to work. So, consider bookmarking the site.

Here are the Virtual Raffle Results:

A huge thank you to everyone who has taken part in our virtual Raffle and to everyone who donated prizes at the beginning of the year. As you know this has been delayed since Spring, always with the hope that we may have had a chance to hold the event in "normal times". Sadly these times never arrived, but the raffle has now been held virtually.



We are delighted to let you know that a grand total of £242.00 has been raised, 100% of which will be donated to Yorkshire Cancer Care.

There were 31 prizes to be won, and these are the results.

- 1 Moira Plummer
- 2 Sammy Stoney
- 3 Sarah Blood
- 4 Linda Coleman
- 5 Gary Blandford
- 6 Diane Kendrew
- 7 Jan Parker

- 8 Julie and John Bradbury-Sharp
- 9 Julie Dodson
- 10 Grace Houldershaw
- 11 Valerie Green
- 12 Sheila Hancox
- 13 Janet List
- 14 Neil Baldwin
- 15 Ruth Moore
- 16 Janet Davis
- 17 Lorna Warburton
- 18 Maggie Baldwin
- 19 Beatrice Hann
- 20 Michelle Bray
- 21 Julie Horsefield
- 22 Mavis Giles
- 23 Chris Hines
- 24 Lesley Worrell
- 25 Jeremy Walsh-Harrington
- 26 Janet Hill
- 27 Pam Tindall
- 28 Chris Nixon
- 29 Graham Turner
- 30 Shelagh Brindle
- 31 Jane Rutledge

Collection and Distribution of Prizes.

- 1 Tuesday 24 November:
I shall be at home all day. Please text or email me with your name and let me know whether you are able to collect from my home address on that day:
32 Bardale Close
Knaresborough
HG5 0DZ

jane.e.rutledge@googlemail.com
07801414096
- 2 If you are unable to manage that date please let me know and we'll find another arrangement. Contact as above or landline 01423866158

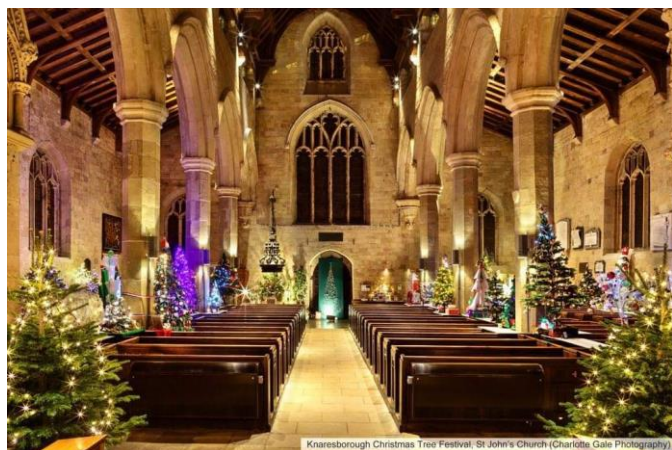
Many thanks to everybody who took part.
Christmas Tree Festival - St John's Church, Knaresborough

Can I put out a last call for photos of members who joined since the start of November 2019 and would like to go on the tree as a singing angel. Passport size to me janet_davis@hotmail.com please. Don't stress about sizing as I can adjust.

Due to Covid restrictions this year the Tree Festival runs from Saturday 12th December 2020 RIGHT THROUGH until Wednesday 6th January 2021 (excluding 25th, 26th Dec & 1st Jan)

The Festival will be open from 12noon until 4pm daily

The Festival will be free, but access will be exclusively through advance booking with **EVENTBRITE**



Thanks – Janet Davis

Supporting the MS Society

Beatrice Hann (Alto) has asked if we'd help her to support the MS Society which is a Charity very close to her and the choirs heart.

Dear All at Knot Another Choir,

Rachel has been supporting my fundraising over the last year by donating 10% of any Flamingo Paperie orders placed via me to the MS Society. She has a wide range of cards, gifts, stationery, wrap and tags. Perfect for those of you not wanting to go out to visit the shops in these Covid times, they will be delivered to you by Rachel or myself. All cards etc are printed in the UK to high environmental standards and are fully recyclable.

You can browse Flamingo Paperie products and place an order online at www.rachelcapstick.co.uk please type 'MS Society' in the reference box when you check-out and she will give 10% to us of all your orders too.

If you'd rather not order online, email rachel@rachelcapstick.co.uk and remember to mention MS Society Harrogate.

Thanks loads for supporting local business too 😊

Beatrice Hann

One to one session with Craig & Dec – Many of us have already taken advantage of the one to one sessions offered by Craig and Declan. They put their usual enthusiasm and fun approach into these sessions, you can learn something new at the same time and maybe just forget about the world for a while. What's not to like? These lessons are open to those joining us as guests as well as members.

- If you would like some help with breathing or hitting those difficult notes or maybe you just want to work on a particular song to sing as a Quarantune, then Craig is offering 1-hour sessions for 50% of his usual rate. They are a bargain at £35. Make your bookings by emailing craig@livingvocally.com
- How about having a go at song writing or piano with Declan. He played a song he had written at the last live session in the Crown and it was fantastic. They can be taken Monday-Sunday 9:00am – 8:00pm. Declan's lessons are just £30. To book please email Declandaviesmusic@gmail.com

KAC Needs YOU - Request for Profiles

We have been putting profiles of our lovely members in the bulletin each week for some time now. It has been a great way to get to know more about fellow members, especially as we can't meet up. It's a snapshot of you and there's no right answer to what to include – just tell us about yourself.

Please send any profiles to Julie Bradbury-Sharp or have a chat with her first if you are not sure what to write.

Get in touch

If you've any questions, queries or comments please feel free to get in touch I love to hear from you. I will always respond very promptly. My email is jbradburysharp@gmail.com or ring me on 07926027676.