

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 17 17th May 2024

Why did Craig do that warm up we asked ourselves???? There was a good reason and always is!

Get good at this one as it will get harder he said.

The reason – at last week’s concert at Trinity we were worried as we were low on numbers. Craig is going to show us that it is not about numbers, but CONFIDENCE! Low on numbers we may have been, but we had the right balance, and we knew all the songs well and gave a fantastic performance. So, to add to tonight’s warm up, next week one becomes two – we could be in group A or B and the following week two becomes three with groups A, B and C, so the groups will become smaller.



Craig was alone at tonight’s rehearsal and, as we know the songs well that we will be singing at Limerick (in 3 weeks!!!), we practiced singing Acapella on “Can’t Help Falling in Love” which is one of the songs which we will sing at Craig and Gemma’s wedding on the 1st of August.



With the exception of the Altos, the parts are quite tricky.

Starting on Letter B, page 3:

Sop 1s – pay attention to momentum, keep the pulse going and change to bar 25, a 4 semibreve note instead. Breaths on crotchet rests and make it more legato/vibrato/stopy and starty.

Sop 2s –Smile into “take my whole life”

Alto – Bar 22 “my” holds for longer than you think, next 3 notes are semi-quavers. Don’t drop the “but”.

Tenors – Parallel with Sop 1s, same rhythm. First bar, really listen to Sop 1s, you need to be together. 2 notes on “life” – both crotchets.

Bar 25 similar rhythm to Sop 2s, then go down to “but” with Altos.

Basses – Need to go a bit chamber choir with more air into the bottom notes – don’t tuck your chin in, it won’t help. Sing “but” with Altos, keeping in last 2 notes in that section.

Bar 29 - One to practice - tricky!

Chorus - Altos - Some things are meant to Ohh (not be).

We have covered the bulk of the song, and it is really coming together but **important** to go over parts A, B and C as much as you can and sing your part with other parts as well as your own as it is tricky. We will go to the end of the song next week and put it all together.

Thanks to Liz Connall (choir secretary) for doing this weeks bulletin intro while Lynne Sharp is on holiday. If anybody else would ever fancy writing notes from practice just speak up.


A few Bits

- 1) There was a lot of chatter at practice last night, it makes it difficult when we're learning a new song and especially when Craig is working without an accompanist. When other parts are going over a section be respectful and listen.
- 2) Quite a number of you have asked what we'll be wearing at Craig and Gemmas wedding. Craig wants us to wear pretty/smart wedding type clothes when we sing at the wedding, so if you've got something tucked away that you never get the chance to wear, bring it out and enjoy wearing it again.
- 3) The T-shirts we've ordered will be given out at next Thursday's practice on the 23rd May. If you can't be there ask a friend to collect yours for you. For those of you going to Limerick you'll be able to wear yours there, and those of you who are not going you'll be able to wear yours at the two events that have just gone on Muzudo for the 23rd and 30th of June.

Choir Events and Performances

Organising good events for the choir to sing is no easy task, they need locating through social media and local press, I'm constantly networking with local organisations etc, in addition events have to be suitable for us. We actually have had more opportunities to sing than other choirs locally, we've sung in some great places, obviously some are more exciting than others but singing in a choir does require a commitment to perform, and not solely at the events you consider most interesting.

Once an event is found we have to negotiate with Craig as to his availability, then we try and negotiate timings and arrival details etc, all this has to go out to you in good time. We then produce attractive posters,

we get them out all over town and to different relevant facebook pages. We then survey the choir to see who will be available and from that we plan the stage plans. If it's our own event, we promote and sell tickets, we organise cake stalls and many of you bake for us, refreshments are purchased and then served on the night. Julie H does a great job on raffles, collecting things and packing them beautifully; Julie has raised over £3000 since she started doing the number square, raffles,  tombolas etc.

Now we have our own staging we have to hire a van, pick it up, collect the staging from storage, take it to the venue and then assemble the staging, after the event we have to pack the stage away tidy the venue move furniture and return the van; there is so much work involved, so please do try and support the work we do as a committee. All our work is done voluntarily we need everybody's help.

At our concert last week, our Limerick Fundraiser, only half of the choir membership were there to sing, we were very disappointed, especially as a lot more than that will be going to Limerick with us.

There is a good core of people we can always rely on to be there to keep up with things at practices and performances, but I'm afraid there is also a large group of you who are occasional visitors to practices and performances, do try as much as you can to attend everything we have arranged we still have a waiting list.

Anyway we've two lovely events to do at the end of June, one of them perhaps is especially important as it's for Resurrected Bites, a local charity serving those in the area fighting food poverty we've done very well by them before. We can use our lovely voices to help this wonderful charity to raise money.

New Members for September 2024

We're planning a busy year again in 2025, we have the opportunity to take part in two excellent choral competitions which we're very excited about. We are looking for a few male tenors preferably with previous choral experience. So if you know somebody who might fit the bill amongst your family, friends and acquaintances, and who could offer the choir the commitment it deserves, please pass the word on.

We'd especially like to encourage some more younger members at the moment. Please don't forget we offer free places to 18-25 year olds and for

them working with Craig who is now principle lecturer at Leeds Conservatoire is a fabulous opportunity.

Hull International Choir Competition

This fantastic announcement was made this week. We couldn't take part last year but we will apply to take part in the Competition next year.

"Be part of this extraordinary Musical journey"!

"After the resounding success of our first edition in 2023 with 1200 singers taking part, I warmly invite you to the second International Choir Competition in Hull. Let's come together again to celebrate music and fellowship in the wonderful atmosphere of Hull. "

Gunter Titsch, President INTERKULTUR>

Welcome to the "Singing City"

"After a succesful inaugural year in 2023, this competition returns in May 2025, inviting choirs from across the globe to showcase their talents. Hull, known for its vibrant cultural life and historical beauty, offers the perfect backdrop for a celebration of music, that celebrates the diversity and unity of the choral world.

The choir competition in Hull offers categories for each type of choir, from Musica Sacra to Pop Jazz and Gospel. Participants will also benefit from Evaluation Performances, where they'll receive direct feedback from internationally acclaimed choral expert.

As a city with a rich choral history, from early church music to modern initiatives with a focus on outreach and inclusivity, Hull is eagerly waiting to welcome choirs from all over the world to this "singing city again. Join us and sing with us in Hull."


Craig has said he'll lead us at the event over the weekend of the 3rd and 4th May 2025. We'll arrange transport or some of you might like to stay overnight. I'll have more detail of the category we'll take part in and where it'll take place etc nearer the time.



Dates for your 2024 Diary
SOME CHANGES PLEASE NOTE
New events are in red.

- ❖ Thursday June 6th 2024 NO choir practice as our coach departs from York Place Knaresborough for the Limerick Sings Festival.
- ❖ **NEW**Sunday 23rd June at 12 noon at Harrogate Rugby Club Family Fun Day in aid of Resurrected Bites.**
- ❖ Sunday 30th of June 2p.m. Singing at Knaresborough Castle.
- ❖ Saturday 13th July Concert in aid of helping to raise funds towards the repair of The Holy Trinity Car Park.
- ❖ Thursday 18th July. Last practice before our summer break.
- ❖ Saturday 20th July Singing at Newby Hall.
- ❖ Thursday 1st August 2024 Craig and Gemma's wedding day, Knot Another Choir will be singing with Craigs Contemporary Choir!!! The wedding will take place at Allerton Castle Knaresborough. Times to be confirmed.
- ❖ Thursday 12th September – Return to choir.
- ❖ Saturday 9th November –Prep for Christmas Workshop @ Christ Church Harrogate.
- ❖ Saturday 23rd November – Ripon Cathedral Christmas Fare.
- ❖ NEW Saturday 7th December 7pm - We are delighted to be returning to sing at Knaresborough United Reformed Church (URC).
- ❖ Thursday 19th December 7pm for 7.30pm Christmas Concert at the Church of St Johns Knaresborough in aid of Henshaw's Arts and Crafts.
- ❖ **NEW**Sunday 23rd February 2025 North Wales Choir Festival Llandudno.**
- ❖ **NEW** May 4th/5th 2025 The Hull International Choir Competition.**
- ❖ **NEW** Sunday 7th of September 2025 The Caravan and Motorhome Show at The Yorkshire Showground. Time TBC.**

And Finally,



*Don't ask me
how I survived
Ask me what song
I played on repeat
When I thought my
Whole world
Was over*

Unknown

See you soon.

Julie