

# KNOT

## ANOTHER CHOIR

**BULLETIN No 29 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024**



Another busy rehearsal, kind of regretting saying I'd do the bulletin, it's exhausting!!

We started with **Santa Tell Me** and went over the choruses where we're in harmony. On the second phrase bounce on the staccato notes "don't make me fall in love again" and make sure the rests are clear on next year, breathe if it helps. As we go into verse 2, sopranos and altos stop on next and be ready straight away on the next bar with the "lalala"s!! If we wait for the lower voices to finish year, we're already late! Tenors and Basses anticipate the next phrase on the page turn, as you still have the tune! At bar 41, sopranos are syncopated above the other voices singing "it's true love", watch this entry!



In the bridge, we broke Craig's heart by pronouncing the "t"s in "I don't want no broken heart", don't do it!!! Still need to sound more devastated choir!

In the final chorus all voices other than basses to be light and percussive on the "Santa Tell me", like a tap on a snare drum.



We went from the top but fell apart a bit when we moved into the first verse, which comes on a page turn! It's a very quick end to year and straight into the Ba's for all voices expect sopranos, be ready for it! Can we all sound more excited about Santa please?? I know it's only October, but we can try!



More practise this week, but Craig feels we have it now, just need to build confidence.

### **Have yourself a merry little Christmas**

Basses sing the first bar straight, but a slight syncopation on the second bar. Same again on 4th bar. Into the "ba-dums", lean into the "b", but a light "ba" and a heavier "dum"! Gents this is your moment, as you so beautifully

demonstrated this evening, we were all spellbound! Altos to be swooning on the “shoo-wa”, tenors in awe of the very cool Basses and sopranos stunned into silence!! From bar 17, syncopation from the sopranos in the tune. At bar 30, altos and tenors don't miss the break from the “shoo-wa's” on miles away. On near once more, swell into the note rather than hitting it on the nose, there are a lot of us and this helps keep the sound together.

Bar 46 is the same as the ending, altos have an awkward step on highest bough, be confident with it. In the final 3 bars, slow it down to the end and on the final now, a bit more wobbly Jacobs please! Give it your all for a confident finish!

Next week we will be starting “Hark the Herald”, so have a good listen and try singing your part before then please!

I've got writer's cramp now! See you next week everyone!

Lynne

Thanks Lynne for your accurate account of Thursday's practice.

### **Last Nights Practice**

An amazing attendance tonight with 90 of us at practice, thanks as always to those of you who come early to put out chairs your efforts are much appreciated, if anybody else wants to help, the doors open at 7pm.

Thanks to the committee doing various jobs, a special thanks to Liz Connall for giving out the jackets, all the new members now have a jacket or one on order.

Thanks to all members for putting lots of hard work in at home, learning your parts especially when we are starting new material. Craig said last night it was very apparent that we work hard at home, he also said we save so much time doing this. Keep up with practising at home, the songs we learn will all be sung off copy when performed.

## Preparation For Christmas Performances Workshop



An amazing 92 of you have now signed up to do the workshop this is a great result, we'll have a great day! Obviously some of you won't be able to come due to work and family commitments. There's only 11 or so of you left to respond to the Muzudo Survey, please would those remaining people reply to the survey.

Our day long workshop will be held at Christ Church Hall on the Stray in Harrogate, this is a great venue for KnAC, as there is plenty of room and excellent facilities, we hire out all the rooms in the Centre on the day. The workshop, as always, will give us a great opportunity to go through all our Christmas material with Craig and Holly, this helps us so much in our preparation for our Christmas performances, we do have great fun at these workshop days, the lunch break gives us the opportunity to chat and socialise. I hope our new members will thoroughly enjoy the day and get a lot out of it.

This year we have decided to put on the day free of charge to you all. The day starts at 11-00 a.m. and finishes at 4pm with an hour for lunch. As always, we'll appreciate help in setting up, so please come early 10-30 a.m. if you can, and stay to tidy away chairs, staging etc if you possibly can.

Lunch will be provided by local outside caterers, Tartufo, who always do us proud with an appetising buffet lunch of sandwiches, quiches, bhaji's etc and beautiful cakes, the committee will provide you with hot drinks at lunchtime too. Please inform us if you have any special dietary requirements or if you want to bring a pack-up of your own choice on the day, just let us know your intentions please.

We'd especially like our newest members to be with us for the day, it will give you chance to learn some new material and practice some older Christmas stuff with us. If you work hard using the resources on our website and you practise hard you could be performing in our Christmas performances.

## **Set List for our first performance at Ripon Cathedral 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

These are the songs we'll sing at the Cathedral please start revising them. If you're new to the choir please take the opportunity to learn these songs in readiness for Christmas.

### **SET ONE - 10-30am until 11am**

1. Higher Love
2. One More Sleep
3. Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas
4. Can't Help Falling In Love
5. Hark The Herald Angels Sing
6. Wanna Dance With Somebody
7. Winter Wonderland
8. Last Christmas
9. Merry Christmas Everyone

### **SET TWO - 12.30pm until 1pm**

1. Lovely Day
2. Santa Tell Me
3. Winter Wonderland
4. Silent Night
5. Deep River
6. Steal Away
7. Total Praise
8. Merry Christmas Everyone

### **Absence**

If, for any reason, you are not going to be able to attend a practice please contact me on [julie@knotanotherchoir.co.uk](mailto:julie@knotanotherchoir.co.uk)

Following any absence please make sure you catch up on things by watching the video recording. At the moment we are going through a really busy period of learning new songs, it's important to keep up for the benefit of those who are always there.

### **Resetting Your Password to the Members Section.**

Due to an issue with the website the "Lost your password" function is currently not working. If you have forgotten your password please email me at [admin@knotanotherchoir.co.uk](mailto:admin@knotanotherchoir.co.uk) and I will reset your password, you

will then be able to login with the password I've given you. At the bottom of the members page is a new option "Change Password", click on this to change your password.

Thanks John.

### **Games**

Julie Horsfield (Trustee) has, once again, come up with some great fundraising ideas. Bring your pound coins each week – every penny goes to choir funds. Julie is looking for small gifts to give as prizes sweets, chocolate, toiletries etc are all acceptable.

### **Change of Bank Account**

Please note we have now closed our HSBC bank account. The new current for Knot Another Choir account is with the CO-OP.

Details of the account are :-

Account Type – Business

Account Name – Knot Another Choir CIO

Sort Code – 08-92-99

Account Number - 67309883

### **Can Anybody Offer a Lift**

One of our alto members is looking for a regular lift to and from choir from the Kingsley area of Harrogate. If you can help with this please mention it to me.

### **Barnsley Youth Choir Concert**

a review by Colin Hadley (committee member)

So when Julie asked if anybody would like to go to see Barnsley Youth Choir on 28<sup>th</sup> September, I looked in the diary, saw that I was free and said "why not?" I had little or no expectations of what I was about to encounter, but I was in for a great surprise.

The quality of this hundred plus member choir was second to none. They looked amazing in their blue outfits and the quality of the singing blew me away. They were all so enthusiastic and completely invested in the music. The choirmaster seemed to play the choir like a virtuoso violinist with rich tones of light and shade from each and every musical arrangement (some

of which were done by the choir members themselves). The soloists were all incredible and the auditorium was filled with a feeling of richness, inclusivity, warmth and love. This choir would challenge any choir, youth or adult, and are probably one of the best choirs I have ever seen, which is why they are ranked 5th in the world. However, the spectacle didn't end there.

The Drakensberg boys choir from South Africa entered the stage in their formal outfits and treated us to an outstanding programme of traditional African music which perfectly complemented the Barnsley choir. Add to this, the relaxed but precise choreography, and you get the most spectacular show imaginable. The talent was top drawer from the solo singers to the haunting African drums beating out mystical rhythms. Both choirs came together before the interval and the sound was utterly amazing.

The second half was more relaxed but equally as good with the SA boys dressing in the traditional bright colours and patterns synonymous with that part of the world. Each boy was presented with a traditional Yorkshire flat cap, which they wore with pride.

So next time Julie recommends a choir to go to see, I will be the first in line for tickets.

Colin H

### **The Royal Albert Hall London**

"How Sweet The Sound" is a competition for some of Europe's most gifted gospel artists it will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> October, Craig and his fantastic Conservatoire Contemporary Choir are delighted to be taking part. It would be amazing if our members were able to travel to London to support our friends in The Contemporary Choir.

"How Sweet The Sound" will showcase a host of top choirs and spoken word artists, competing across three prize categories. Grammy Award-winning composer Donald Lawrence will host the event, with internationally known judges from the world of gospel: Kingdon Choir founder Karen Gibson MBE, The London Community Gospel Choir's Basil Meade, and singer, songwriter and Premier Gospel radio presenter, Muiyiwa Olarewaju OBE. There will also be performances from some very special guests.

The show starts at 6pm, we'll be going on the train. it would be really good if some of us could meet up and possibly travel together. Tickets for the concert are still available from this link.

<https://tickets.royalalberthall.com/syos/performance/86442>



## Dates for your 2024/2025 Diary

PLEASE NOTE

*New events and changes are in red.*

- ❖ **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> of October is a normal practice night.**
- ❖ **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October practice followed by auditions for soloists. Craig will explain nearer the time.**
- ❖ **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024–Preparation for Christmas all day Workshop @ Christ Church Harrogate with lunch provided. Please fill in Muzudo survey if you haven't done so already.**
- ❖ **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024 – Ripon Cathedral Christmas Fare – one of the choir favourites of the year, it's a great sing and a good opportunity to get your quality Christmas shopping too. Times are 10-30am until 11am and then 12.30pm until 1pm.**
- ❖ **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December practice night----- time and place same as always.**
- ❖ **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December no practice but there'll be a Contemporary Choir Concert at The Attic which is at 3 Sheaf Street Leeds LS10 1HD tickets will be available soon from the Leeds Conservatoire website .**
- ❖ **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December Conservatoire Concert at Leeds Minster with the Contemporary Choir and the Musical Theatre Department Choir from the Conservatoire joining forces.**
- ❖ **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7pm 2024- We are delighted to be singing at Knaresborough United Reformed Church (URC) once again, we were made so very welcome by their parishioners last year.**

- ❖ **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 7pm for 7.30pm 2024 Christmas Concert at Trinity Church Knaresborough.**
- ❖ **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025 Harrogate Community Choir Festival a showcase of local choirs at The Royal Hall Harrogate.**
- ❖ **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 North Wales Choir Festival in Llandudno. We'll do this in the day, but if anybody wants to drive and stay over on Saturday night that would make a nice weekend too.**
- ❖ **Sat/Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> May 2025 The Hull International Choir Competition. Arrangements to be Confirmed.**
- ❖ **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2025 The Caravan and Motorhome Show at The Yorkshire Showground. Time TBC.**
- ❖ **20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 anniversary concert with The Dales Pop Choir at Ripon Cathedral.**

*And Finally.*

*The day that I joined Knot Another Choir,  
It satisfied my singing desire.  
Music is such a magical gift.  
My sleepy soul, it awakes and lifts.*

*It's heaven to listen to the four voice parts,  
Singing together with all their hearts.  
The four tunes twist and entwine,  
Sending shivers of excitement down my spine.*

*They come together and are heard as one,  
It sounds beautiful and I'm totally stunned.  
It's wonderful being part of it all.  
I really am having a ball.*

*When I leave home sometimes, I may feel down,  
But when I get to rehearsals. It soon lifts my frown.  
My face feels as though it's always ready to smile  
And I'm enjoying myself all the while.*

Craig keeps the mood light ,  
But, of his aims, he doesn't lose sight  
He sings a short phrase, and we sing it back  
We repeat it a few times until we've got the knack.

If we go wrong, we hear an operatic "Stop!"  
And the volume of singing suddenly drops.  
He will go over a phrase until it is just so,  
Then and only then onwards he'll go.

A single finger placed in front of shushing lips,  
Indicates for us to sing softer, so our volume dips.  
Seeing him drawing his hands slowly apart we know,  
Indicates that he wants the sound to rise and grow.

Not everyone in the choir can read music. So  
his hands indicate whether to sing high or low.  
During practice, we're give much praise,  
To motivate us for our performance days.

When Craigs pleased, we're rewarded with a smile,  
Making it seem even more worthwhile.  
When it's all over and I get home,  
Traces of a smile on my face, remain.

At the end of the night, I'm still on a high,  
And it's hard to wind down and shut my eyes.  
Eventually, tiredness creeps over me.  
And feeling content, I drift off to sleep.

*Kind Regards - I hope you all have a good weekend.*

*Julie*