

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 34 8th November 2024

An air of excitement in the hall tonight as we get closer to our first live performance at a favourite and special venue - the wonderful Ripon Cathedral. We are all looking forward to the Saturday workshop this week. These are always amazing and they allow us the opportunity to go through all the songs in readiness for all our Christmas season concerts.



The warmup was speedy and energetic with Craig on top form and, as always, our amazing accompanist Holly enthusiastically joined in the fun!!

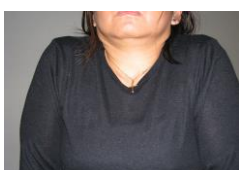
The first half of this week's rehearsal was spent revisiting one of our older known songs.

Merry Christmas Everyone

This is an old favourite but it's amazing how Craig manages to bring a new sparkle to this song each year. The emphasis on an American twang in the bridge really does change the vibrancy and brightness of the song. No 'Waitrose' voices but real twang from America.



We ran through the song together before breaking it down and working on each section's part. We then sorted out the ending of the song that is particular to our choir with its Fallallalla La's etc and 'From Knaresborough with a flourish at the end.



The bounce along in Middle Section 8 to the "Shooby Doo Wops" lifts this section as well as our shoulders! how could we ever forget our itchy shoulders! Phew more work than a Pilates session!

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

This is a well-known carol for most people but audiences will be in for a wonderful surprise when we sing this new arrangement beautifully crafted by Mark De Lisser.

We spent time clarifying where and how we breathe through each of the phrases in this carol. The importance of using the diaphragm for control when we sing this carol ensures no 'leaky breath' so we can confidently hold the notes for the correct length of time. We worked on the dynamics of the carol, the way in which we shape the notes and the reverence we imbue in the words.

The tenor section has both high and low tenors, so Craig introduced some splits in the score to accommodate the two different parts.

As always, the details are available to revisit on the recording from last nights practice which you'll find on the members section on our website.

Wow! what a great rehearsal! See you on Saturday everyone!

Linda

Thanks very much Linda for standing in for Lynne. Get well soon
Lynne.

Last Nights Practice

A really well attended practice last night in the 90s again, we worked on "Merry Christmas Everyone" and "Hark The Herald". Well done everybody.



Saturdays Preparation For Christmas Workshop

If you are willing to help putting out chairs and tables etc, on Saturday morning, please arrive at Christ Church Hall, Harrogate HG1 4SW for 10:15a.m.

If you can't be there to help then please be there for 10:45 a.m. ready to start the session at 11:00 a.m. Don't forget to bring your music for both sets we're singing at Ripon and a drink.

The makeup of the day will be :-

11:00 – 13:00 Morning session

13:00 – 14:00 Buffet Lunch

14:00 – 16:00 Afternoon session

If you have time please stay awhile to help with the tidying up at the end of the day any help is always much appreciated.

Soloists.

We've had two weeks of auditions for soloists now which have been very successful, you all did very well!

Thanks to everybody who had a go.

Below are Craigs choices and deputies in case of absence for the various songs.

Deep River

1. Susan Rathmell.
2. Rebecca Stephenson.

Hark The Herald

1. Stephen Green Ripon Cathedral 23rd November.
2. Paul Ulett United Reformed Church 7th December .
3. Kit Lacey available for Trinity 19/12 at Trinity Christmas Concert.

One More Sleep

1. Sammy Stoney.
2. Natalie Farrell

Higher Love

1. Kit Lacey only available 19/12 at Trinity.
2. Brian Todd Available for all performances.
3. Elisha Rushton. Available for all performances.

Last Christmas

All male tenors to sing baritone part together.

Fienta

We're selling tickets to our performances now and they're already going fast.

Ripon Cathedral Saturday 23rd Nov. Tickets can be purchased on the door on the day.

Christmas Concert Saturday 7th Dec 7pm at Knaresborough's United Reformed Church.

Get your tickets [HERE](#) or on the door

Christmas Concert 19th Dec 7pm at Holy Trinity Church get your tickets [HERE](#) or on the door.

We hope some of our new members who joined us in September will feel ready to perform, however if you don't feel ready that's OK. Perhaps you could just focus on one of the sets if that would feel easier for you this time. Please come along though, even if you are not singing, it'd be great if you could help with things, there's always plenty to do.

We'll be looking for bakers as it gets nearer to our events, please speak to Julie Dodson on practice nights if you'd be available to help. We are always looking for good quality raffle prizes as we get nearer to our social on the 13th December and the final concert on the 19th of December. Julie Horsfield is the person to speak to about this.



Christmas Social 13th December.

On Friday the 13th of December due to the problems with the stage at Trinity Church Hall we have decided to have a change of venue for our Christmas social event. We will now hold the social at Knaresborough Cricket Club on Aspin Lane where there is a bar and excellent parking facilities.

There'll be a quiz and bingo, a tombola and a raffle; if you are good at sourcing good raffle and tombola prizes please speak to Julie Horsfield. We'll serve pizzas on the night as it went down so well last time. It'd be good fun to wear a Christmassy outfit. Members, their friends and families are all welcome. Tickets will be just £10 from Fienta they're starting to fly off the shelf already, they are available

[HERE](#)



Staging

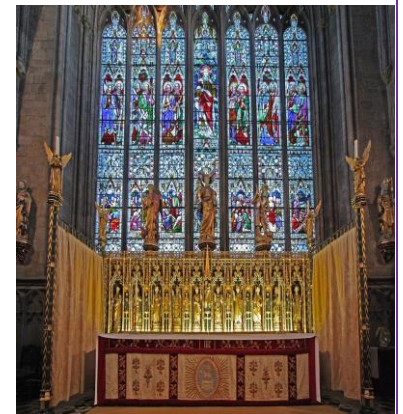
Lynn Welsh Committee member has had some great offers of help with staging for our Christmas Concerts including a stand in driver and stage builder's and disassemblers. If you haven't volunteered yet please email Lynn with your offer.

Email - linnyd@hotmail.co.uk

Ripon Cathedral Saturday 23rd November



One of the years highlights is at Ripon Cathedral in November each year. We will perform two sets, we'll get the chance to have a really good look round, the stalls are beautiful, you can get lunch either in a restaurant in Ripon or at one of the stalls in the Cathedral. We'll sing two full



sets, It'll be such fun to sing the new Christmas songs that we've been learning this term. **Please would you all wear black with your black choir jackets for the event.**

These are the songs we'll be singing, if you're new to the choir please take the opportunity if you can to learn these songs in readiness for our Christmas performances.

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



Dates for your 2024/2025 Diary

PLEASE NOTE

New events and changes are in red.

- ❖ **Saturday 9th November 2024–Preparation for Christmas all day Workshop @ Christ Church Harrogate with lunch. We'll sing from 11.00 am. until 1 pm and then 2.00pm until 4pm. provided. 98 of you have now signed up which is amazing!!!!**
- ❖ **Saturday 23rd November 2024 – Ripon Cathedral Christmas Fare – one of our choirs' favourites of the year, it's a great sing and a brilliant opportunity to get your quality Christmas Gifts too. We'll sing from 10.30 am. until 11 pm and then 12.30 pm until 1pm.**
- ❖ **Wednesday 4th December practice night----- same time and place as always.**

- ❖ Thursday 5th December no practice but there'll be a Contemporary Choir Concert at The Attic which is at 3 Sheaf Street Leeds LS10 1HD Tickets available from <https://www.leedsconservatoire.ac.uk/visit-us/whats-on/cpc-051224/>
- ❖ Friday 6th December Conservatoire Concert at Leeds Minster with the Contemporary Choir when the Musical Theatre Department Choir from the Conservatoire join forces. Tickets are available from <https://www.leedsconservatoire.ac.uk/visit-us/whats-on/christmas-concert-a-celebration-of-christmas/>
- ❖ Saturday 7th 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 they are very much looking forward to having us there again.
- ❖ **Friday 13th December Christmas Social evening at Knaresborough Cricket Club. Tickets available [HERE](#)**
- ❖ Thursday 19th December 7pm for 7.30pm 2024 Christmas Concert at Trinity Church Knaresborough.
- ❖ Saturday 8th February 2025 Harrogate Community Choir Festival showcasing local choirs at The Royal Hall Harrogate.
- ❖ Sunday 23rd February 2025 North Wales Choir Festival in Llandudno. We'll do this in the day, The mixed choir class starts at 2pm but if anybody wants to drive and stay over on Saturday night that would make a nice weekend.
- ❖ **NEW Saturday 3rd May St Barnabas Church Weeton raising funds for The Forget Me Not Childrens Hospice in Huddersfield.**
- ❖ Sunday 7th of September 2025 The Caravan and Motorhome Show at The Yorkshire Showground. Time TBC.
- ❖ 20th September 2025 anniversary concert when we have been invited to perform as special guests of The Dales Pop Choir at Ripon Cathedral.

And Finally,

Looking forward to a really good day tomorrow.

Have a good weekend.

Love Julie.