

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 16 9th May 2025

Fresh from our fantastic concert at Weeton, and the amazing sum of £697-75 was raised to help towards the incredibly hard work of the Forget Me Not Children's Hospice. Despite a 20-minute delay in getting started, due to the van company double booking our normal van and then making us wait whilst they provided us with another van, which was a very poor substitute, we still put on a fantastic performance.

Thank you to Boyce for helping John with the van, to Colin for providing and setting up the sound system, to all of you who helped build and disassemble the staging, to everyone who just waited patiently, to Julie H, Jan and Sheila who always do a great raffle/tombola, and finally to Julie BS's daughter, Rachael, and granddaughters, Rosa and Ava, who now regularly man the door and generally help with the background tasks at concerts.

Craig commended us on the way our confidence is shining through, we are good singers - "but" (There is always a but) a tad less gusto is now the ticket. Craigs aim for the beginning of next year, when we will be looking towards competitive festivals, is to take us to the next level and getting control of our volume will be very important .



We will be working with the existing set list for now as a blueprint with some new material for everyone over the next few weeks but don't panic new members, Craig won't be throwing you any curved balls!

We began rehearsing “Run” this evening. This proved to be a little trickier in places than on first appearance, but we made excellent progress by the end of the evening.

Just a few notes, but please look at tonight’s recording if you are not sure, and listen to the sound file, it is well worth it. We started working on the BRIDGE – Bar 53:

*For **BASS’s** and **TENORS**, route your effort into your body, not your throat, think “tummy ache”. Will them on to run, imagine you are encouraging someone to finish the Great North Run. At Bar 57 add a little pleading cry to your voice.*



*Bars 53 through 58, it is “Light it Up” NOT “ba da dap” for both **SOPS** and **ALTOS**.*

*CHORUS 3 – p.3 – a little complex on timing. **TENORS** watch where you’re putting “choice” its slightly later than everyone else. Also in bar 40, can-not – n-“ot” goes up a note. On “hear” bars 40 into 41 support “hear” into “my voice”.*

*Watch phrasing at end of Bar 47 into 48 for **ALTO/SOP/BASS** “I” “I-I” is 2 notes. “I ▶ I can” Bar 39 into 40 – **TENORS** come in first note of Bar 40 with “Even”*

***SOPS/ALTO/BASS** – Start “Ev”- of “Even” last note of bar 39.*

*Bar 51/52 **SOP/ALTO/BASS** do 1st “Raise your Voice” in Bar 51, Tenors don’t sing it till bar 52 when they join everyone else.*

***ALTOS** – Another Marilyn Monroe moment for you in the first verse where you are the main character through Bars 4 to 11.*



Liz

Thank You for standing in for Lynne at the drop of a hat Liz!

Oh dear! Where has the sunshine gone? Just when you thought you could finally pack away the woolies!!! We found out this evening that quite a few of you are under the weather, we wish you all a speedy recovery and hope to see you next week.

There is also a phenomenon that when we've had a concert the numbers are low at the following practice . I hope next week numbers are back into the 80's or even 90's, especially as Craig is planning a period of teaching us new material. Even though John's videos are very useful they are not there as a substitute to coming to practices, they are there to help you remember everything that was covered during the rehearsal.

However, even with lower numbers we still had an amazing session with 69 in attendance. As there are currently 110 in the choir to have 41 off is not good.

I'm not going to say 'I told you so' but how utterly amazing did 'Sing Gently' sound at our concert last Saturday – it was just beautiful. We are looking forward to getting off copy now in time for our next concerts, so keep working on this one at home! Work on the parts where you don't feel as confident.

I'm sure I won't be alone in saying that I am really enjoying learning 'Run', even if Dimitri was going to have us ba da dapping when we should have been lighting it up!! Anyone reading this who is not actually in the choir will think that I've finally lost the plot after that last statement. Even though we have never clapped eyes on the afore mentioned Dimitri, he is mentioned quite often by Craig. The tenors were all smiling today as they FINALLY get to sing the tune. Don't get too used to it – it really doesn't happen often, so ENJOY!!!

If you weren't able to be there tonight, please would you watch and sing along with the recording and practice your own part too.

Julie H.

Health & Safety

As mentioned last week, I'm sure we are all very aware of the importance of us being responsible for the safety of ourselves and for each other. We had one nasty fall, and we don't want another. Although the hall at Trinity, and the venues in which we perform, all have their own risk assessments, we are in the process of producing our own policy document which will be more focused on the safety and particular needs of our members, both in the hall and when performing elsewhere.

At the concert on Saturday there seemed to be some confusion with positions on the stage, even though the plan was extremely clear. We, as trustees of Knot Another Choir, ask that when you are asked by committee members to access and leave the stage in a certain way, that you follow instructions; please remember this is for the safety of everyone. It was noted that some didn't come down the side, holding the barrier, as per previous instructions, and rather randomly exited the staging down the centre. Before the next event we will endeavour to clarify these instructions for you all, so that the entry and departure from the staging is carefully and safely done in a professional manner. We do have our own public liability insurance in place, but this requires you to cooperate and follow the KnAC safety rules.

Staging WhatsApp group

After the issues we had with the unsuitable van and loading the staging at our last concert, Kit (Bass) made an excellent suggestion that we set up a WhatsApp group for all people willing to help with the staging. This would mean that should we need extra hands we could quickly contact those on the list for help; it will also help us better co-ordinate who is available to build the staging before the concert, this isn't a massive commitment as we only use our staging about 5 times a year. If you are interested in helping with the staging and joining the WhatsApp group, please email John at admin@knotanotherchoir.co.uk and he will add you to the group. Please note this isn't limited to choir members it is

open to have partners, sons', friends etc who would be willing to help.

Basses Required

Due to a couple of basses leaving the choir recently due to other commitments, we are looking for new experienced basses to start in September. If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining our wonderful bass section, please speak to Julie BS.

Knaresborough Market

In addition to the weekly fundraising, we will once again have a charity stall at the Knaresborough Wednesday Market, this has now been booked for Wednesday 25th June.

We'll do our usual tombola and, if you anybody can knit, perhaps small items e.g. baby clothes, socks, beanie hats etc. or do any other crafts that we would be able to sell on the stall, please have a word with Julie H, or any other member of the committee. If you can help on the day, even for a short period of time, please speak to a member of the committee.

Any contributions for a tombola would be greatly appreciated, we can also sell books and bric a brac. Thank you to those of you who have already brought in donations.

Manchester MACC

This week I started the application for entry into the Manchester Choral Festival(MACC) in 2026, the competition will take place on the 1st of February 2026.

For those of you who weren't in the choir in 2024, it was an absolutely fabulous day where we competed against some of the very best choirs from all over the country.

As we had very limited experience of competition then, we were flabbergasted and amazed to be announced as runners up. When we received our trophy at the end of the day we couldn't quite believe it.



We'd entered the competition just happy to be taking part and enjoying the experience at the beautiful Royal Northern College of Music.

So everyone, please keep your fingers crossed and hope that our application will, once again, be successful again.

If you want to take part please keep up a good attendance. We learn something new from Craig every week and for this competition we want to be at our very very best.

Knaresborough Connectors Community Festival

The Knaresborough Community Festival, run by Knaresborough Connectors of which we are members, this year is being held at Henshaw's Arts and Crafts Centre on the 18th May.

The day is a great opportunity to meet up with other community and charity groups from our wonderful Knaresborough community, whilst doing some fundraising for the choir, as well as some networking and talking about our lovely choir and the forthcoming events we have arranged. A large group of us had lots of fun at the Community Festival last year. I hope loads of you will come again to help on our stall, or just come to the event to look round the stalls, have a cuppa etc.



Eric Whitacre will be the musician in residence at The Ryedale Festival in July. Perhaps you'd like to take part in one or all of the events below.

Here is a link to the program for the whole festival.

<https://ryedalefestival.com/brochure-2025/>



Dates for your 2025 Diary

PLEASE NOTE

New events and changes are in red.

- ❖ Sunday 18th May Knaresborough Community Festival to be held at Henshaw's Arts and Crafts. Please come and help if you have time. Wear your choir jackets or t-shirts. Come and tell people why you love being in Knot Another Choir.
- ❖ Sunday 25th May Valley Gardens Harrogate 2pm to 4pm.
- ❖ Sunday 15th June we will perform two sets at Newby Hall at 1pm to 1-45 and 2-15pm to 3pm. You will have free entry for the day.
- ❖ Saturday 28th June 2pm Afternoon concert at URC Knaresborough.
- ❖ Saturday 5th July at Roundhay Park Leeds please note we will be singing at a Sunset Walk in aid of St Gemma's Hospice Leeds, timings to follow. **Please note we are singing to the walkers from a stage not doing the walk ourselves.**
- ❖ Sunday 13th July we will again perform two sets at Newby Hall 1pm to 1-45 and 2-15pm to 3pm.
- ❖ Saturday 20th September 2025 when we will perform as the special guests of The Dales Pop Choir at Ripon Cathedral.
- ❖ Sunday 12th October 2025 Afternoon concert at Starbeck Methodist Church.
- ❖ Saturday 8th November Pre Christmas-Workshop Christ Church Harrogate.

- ❖ **Saturday 22nd November Christmas Food and Gift Fair Ripon Cathedral.**
- ❖ **Saturday 6th December 2025 Christmas Concert at URC.**
- ❖ **Thursday 18th December 2025 Christmas Concert at Trinity Church.**

Once again, on behalf of the committee, may I thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support and commitment to our fabulous choir.

Have a good week and be kind to yourselves and each other.

Julie H

Edited by Julie and John Bradbury-Sharp