


KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 20 5th June 2025

Not sure about all of you, but I feel like I've been hit by a bulldozer tonight! We got through such a lot!



This week, we started with our "Let's talk about it" segment, examining "Lovely Day". Craig feels like it's lost some of its punch, so we went through individual sections, tightening the sound back up.  Altos started in favour, but it didn't last long. Watch the syncopation from the start; it gets sluggish if we don't. Altos keep the run on "rain" bouncy and upbeat, tenors and basses straight in after the end of "rain", sopranos just "oh"!

I have found that meme Craig!! – Here is the link:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ab15vGsXz9M>

At bar 61, where there is some echoing between sops and altos, Altos keep up the pace, all voices put some emphasis on "Lord", making it an elongated word.

We then went on to "With or Without You". Starting at chorus 2, sopranos sing the tune, and all other voices sing behind. Altos, please note that we don't sing the song at bar 42, "with or without" is all on the same note. This is an essential harmony in the refrain, where all voices are in unison for the first 6 bars, and then harmony from bar 50.

Verse 2 features the altos with the tune, while the other voices move in harmony. Altos, please watch the quaver rests, try not to sing over the different parts. Please, everyone, look at bars 21 to 24, where there are some unexpected intervals in all parts that you need to be confident with. Lady tenors can sing bar 22 up an octave, as it is pretty low (even for Julie!).

Each chorus and verse in this song is slightly different, featuring a significant amount of unison singing. Please spend some time going

through what we've done so far this week and start to learn through to the end for next week. It sounds lovely so far!

We finished with 'Happy Together,' which we will be singing at our next performance on the 15th at Newby Hall - be warned! There's a lot of energy in this song; it bounces along nicely! We did get into a bit of trouble at the bridge, though!



In the bridge, basses give it some sass! Craig would like everyone (including tenors!) to swoon! Don't miss the extra bit "ba-da" at bar 48; this is your time to shine. Sopranos and altos, Craig wants some sass from us too (I believe he said filthy!)!! I'm not sure if refined ladies can do that but give it your best shot! Tenors, you can blow Craig's face off on the first note, where you are on your own. Hit that first "Ba" strong. Second run through that phrase, watch the note you land on at bar 52 and hold it for what feels like an age.



I know I've missed a lot of things tonight because it was a whirlwind, and I couldn't keep up! Please watch the videos if you didn't make it; there's a lot to take in. The videos are such a help if you miss a rehearsal. When I got back from my holiday, it was brilliant to be able to catch up. I've been in numerous choirs over the years, but this is the best resource I've ever encountered. Thank you, John.

Get practising!

Lynne

Thank You, Lynne!

Yet another fabulous rehearsal with 77 attendees, but that's just over 1/3 of you away, as there are now 109 in the choir. Please let Julie BS know if you're going to be off. Although the recordings are a tremendous help, it can be challenging to keep up if you spend a lot of time away from the choir and don't attend practices regularly.

I don't know where Craig gets all his energy from, but then I suppose he is probably 20,30 and more years younger than some of us. By 7:30, I'm about ready for a Nana nap, but with his enthusiasm, he raises us - and we sing our little hearts out. I thought that 'Lovely Day' was fantastic before, but once we 'talked about it' - the difference was phenomenal.

We have Gemma to thank for 'pointing out' to Craig that he had made an error in his teaching last week. It's a good job she's his wife, methinks!

Julie H.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who participated in the fundraising activities this week. It was a good week, as many of you wanted to try the quiz, so thanks to you all. As mentioned before, ALL of the money raised from these games goes directly to the choir for the benefit of everyone.

We have a charity stall at Knaresborough Market on Wednesday, 25th June, where we will be running a tombola. We'll need a large number of small prizes to run it throughout the day. Any unused odds and ends that you have or can purchase will be gratefully received. If anyone can knit, perhaps small items such as baby clothes, socks, beanie hats, etc., or do any other crafts, greetings cards, etc., that we can sell on the stall, we can also sell books and bric-a-brac. Thank you to those who have already brought in donations.

If you can help on the day, even for a short period, please speak with a member of the committee. It's good fun serving on the stall and spreading the word to the general public about the choir and our concerts etc .

Thank you

It was very obvious that everyone took on board the request made last week for silence when the different sections are covering their parts. I am sure that every member appreciated this courtesy. Thanks!

Basses Required

We have recently lost two basses, Stephen Grey and Stephen Green, due to other commitments. We are therefore looking for two new, experienced basses to start in September. If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining our excellent bass section, please speak to Julie BS.



Dates for your 2025 Diary

PLEASE NOTE

New events and changes are in red.

- ❖ Sunday 15th June we will perform two sets at Newby Hall at 1pm to 1-45 and 2-15pm to 3pm. You have free entry for the day.
- ❖ Saturday 28th June 2pm Afternoon concert at the URC Knaresborough. Tickets available from www.fienta.com/urc2025
- ❖ Saturday 5th July at Roundhay Park Leeds @ 5pm please note we will be singing at a Sunset Walk in aid of St Gemma's Hospice Leeds, timings to follow. We could do with a few more men singing at this event, please fill in Muzudo for this if you have availability.
- ❖ Thursday 10th July last practice.
- ❖ Sunday 13th July we will again perform two sets at Newby Hall 1pm to 1-45 and 2-15pm to 3pm.
- ❖ Thursday 4th September we return to choir.
- ❖ Saturday 20th September 2025 @ 7:30pm, where we will perform as the special guests of The Dales Pop Choir at Ripon Cathedral.
- ❖ **** New **Saturday 4th of October TBC still in the planning process, an exciting event you won't want to miss, but please save this date to your diary, more to follow.**
- ❖ 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 @ 7pm Christmas Concert at URC.**
- ❖ **Thursday 18th December 2025 @ 7pm Christmas Concert at Trinity Church.**

Once again, on behalf of the committee, I would like to thank you all for your hard work, ongoing support and commitment to our wonderful choir.

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

Julie H

Edited by Julie and John Bradbury-Sharp