

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 26 - 4th September 2025

We should be sad that summer is over, but it was so lovely to be back at Trinity Church Hall with our friends tonight and singing our hearts out, that I'm glad it's September.



I'd like to start by welcoming all our new members, you're going to have such a lot of fun, and we'll keep you busy! We also welcome our new pianist Stefan Wardale, who was fabulous from the off, well-done Stefan!



Craig explained that he's going to change the structure of rehearsals. We will "Sing, shape and shine" for most of our practices. To start the term we will be focusing on the songs for the concert at Ripon Cathedral with the Dales Pop Choir on the 20th of September. It's wonderful to sing at Ripon Cathedral with its amazing acoustics. I hope you'll all invite your friends and family to the concert, we'd love to fill the Cathedral.



Here are the timings for the day, please be punctual.

1pm-3pm ALL MEMBERS Joint choir rehearsal @ Ripon Cathedral Hall with Debbie & Craig

3pm-4pm FREE TIME for choir members

3pm-4pm to set up PA systems and Keyboards in the Cathedral (need a small team to help)

4pm-5.15pm ALL MEMBERS of both choirs - Sound check in the Cathedral

5.15pm-6.30pm FREE TIME for choir members

6.30pm onwards ALL MEMBERS to meet in the Cathedral

6.45pm doors open to the public.

7.30pm concert begins

So tonight, we started by singing "Happy Together". We went over the chorus and Craig reminded us to sing like we're being electrocuted on "nobody" and "choo" rather than "you" on "but you". Give the word life some energy. We moved onto the bridge where we should sound like trumpets. Please note the words, particularly "ba hee ya da" as we all sing that together.

Verse 3A always seems to throw us! Keep it quiet and light but keep the diction crisp and clear. Remember only the sopranos sing "so happy together" and the other voices go into the "oohs", which we do twice. Straight into the "ba ba bap ba ba" as the sops sing "weather".

We then moved on to Shape "Total Praise", which we haven't sung since that wonderful night in Limerick, at the Redemptorist Church, when we received a standing ovation. It's important we stick strictly to time throughout this song, don't anticipate phrases. This is one of the songs we'll sing in conjunction with the Dales Pop Choir. We spent some time from bar 13, "You are the source of my strength". Try not to purse your lips on "You", this is a high note, and the sound can become quite strangled. Elongate the mouth, the sound will still be "you" but much easier to sing. And instead of "source", sing "sarce". First time through this sing quietly. On the "Amens", if the glottal sound is hard for anyone to do on the "A", try "Ha". Please do not anticipate these, keep the timing tight.

We finished by singing "Like a prayer". For everyone, except Elisha who sings the solo part, remember the note in the third bar has been shortened to 3 beats to allow us to breathe. In the bridge, "just like a prayer I'll take you there", feel free to improvise and whoop when the mood takes you (or not if you're shy!)

We won't get the chance to revisit any of these songs before the concert, so please practice as much as you can at home. Next week we will be covering "With or without you", "Run" and "Steal Away".

So great to be singing again, have a good practice at home this week!

Lynne

Thanks Lynne

Well, back we are, doing what we do so well - singing our little hearts out. It really is great to be back, but what a fantastic summer it has been hasn't it? Wall to wall sunshine. Who would ever have thought that we would be pleased to see some rain but, being Brits, we need something to moan about don't we?

It was brilliant to see everyone back again and a real pleasure to welcome some enthusiastic new members. On behalf of us all, we are really glad to see you and we hope that you get as much joy, as we do, being part of our wonderful choir.

It was an amazing turnout this evening with 97 of us in attendance. For those of you who were not able to join us this evening, you will be pleased to know that Julie and John managed to find the camera, after much rummaging through boxes following their recent house move, so the recording of tonight's rehearsal has been uploaded to the website. If you're new and haven't managed to access the website, this is a superb resource that we have, thanks to John's amazing technical skills. It enables all of us to recap anything that Craig has said regarding tempo, dynamics etc as well as refining each individual section. It's all right there to support your learning as our choir goes from strength to strength.

Muzodo

Thank you to all of you who replied promptly to Muzodo questions about your attendance at Ripon. May we please ask that you all reply as soon as possible after receipt of these survey emails to ensure that all arrangements for events can be sorted promptly.

For new members, Muzodo is an online survey program/app we use to gather information on members availability for concerts. Once you have joined KnAC you will be added to the Muzodo database.

Fundraising

To get this term's fundraising activities off to a cracking start, we will hold a tombola next Thursday. As always, it is just £1 for five tickets. Please join in the fun. Remember **EVERYONE** benefits from these fundraisers.

Malcolm More's (Bass) Charity cycle ride

You may recall Malcom posted on our FB group about his cycle ride supporting Chris Hoy's Tour de 4 event in Glasgow. The ride is this Sunday (7th)

Details can be found here: <https://gofund.me/063e009c> and on our FB page on June 5th:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/376640132468456/permalink/3675329059266197/?>

He is going to Glasgow on Friday and keeping our fingers crossed for some good weather on Sunday!

Thanks

Malcolm

Malcolm More

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DON'T FORGET OUR NEW MANTRA

SING



SHAPE



SHINE





Dates for your 2025 Diary

PLEASE NOTE

New events and changes are in red.

- ❖ Saturday 20th September 2025 @ 7:30pm, where we will perform as the special guests of The Dales Pop Choir at Ripon Cathedral.
- ❖ Saturday 4th of October full day workshop with Craig and Tim Uffindell at King James's School, Knaresborough. Tickets are available from www.fienta.com/feel-the-sound Don't forget choir members can use the discount code KNAC20. An excellent buffet lunch will be provided by Indulge.
- ❖ Sunday 12th October 2025 Afternoon concert at Starbeck Methodist Church another one of our favourites.
- ❖ **Wednesday 22nd October Practice night - moved from the 23rd**
- ❖ Saturday 8th November Pre Christmas-Workshop Christ Church Harrogate this is free for our members with a fantastic lunch.
- ❖ **Wednesday 12th November Practice night - moved from the 13th**
- ❖ Saturday 22nd November Christmas Food and Gift Fair Ripon Cathedral. A great opportunity to get your Christmas shopping.
- ❖ Saturday 6th December 2025 @ 7pm Christmas Concert at Knaresborough URC on Gracious Street.
- ❖ Thursday 18th December 2025 @ 7pm Christmas Concert at Trinity Church.

Once again, on behalf of the committee, I would like to thank everyone for your ongoing support and commitment to our fabulous choir.

Julie H

Edited by Julie and John Bradbury-Sharp

