

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 34 – 30th October 2025

Phew! Back to Thursday again. Last week I was totally at a loss, unsure what day it was after having a Wednesday rehearsal. Keep checking your choir calendar though as there is another day swap coming up – **Wednesday 12th November** instead of Thursday 13th November.

Something happened this evening which only happens once every blue moon. No Julie B-S!! She has been unwell, but I feel sure that she will be back with us next week. I bet she has been doing choir jobs anyway. Wishing you a speedy recovery Julie. Love from all at choir xx



That's what you call 'above and beyond' – poor Craig coming in on a wing and a prayer after a horrendous five and a half hour journey back from Wales to see Gemma and then immediately afterwards he was heading off to see his mum and dad in the Lake District. Bravo Craig!



Great to be out tonight (although it was rather chilly) meeting up with friends and singing our socks off, 79 gathered together this evening, we are now really getting into the swing of our Christmas repertoire.

'This Christmas' is so very nearly there. For the lower voices, you need to remember if you're one of the Four Tops or Dean Martin. Lol. If you're one of the Four Tops, don't even think about doing the Motown slide or you may end up in the front row of the audience, and it could all become very messy! Once again, you probably needed to be there to understand.



I don't know about everyone else, but I couldn't really remember 'Let It Snow'. However, once I had listened to it earlier in the week, it all came back to me. Just some fine tuning to do now with Craig to make it performance ready.

For those of you who were unable to join us this evening, for whatever reason, please check out the recordings that John does for us all every week. Even for those were are in attendance, there may be that little detail that you may have missed. If you are relatively new to the choir, these videos are an invaluable resource to help you with our full repertoire. By checking out the videos and listening to the sound files it supports you in ensuring that all the songs are firmly embedded in your brain. It also picks up on the little nuances that Craig has asked for within each song.

Don't forget to put that sprinkling of Christmas cheer into our Christmas songs.

This week's 'Craigism'

In 'Let It Snow' there has to be a mixture of Red Bull and vodka! Really? Just watch tonight's recording and it will all become clear.



Male tenors and basses will know they've got it right if the altos and sops start to melt - who knew?

Fundraising

Thank you to those of you who took part in the fundraiser this evening. It proved to be another popular addition to our games. We will be doing more raffles and tombolas at concerts before the end of the year and we'll need lots of prizes, both large and small, to ensure that we can make a big success of them. Thanking you in advance.

Next week's fundraiser will be 'Number Board' followed by a 'One Prize Raffle' the week after. Please bring your money or your card so that we can raise as much as possible for 'The Manchester Fund', which will help with the cost of paying for two coaches for the return trip to the Royal Northern College of Music, our entry fees, and professional fees to enter the Manchester Annual Choral Competition on the 1st February.

Please support us in our fundraising endeavours especially if you'll be taking part in The Manchester Annual Choral Competition.

Next Week

Choir next week will be on Thursday

We will be doing more work on 'Hallelujah' and then revisiting 'Hark the Herald', which is quite tricky so please listen to this carefully before next week.

Homework

- ‘This Christmas’ and ‘Let It Snow’ to be off copy
- Use sound files to refresh your memory of all the other songs from the set list below. If all the songs for the sets go well, Craig hopes to teach us ‘Sweet Child Of Mine’, which will be familiar to many of you, at the workshop on Saturday 8th November.

Set Lists for our Christmas Performances

Ripon Cathedral

We will sing a bit later in the day this year, our first set will be between 1-50 to 2-15, Set two will be between 2-35 and 3-10.

SET ONE

1. Last Christmas
2. Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
3. Winter Wonderland
4. Hark The Herald Angels Sing
5. Run
6. Silent Night
7. Deep River
8. Steal Away

SET TWO

1. This Christmas
2. Carol of the Bells
3. Hallelujah
4. Let It Snow
5. Santa Tell Me
6. One More Sleep
7. Merry Christmas Everyone
8. Total Praise

URC & Trinity

SET ONE (45mins)

1. Last Christmas
2. Happy Together
3. Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas
4. Winter Wonderland
5. Hark The Herald Angels Sing
6. Run
7. Silent Night
8. Deep River
9. Steal Away

SET TWO (45mins)

1. This Christmas
2. Signed, Sealed, Delivered
3. Carol of the Bells
4. Hallelujah
5. I Wanna Dance
6. Let It Snow
7. Santa Tell Me
8. One More Sleep
9. Merry Christmas Everyone
10. Total Praise

At all of the above venues, please wear formal black with a little Christmassy bling.

Songs For Christmas

On Thursday 18th of December, we have decided that our final concert of the year should be free to family, friends, and the public. This is to say thanks to everybody for their ongoing support for KnAC throughout the year. So please invite your friends and families, in fact tell everyone. We want to fill the church with Christmas joy to end the year. We'll serve tea, coffee, mulled wine, Christmassy snacks and minced pies I hope lots of you will be able to help Julie Dodson with this. We'll have a raffle and tombola.



Choir Diary

Please would you always look for what's on the Choir Diary. Julie B-S is always arranging new and exciting events and sometimes changes have to be made.

Mrs Sunderland Festival

The Mrs. Sunderland Festival is held in Huddersfield on the 21st of February and is one of the largest competitive festivals in the country, attracting well over 5000 performers over its twelve-day event period in Huddersfield Town Hall.

On the last evening when we are there, there is a showcase concert to enjoy, this showcases some of the best performances of the festival along with the adult choir final class. We will stay to see this and hopefully fingers crossed, we might even get to take part.

Eskdale Festival

The Eskdale Festival is held at the magnificent Whitby Spa and is on the Saturday 18th April 2026.

All of these competitions will be very exciting in different ways, and we will have the opportunity to enter different categories, each of which have varying entrance criteria and timing expectations. We are a lovely choir, and these festivals give us the opportunity to showcase just what we can do as a choir.

We will be providing coaches for each of these festivals, or you can take your own cars. All will be long days but as well as our own performances there will be lots of great choirs to listen to, and the chance to meet with people from other choirs .



Absence

Please let Julie BS know if you are going to be off practice, most of you do this now. In the New Year/Spring we will be having a busy time preparing for competitions so it's important that attendance is excellent then, as we need to be really up to scratch and be taking the competitions very seriously.

If you have to miss a choir practice, please email Julie BS at admin@knotanotherchoir.co.uk

If you are ill or away for any length of time, we are more than happy to give you a break from your GoCardless payments.

Other Events you may be Interested in

LC Pop Choir On the 29th November for one night only Craig will lead the powerhouse voices of his wonderful LC Pop Choir with The London International Gospel Choir joining forces on stage for an unforgettable evening of energy, harmony, and soul. Maybe our newer members have not yet enjoyed one of the LC pop choir concerts. So, if you have never experienced an evening at the conservatoire don't miss this wonderful opportunity. Expect chart-topping pop, uplifting gospel and a spine-tingling collaboration you won't want to miss!

Tickets available from <https://www.leedsconservatoire.ac.uk/visit-us/whats-on/popchoir291125/>

There is also a discount code available now which is: CHOIR25

Feel The Sound 2 - Save the date in your diary

This will take place on 2nd May 2026 at Harrogate High School, once again we'll provide lunch from Indulge of Harrogate, the parking at the weekend is excellent on site and facilities are fantastic as Harrogate High is a very modern school, as many of you will already know.

This time Craig will work alongside the amazing Greg Link, who is a London-based bass-baritone, actor-musician and choral leader. He works in a range of fields across theatre, a cappella groups and choirs as a performer, musical director and composer in productions, projects and tours around the UK, internationally, and in the West End.



Greg has collaborated with various organisations as a performer, educator and conductor, including Disney Theatrical Group, London Symphony Orchestra, The Old Vic, National Youth Choir, VOCES8 Foundation, London Chamber Orchestra, British Film Institute, WorldChoir, BBC & BBC Proms, London Contemporary Orchestra, National Schools Singing Programme, and Southwark Playhouse where he composed and performed in the new musical Shelter.

He has sung with numerous vocal ensembles around the country including London Choral Sinfonia, Platinum Consort, Shards, Corvus Consort, Echo, Enchord, Chamber Choir of London (West End - The Seeker, Theatre Royal Drury Lane) and London Voices (West End - The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Prince Edward Theatre). Greg is also co-director, performer and composer of Merryweather Theatre, a London-based arts collective with which he writes, develops and performs folk musicals for children at schools, theatres and arts festivals around the UK.

I know many of you in the choir enjoy watching shows and singing musical theatre, so this will be a day not to miss for you. If you have friends in other choirs or family members who can't do the commitment of choir on weeknights, please do invite them. We will open up our ticket sales very soon.

Staging

For all our safety we have purchased some extra barriers and another trolley Dolly to carry everything, this all arrives on Monday so it will be in use for our Christmas Concerts. If you can be a regular helper with staging please liaise with Lynn Welsh, alto committee member.



Dates for your 2025/2026 Diary

PLEASE NOTE

New events and changes are in red.

- ❖ **Saturday 8th November Our annual Pre Christmas-Workshop with lunch provided by Indulge at Christ Church Hall Harrogate.**
- ❖ **Wednesday 12nd November - Practice moved from 13rd**
- ❖ **Thursday 13rd November - NO Practice**
- ❖ **Saturday 22nd November Christmas Food and Gift Fair Ripon Cathedral. We'll sing two sets 1-50 to 2-15 and 2-35 to 3-10.**

- ❖ **Saturday 6th December 2025 @ 7pm Christmas Concert at Knaresborough United Reformed Church where we are always met with such warmth. This concert is to raise funds for Yorkshire Cancer Research. Please invite everybody you can.**
- ❖ **Friday 12th December Christmas social at Knaresborough Cricket Club. More information to follow.**
- ❖ **Thursday 18th December 2025 @ 7pm Christmas Concert at Trinity Church.**
- ❖ **Saturday 24th of January Workshop; the day is to prepare for The Manchester Annual Choral Competition the following week. It is especially important that you attend the workshop if you're competing in MACC, as it is at the workshop we will fine hone our performance.**
- ❖ **Sunday 1st February 2026 The big day!! we will once again be taking part in the Manchester Annual Choral Competition or MACC where we were runners up in 2024.**
- ❖ **Saturday 21st February 2026 Our first time entering the Mrs Sunderland Festival at Huddersfield Town Hall, this is another large festival with lots of choral classes, we'll enter two classes.**
- ❖ **Saturday 18th April 2026 we'll head off to Whitby Spa to enter the Eskdale Festival for the first time. Maybe you could make a weekend of it there are plenty of hotels and B and B's right opposite the Spa .**
- ❖ **Saturday 2nd May 2026 Feel the Sound 2 workshop with Craig and Greg Link.**
- ❖ **Sunday 21st June 2026 Newby Hall ** Note change of date**
- ❖ **Sunday 12th July 2026 Newby Hall.**

And Finally:

As choirs go, we're awesome,
We sing for others to please,
But I don't know where the heck we'd be,
Without the amazing Mr Lees.

He agrees that he can't do it alone,
Not really sure what's going on,
But we're all right – he's got backup,
With the indomitable Julie and John.

Have a great week everyone, until then, on behalf of the committee and trustees, we would like to thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support of our amazing choir. Be kind to yourself and each other.

Julie H