

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 2 – 15th January 2026

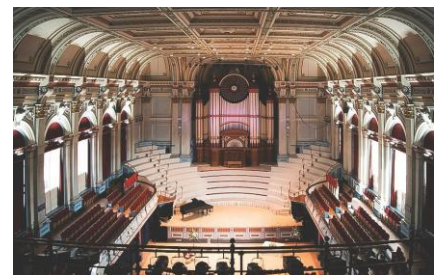
I guess that a lot of you were like me this evening – not really wanting to be out and about on such a foggy and bleak night. But aren't we glad that we did, what a fabulous practice we had. With 94 members in attendance, the



hall seemed packed. Excitement is really mounting now for us all as we prepare for our first competition of the year at The Manchester Annual Choral Competition (MACC) at (RNCM) in Manchester on Sunday the 1st February.



We are focusing on the much shorter repertoire of 'competition' songs for our performances at Manchester, Huddersfield and Whitby. This evening, we super-finessed 'Run' and Craig was really pleased with how it now sounds. Craig is encouraging us to move well and show the emotion of how the piece makes us feel. After that we moved onto 'Proud'. To continue to be the very best that we can be, and to showcase our talents, please listen to last night's recording and the sound files for the set list below, particularly if you were unable to attend this evening.



The set list for Manchester is in order:

- Signed, Sealed, Delivered
- Proud
- Run

Shout Out

A big shout out to the ladies, both sopranos and altos, who stayed behind after the rehearsal this evening to audition to do the solo section at the beginning of 'Run':

Kimberley Lawton.

Susan Rathmell.

Sarah Reilly.

Elisha Rushton.

Emma James.

Emma Walsh.

Alex Douglas.

Sara Morrow.

You were all amazing, Craig will make his decision and let you know the outcome as soon as possible, but you were all fantastic well done!

Homework

Please watch the recording from tonight's rehearsal, Craig's teaching was absolutely wonderful. Listen to the sound files for 'Proud', as this is the song that we will continue to work on next week, before starting to give our all to 'Signed, Sealed, Delivered'.

This week's 'Craigisms'

- "I watch the recordings each week, just to see me!"



Fundraising

Thank you to those of you who took part in the one-ticket raffle fundraiser this evening, and thanks to Natalie Farrell for donating the wonderful picnic hamper. Thanks to those of you who brought along more prizes. Next week's fundraiser will be the number board.

Remember to bring your cash but don't forget we are a very modern choir and 'techie' so we also take cards.

Sunday 1st February The Manchester Annual Choral Competition

There are 97 of you now taking part at Manchester. If between now and the 1st of February you decide you're unable to attend Manchester for whatever reason, please would you let us know as soon as you can, this always applies when we're doing a concert, a practice or any other event.

If, on the 1st of February, you're traveling by the free coach please arrive at 7:00am at York Place Car Park Knaresborough to meet the coaches. You can park for the day there for just £2-10, there is nobody monitoring the car park after 6pm so if we were to get back a little late, which we shouldn't, as there will be one choir less taking part in the competition this year, we'll be fine, the only thing that is stipulated is that our cars are not parked overnight. If traveling by car please arrive at the RNCM by 9am.

At 7:15am we'll leave for Manchester in our two coaches. When we arrive at the RNCM, we will be allocated time to practice our getting on and off the stage. Our warmup will take place in the Carol Nash Room from 11:00am to 11:20am. At 11:20am we will then go to Studio 8 where we have been given a space to leave our belongings safely. We'll then go to line up backstage in readiness for our performance, there will be stewards there to guide us as we go. I have done a standing plan for all your parts.

We are second to take part; this is the same as last time; our slot is 11:30am to 11:45 am. I think this is great as once we have sung, we can relax and snooze 😊 whilst watching everybody else's performances. The RNCM has a good cafeteria, so you'll be able to get yourself some lunch, snacks, drinks etc at any point in the day, or you can leave the building to get some food in Manchester.

Sunday 1 February 2026 Manchester Annual Choral Competition: Schedule

Each choir has 10-12 minutes on stage singing time and can sing as many or few songs to fill this time.

Fifteen-minute overall time slot to allow for on and off-stage times.

Auditorium doors open & close between each choir performance.

08:00 MACC team arrives

08:30 MACC volunteer briefing

09:00 Choirs start to arrive and run through getting on & off stage

10:50 Auditorium doors open to general public

40 mins before stage: Choir meets MACC volunteer at registration desk (Main Entrance)

30 mins before stage: Warm-up (Carol Nash room)

10 mins before stage: Drop bags (Studio 8) and line-up backstage

All choirs line up after bag drop (Studio 8) in the area near Studio 8 and then enter stage left and via ground floor door then exit stage right auditorium door.

Assemble	Warm-up	Line-up	RNCM Stage Time	
10:20	10:30	10:50	11:00 - 11:15	Doors open, Welcome and Intro
10:35	10:45	11:05	11:15 - 11:30	Great Yorkshire Chorus
10:50	11:00	11:20	11:30 - 11:45	Knot Another Choir
11:05	11:15	11:35	11:45 - 12:00	Rosendale MVC
11:20	11:30	11:50	12:00 - 12:15	Meraki
11:35	11:45	12:05	12:15 - 12:30	Bel Canto
11:50	12:00	12:20	12:30 - 12:45	New Maidenhead Choir
12:05	12:15	12:35	12:45 - 13:00	Musical Originals Training Choir
12:20	12:20	12:50	13:00 - 14:00	Break
13:20	13:30	13:50	14:00 - 14:15	Vocalise
13:35	13:45	14:05	14:15 - 14:30	Lodge Moor Children & Youth Choir
13:50	14:00	14:20	14:30 - 14:45	Chordiality
14:05	14:15	14:35	14:45 - 15:00	Belcanto Kettering
14:20	14:30	14:50	15:00 - 15:15	MaleVox
14:35	14:45	15:05	15:15 - 15:30	London Hummingbirds Korean Choir
14:50	15:00	15:20	15:30 - 15:45	Chamber Choir Ondrášek
15:05	15:15	15:35	15:45 - 16:00	The Musical Originals Singers
15:20	15:30	15:50	16:00 - 16:15	Break (Judges confer)
15:35	15:45	16:05	16:15 - 16:30	Performance: Cottontown Chorus
15:50	16:00	16:20	16:30 - 16:45	Thanks & results
			16:45	Winners performance & close

You'll find all these choirs on You Tube so you can check out the competition.

Polite Notice Reminder

I'm sorry to say that the Church have received a written complaint about the taking up of parking on our choir nights. The complaint came from one of their leasers who rents a car parking space on a permanent basis. The person in question said that they have returned from work on occasions and have not been able to find a space to park. This is **NOT** a satisfactory situation at the end of long tiring day, especially when they are paying for a regular space to park.

We **MUST** remind you all again that you should **ONLY** park in the church car park if you have a blue badge have mobility issues or have heavy items to carry e.g. amplifiers raffle prizes etc. This should not amount to many cars . Can we also point out that arriving early to put out chairs is not a good excuse to get a parking space.

We maintain a very good relationship with Trinity Church and want to keep it that way. It would be dreadful if the few who need to park in the car park lost that privilege.

If you think you are a special case and need to be one of the few who need to park in the car park come and have a chat or email me please.

Discounted tickets for choir available for Feel The Sound

This wonderful day will be taking place on Saturday the 2nd of May 2026 at Harrogate High School, once again we'll provide an excellent buffet lunch from Indulge of Harrogate.

Do tell your friends about the event as this a public event. Tickets are available now and are selling fast! It will be a fabulous experience so get your tickets as soon as you can!

Tickets are available to choir members with a 10% discount, use the discount code KNAC10 Here is the fienta link to purchase yours
www.fienta.com/feel-the-sound

**** EXCITING NEWS HOT OFF THE PRESS ****

Unfortunately, **Greg Link** is no longer able to join Craig in leading the workshop due to unforeseen circumstances. So, we are very pleased and super excited to confirm that **Carla Jane** will be joining Craig instead.

Carla Jane is a British gospel singer, choir director, vocal coach and workshop leader best known in the UK and European gospel music scene for her singing, choir leadership and teaching work. She's regarded by many as a gospel music figure and "gospel legend" within the church and choral community.



Carla's work centres around **gospel music—particularly the choir tradition and community singing**—with a focus on performance, teaching, and spreading gospel through workshops and festivals. Her approach combines faith, technique, and encouragement so singers from all backgrounds can engage with the genre.

Absence

Please let us know if you are not able to attend a practice for any reason especially as we are preparing and working so hard toward the three festivals.

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



Dates for your 2025/2026 Diary so far.

PLEASE NOTE

New events and changes are in red.

- ❖ **Saturday 24th of January Workshop; We will spend the day at Christ Church preparing for The Manchester Annual Choral Competition the following week. If you are taking part in the competition on the 1st of February then it is essential you take part in the workshop and all the practices in January, they are on the 22nd and 29th of January. Craig would appreciate your cooperation with giving excellent attendance .**
- ❖ **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. The coaches will leave from York Place Car Park at 7:15am please could you arrive for 7am, and please be punctual. We will be given time for a run through and the opportunity to practice getting on and off stage between 9:00am and 10:20am. Our performance time is 11:30am.**
- ❖ **On Saturday 21st February 2026. We will be entering the Mrs. Sunderland Festival at the magnificent Huddersfield Town Hall, this is another large festival with lots of choral classes, we'll be entering two classes on this occasion one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Each class will be judged after all the choirs in that class have sung. There's a big discrepancy between the numbers attending Manchester and the numbers attending Huddersfield. Can I ask a few more of**

you to come along please and make the necessary changes on Muzudo?

- ❖ **We will once again leave York Place Car Park at 7:15am, please arrive at 7:00am, please be on time. We have been asked to arrive in Huddersfield for 8:45am. Our 1st performance is in the Community Choir Class 96 and is at 9:30am. Our adjudicator is Ben Costello.**
In the afternoon we will be in class 97. That's the adult/mixed age class for choirs who haven't taken part in this festival before. Once again, our adjudicator will be Ben Costello.
- ❖ **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 sea front hotels and B and B's just across the road from the Spa Pavilion. Do let us know if this is what you intend to do though please – we will send out a Muzodo survey for Eskdale nearer the time.**
- ❖ **Saturday 2nd May 2026 Feel the Sound workshop with Craig and Carla Jane. Tickets are available to the choir with a 10% discount, use the discount code KNAC10 Here is the fienta link to purchase yours www.fienta.com/feel-the-sound**

- ❖ **Saturday 9th May 2026 at 7pm The Harrogate Community Choir Festival at The Royal Hall Harrogate.**
- ❖ **Saturday 6th June 2026 Collaboration and concert with another choir at Holy Trinity Church. More information to follow.**
- ❖ **Sunday 21st June 2026 Newby Hall**
- ❖ **Sunday 12th July 2026 Newby Hall**
- ❖ **Saturday 21st November Ripon Christmas fare. Our performances are at 11.50 and 13.50**
- ❖ **Saturday 5th December (TBC) URC Christmas Concert**
- ❖ **Thursday 17th December Christmas Concert at Holy Trinity**

And finally:

*So many things to think about,
When you're tired to the bone.
When things begin to cause concern,
Remember – you're not alone.*

*Sometimes life seems so demanding,
The children, their homework, the phone,
But just remember this one thing
At Knot Another Choir, you're never alone.*

I hope that you all have a great week. Until next **Thursday**, 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