

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 3 – 22nd January 2026

What an absolute stinker of a week it's been hasn't it? It's been lights on all the time in the Horsfield homestead and don't even think about the upcoming heating bills! In good ol' Yorkshire fashion it will be "Ow much?" Lol!



We literally were singing in the rain this evening but, even so, 95 of us braved the elements to get ourselves 'performance ready' for the MACC a week on Sunday. Our very own Craig was absolutely on fire tonight leading one of the most enjoyable rehearsals that we have had recently.

After an exhilarating warm up with a little song that Craig and Stefan had just made up, we continued to finesse our work on 'Proud' before moving onto 'Signed, Sealed, Delivered'. Although both these songs are very familiar to us all, the difference that this session has made is phenomenal. Thanks to you all for all your hard work practicing at home, Craig is very pleased when you arrive at practice ready for the session.

At the workshop on Saturday, we will be putting the finishing touches to the three songs and pulling together and going over everything we've learnt in the last three weeks. In addition, we will organise where everyone will be standing before practising moving on and off the stage.

It's essential to attend Saturday's workshop if your taking part in MACC, it's not an optional extra. Remember that the competition begins before we are even on the platform. We will not be taking on water bottles as we are only singing the three songs starting with 'Signed, Sealed, Delivered', followed by 'Proud' and ending with 'Run'.

Dress code for MACC

Ladies

Formal Black no white trims or sparkle.

Black Dresses (not too short) wear with black opaque tights.

Black skirts and tops opaque black tights.

Black trousers (not jeans) and tops.

Black Shoes not trainers.

Gents

Black trousers not jeans.

Black shirt with open neck or wear with black tie or dicky bows.

Dinner jacket if you have one.

Black shoes

Rather than a coat we could wear our choir jackets to travel and during the day but not on stage as they can be restrictive movement wise.

Homework

- Go over all 3 songs.
- Watch all of the three previous weeks recordings.
- Sing everywhere (no-one will think you're bonkers, but if they do, well..... tough!).
- Practise in front of mirror thinking about facial expression and movement – don't stand like statues or you'll look like a numpty.

This week's 'Craigisms'

"Put some WD40 on your jaw for 'Signed, Sealed, Delivered'"



"Hit 'Baby' like a ton of bricks"

Then something about being on a pirate ship with zero gravity! Craig's mind works in mysterious ways but obviously so do ours because we understand what he's on about.



Fundraising

Thanks again this week to everyone who participated in our fundraising endeavours either by participating in the game or by bringing prizes. Next week we'll have a tombola.

Workshop on Saturday 24th January

Would everyone please wear their choir badges as we will be scanning everyone attending. If you arrive late then the main door

will be locked, there will be a phone number on the door you can call and John will come and let you in.

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.

If, on the 1st of February, you're traveling on the free coach please arrive at 7:00am at York Place Car Park Knaresborough to meet the coaches. You can park all day for just £2-10. 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 an excellent 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 there are all sorts of restaurants nearby.

The event finished at 5pm so we shouldn't be back too late.

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	Rossendale 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.

Thanks!

Thanks for the courtesy you've shown in parking away from Trinity Church and Hall and for parking diagonally rather than nose to tail.. Last night the car park was fairly quiet, please keep it that way.

Discounted tickets for choir available for Feel The Sound

This wonderful all day workshop 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 in Harrogate.

If you've friends in other choirs or friends who like to sing. Do tell them about the event it is 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! We've already sold tickets to our friends from Stray Notes, The Dales Pop Choir, Skipton Choir the Do Your Thing Choir from Lancashire plus lots of individual friends.

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 work circumstances. So, we are very pleased and super excited to confirm that the fabulous **Carla Jane** will be joining Craig instead.



Carla is an award-winning singer, choir director and choir workshop facilitator born and raised in Burton on Trent. Growing up in a Pentecostal church, the daughter of a female Pastor, a passion for singing vibrant gospel music was ignited. Singing in front of audiences from as young as 5 years old and singing in gospel choirs from age 12, afforded her the opportunity to learn from some of the UK's finest singers and choir directors. She has gone on to perform on television, radio and numerous studio recordings and regularly working in many different countries. She has provided vocal support for gospel luminaires such as Donnie McClurkin, William McDowell, Noel Robinson, Jekalyn Carr, Chevelle Franklin, Sinach, Don Moen, Graham Kendrick, Chris Bowater as well as R Kelly and Heather Small, to name a few.

In 2013 Carla was invited to perform in the first ever Gospel Prom at the Royal Albert hall, London. In 2018, Carla had the honour of performing at the first National Windrush day service held in the prestigious Westminster Abbey in the presence of then prime Minister Teresa May.

Carla lives in Manchester and works for One Education Music, providing vocal tuition and choir leading to primary and high school students across Manchester and Liverpool. Additionally running three adult choirs weekly and being the National Choir director for New Testament Church Of God.

Singing and choirs are a brilliant way of bringing people together from all walks of life. When you add the power of a powerful message and vibrant musical styling this has the potential to be life changing, and Carla welcomes every opportunity to be involved.

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 the practice on the 29th of January. Those on the committee or prepared to help should arrive at 10-15 am. . Everybody should be ready to start at 11-00 am**
- ❖ **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. 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 called 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. When we have done our second class we'll be able to leave for home that'll be at 3pm.

- ❖ 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
- ❖ **19th July Valley Gardens at 2pm.**
- ❖ 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:

*How quickly time is passing,
'Til we're put there to the test.
But one thing we are sure of,
We're going to do our best,*

*We're heading over t'Pennines,
Our voices will surely ring,
We'll make the judges certain,
That us Yorkshire folk can really sing.*

I hope that you all have a great week. Until **Saturday's workshop**, 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