

KNOT

ANOTHER CHOIR

BULLETIN No 7 – 20th February 2026

It was good to be back this evening after missing last week. You seem to have done so much in that one week. It just shows how proficient we have become in working at pace and with intent. As most of this bulletin is linked to what will be happening on Saturday in Huddersfield, Julie BS has written most of it with all the important bits.

Craig was really pleased with the way in which people have worked so hard on the four songs that we will perform on Saturday. Apparently last week Craig was not too sure whether to include 'Like A Prayer' in our set list but now, with all the work that has been put in over the week, he is delighted to have it as the opening song in class 96 for community choirs. Well done to those of you who practice hard at home and well done to those of you who are excellent attenders on Thursday evenings. Could we also say a special thank you to Craig and Stefan for all their hard work and well done to our two soloists Elisha Rushton and Sarah Reilly.

Please watch the recording of tonight's rehearsal to finesse those little things that move us on from marvellous to magnificent!!!! Lol!

Whilst watching, it will be amusing to listen to the tale of Craig's grandad – for those who weren't able to be there this evening, it will all make sense when you see it. They say that there is a method to madness, and this certainly proves that to be correct – it's all to do with stage whispers at which Ol' Grandpa Lees was apparently most proficient!



I think that the beekeepers of New Zealand should be paying Craig some sort of bonus as so many of us are guzzling down Manuka Honey like it's going out of fashion. The shopkeepers in Harrogate, Ripon and Knaresborough will be rubbing their hands together as they restock the shelves. How many of you went into the shop and in true Yorkshire fashion said, 'Ow much?'



I'll see some of you on Saturday at the crack of dawn with straws at the ready and the rest of you next week, when we will have a raffle to raise funds for future choir ventures.



Until then, be kind to yourselves and each other.

Julie H

Huddersfield Mrs. Sunderland Festival

I hope you are all looking forward to our trip to Huddersfield to take part in the Mrs Sunderland Festival.

The Town Hall is quite wonderful with a fantastic, tiered stage. We have entered two different classes that are appropriate to KnAC. From my point of view the organisation and communications we've had with the festival have been brilliant, I think we will have an amazing day in Huddersfield. Don't forget to encourage the other choirs with your applause.



We do have some spare seats, free gratis, on the coaches so if you're not singing and would just like to come along and watch just let me know. We will do a collection for our drivers at the end of the day.



Do you remember when we had a Fund Raiser for the Forget Me Not Children's Hospice a young lady called Georgia told us all about her work and the children they care for at the children's hospice. Well, it was Georgia who asked me if we would go to Huddersfield (her hometown) to take part in the Mrs Sunderland Festival. Her choir, The Lindley Community Choir, had entered for many years, she thought that we were a fantastic choir and should apply to enter too. She has been on the committee of The Lindley Community Choir for 13 years.

Arrangements for the day

For those of you travelling by coach to Huddersfield please meet at York Place Car Park again, this time at **7:15am** ready to leave at **7:30am** prompt, we must be at The Town Hall for 8:45am.



If travelling by car please be aware that parking in the centre of Huddersfield can be difficult because the **Upperhead Row Car Park**, which is situated above the town's bus station, is now closed. There is alternative parking available at **Springwood, Cambridge Road** and **Albion Street**.

Our 1st performance is at 9:30am in Class 96 – This is for Community Choirs, there are only three other choirs in this class, we are first on. On arrival we will initially we will be taken to the Council Chambers to warm up. We'll then be shown our places in the Main Hall, from there we will be collected and taken to the corridor near the stage to line up.

This class has a performance limit of 8 minutes; our two songs are “Like a Prayer” and “Steal Away”, these last for just 7:51 minutes. Our adjudicator is Ben Costello; he will do his adjudication after all four choirs in this category have sung.

There will be a lunch break, which is from approximately 12:00 to 1:15, there are several nearby supermarkets and cafes where you can purchase food, or alternatively you might take a packed lunch with you.

Please could we ask that you refrain from consuming alcohol until both our performances are over.



In the afternoon we are in Class 97 which is the adult/mixed age class for choirs who haven't been placed in the festival before. Please be in your seats in the main Hall in good time for the start of this class at 1:30 to enjoy the others who are singing before us, At the appropriate time we will be collected and taken to the corridor to line up ready to go on stage (Please see our latest standing order as there have been a few changes even since Thursday). There are five other choirs in this class, we are on stage last. This class also has a performance limit of 8 minutes; our two songs will be “Happy Together” and “Run”; they last for just 6:57 minutes. The adjudicator will make his comments and judge this class after all 6 choirs have sung.

We can then leave before the next class starts to meet our coaches at 3pm to head home.

There will be several classes left after we've sung if you'd like to stay to watch the rest of the competition, it might be preferable to travel in your own vehicle.

Homework

Please practice the songs for Huddersfield Mrs Sunderland Festival they are:-

1. Like A Prayer
2. Steal Away – Short Version
3. Happy Together
4. Run

Please go over the recordings from last night and from previous weeks, especially if you missed any practices.

Stage Etiquette

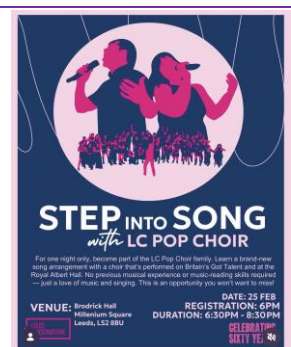
Please ensure that you are fully aware of Craig's expectations for stage etiquette.

- Absolutely no talking or turning around whilst walking on stage and once we have lined up.
- Please leave the stage in silence.
- **When we sing please express yourselves! use your hands, smile at the audience and dance.**

Step Into Song 25th February 2026

This is a wonderful new event with Craig and the LC Pop Choir are holding. Cost is only £5. Here is the link to book a place :-

<https://www.leedsconservatoire.ac.uk/visit-us/whatson/lc-pop-choir-250225/>



Discounted tickets are going well for Feel The Sound Have you got your ticket yet?

We are very pleased and super excited to confirm that **Carla Jane** will now be joining Craig in an amazing gospel workshop.

Carla Jane is a British gospel singer look her up on YouTube she is amazing, 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 both church and choral communities.



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 her faith, technique, and encouragement so singers from all backgrounds can engage with the genre.

Craig Lees and Carla Jane
Present

FEEL THE SOUND

A GOSPEL-POP CHOIR EXPERIENCE

Join us for an unforgettable day of inspiring music, vocal energy, and warm community spirit at our All-Day Choir Workshop, held in the picturesque North Yorkshire town of Harrogate.

Saturday 2nd May 2026
10:00 - 16:00
BUFFET LUNCH & TEA AND COFFEE

Harrogate High School, Ainsty Rd, Harrogate HG1 4AP

£30* /person

*EARLY BIRD PRICE UNTIL 1st March, THEN £40

Tickets available at: www.fienta.com/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 I hope all members will be able to come and bring a family member who likes to sing.

Do tell your friends in other choirs about this fabulous 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!

So far we've sold 75 tickets to The Stray Notes, The Skipton Choir, Do Your Thing Choir, The Dales Pop Choir, The Contemporary Community Choir etc and of course ourselves. We'd like to sell approximately 100 tickets for the event. **Tickets are still 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**

Chain Lane Community Centre Knaresborough

Chain Lane Community Centre Knaresborough are looking for new volunteers and have asked me if any of our KnAC members might be interested in helping out. If you are interested please call in at the centre and ask to speak to Sue Vasey the manager.

Absence

If you have to miss a choir practice or now cannot take part in something you previously said you could, 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.

- ❖ **On Saturday 21st February 2026. We are taking part in two classes at the Mrs. Sunderland Festival at the magnificent Huddersfield Town Hall.**
- ❖ **Step Into Song 25th February 2026 - This is a wonderful new event with Craig and the LC Pop Choir are holding. Cost is only £5. Here is the link to book a place :-**
<https://www.leedsconservatoire.ac.uk/visit-us/whats-on/lc-pop-choir-250225/>
- ❖ **Thursday 26th February we will start our preparation for the Eskdale Festival and will be starting work on some new songs including “Unwritten” and “Use Somebody”. When we enter competitions, Craig has asked that you attend all practices in preparation, we want to be the best we can. If you haven’t yet signed up to go to Eskdale on Muzudo yet, please do so.**

- ❖ **Thursday 19th March There will be no practice this evening as Craig is leading the LCPOP Choir: Loud and Live on both the 19th and 20th of March. The code to get a reduced-price ticket is Choir15 If you want a good seat get your tickets asap.**
<https://www.leedsconservatoire.ac.uk/visit-us/whats-on/lcpopchoir19200326/>
- ❖ **Thursday 2nd April This will be our Easter break so no choir this evening.**
- ❖ **Saturday 18th April 2026 we'll head off to Whitby Pavilion to take part in the Eskdale Festival for the first time. Maybe you could make a weekend of it, there are plenty of sea front hotels and B&B's just across the road from the Spa Pavilion. We have sent out a Muzodo survey so please would you all complete it ASAP, so we know how many of you will be taking part. Our classes will be Class 213 The Mixed Voice Choir between 12-30 and 3-00 pm. Class 216 the Choir Recital at 6-30. We will arrange return coaches for those who do not wish to stay over in Whitby, exact timings still tbc with the organisers.**
- ❖ **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 organised by the Stray Notes is at The Royal Hall Harrogate again. This event gives us a wonderful opportunity to showcase our work.**
- ❖ **Saturday 6th June 2026 Collaborative Concert with Brand Hall Choir at Holy Trinity Church. More information and volunteering opportunities to follow soon .**

- ❖ **Sunday 21st June 2026 Newby Hall**
- ❖ **Sunday 12th July 2026 Newby Hall**
- ❖ **Sunday 19th July Valley Gardens 2pm to 4pm.**
- ❖ **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.**

If, like me, you've had a 70th birthday this year or late last year, or you will be having a 70th birthday before the end of this year, please would you let me know. That's those born from late 1955 to the end of 1956.

Julie BS