

# KNOT

## ANOTHER CHOIR

### BULLETIN No 8 – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026

What an amazing week this has been for our fabulous choir with Craig and Stefan. Not one, not two, but three spectacular trophies from the Mrs.



Sunderland Festival in Huddersfield. **We went, we sang and we conquered**, well done everybody!! Almost a Julius Caesar quote, but not quite. I'm afraid that I'm not quite sure of the Latin for my

interpretation of this but think it's something like "*ivimus, cecinimus, vicimus*". Now that's fancy, isn't it? Most worthy of a multi award winning choir! The trophies have been engraved with "2026 Knot Another Choir" and were brought along to practice to show you all.

Next year's Mrs Sunderland Festival will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2027 so put it in your diary, we will go again as, apart from our wins, it was a great day, and the organisers, stewards, and other choirs were all very warm people. We received some lovely comments from members of other choirs.



This evening, we learnt an entire new song that Craig had arranged – 'Mamma Mia'. We had loads of fun with it, which was exactly what Craig wanted after the hard work that we have all put in leading up to the two competitions that we have entered so far this year. It's not as challenging as some of the songs from our repertoire but will, I am sure, be a real crowd pleaser.

This evening saw a change, at Craig's request, of the way in which our seating is arranged. Craig wanted that we hear each other, and he can see us all and visa versa. This is a work in progress so bear with us (the committee that is) as we make minor changes as and when any problems come to light, so please be patient. Personally, I found it helpful, as did

others, to have other parts sat to the side of us rather than behind. Overall, with just a few little issues, it seemed to work quite well, thanks for all your comments. While we're getting sorted with the new way of how we arrange the seating, you don't need to arrive quite so early.

### **Birthdays**

As many of you know, choir members have been getting e-birthday cards each year. However, due to Julie H's laptop crashing, she has lost the list of dates. Next week, she will be asking for your dates of birth again when you come in. Only the date and month are required, we don't need to know how old you are 😊

### **This Week's Craigism's**

- I was recording this song in a caravan in winter..... (please watch the recording to see Craig's confusion on the correct terminology for different bird calls)
- Re : the success of Saturday and one of the other choirs 'I won't mention it again - Yes , I will'

### **Spreading the Word Julie Bradbury-Sharp.**

Following on from our fantastic success at Huddersfield many of you have spread the word on Facebook and Instagram and sent lovely email messages about how you felt on the day. Here is one such message from Jo Cope alto member:-

Hi Julie

Thought I would share my thoughts on why Saturday was very special, that is on top of how brilliant Craig is to drive our lovely choir to such an amazing standard and how fabulous Stefan is on the keys and how dedicated you and John are at orchestrating everything we do.

In our 1<sup>st</sup> class I was quite nervous, not something that normally happens, but having stood and sung next to Mary for the last 15 years it can feel a bit weird when she's missing. We did great, and it was special to win our first trophy.

However, when we sat and watched the choirs in our 2nd class , it was clear this was a different league altogether. What happened next was quite unbelievable. Everyone, to a woman and man leaned into everything Craig had taught us over the weeks before (and the years before that). We didn't discuss, or think about the specifics beforehand, we just dialled into the team mission with every ounce of concentrated emotion we could muster. It felt amazing.

Was it the best we'd ever sung, nope, was it the best we'd ever performed-by a mile. Brilliant day.

Thank You.

Many thanks to Emma Walsh for contacting Your Harrogate (as she knows somebody there), she sent them a piece about our success in Huddersfield Link to the Your Harrogate article - [Click Here](#)

*The radio station has been to interview Julie today for a series of short pieces to be included in their coffee break feature. These will be on the Pete Egerton 10a.m show each day Monday to Friday. The little pieces she did will be in the coffee break feature with a song choice at 10-30 a.m. She chose songs that we sing: Simply the Best, Something Inside So Strong, Run, Like A Prayer. We hope you'll have a listen. Just go to [www.yourharrogate.co.uk](http://www.yourharrogate.co.uk) and click on "Listen Live"*

### **Homework**

Next week, we will start work on 'Unwritten' which will be a fabulous addition to our repertoire, also please revise your parts for 'Wanna Dance With Somebody' as this is to be included in the Eskdale Festival set list and we will be finessing it over the next few weeks.

If you want to compete at The Eskdale Festival and haven't signed up yet, please do so on Muzudo.

FYI 94 of you sang in Manchester, 60 sang in Huddersfield and so far 68 of you have signed up for Whitby.

**Don't forget to purchase your ticket for Feel The Sound before the early bird offer ends on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.**

### **Choir Etiquette**

This evening, Craig had to ask for quiet on a few occasions. Please be respectful to him and to your fellow choir members by not talking while he is working with other sections it makes concentration difficult. Thank You

### **Choir jackets and T- Shirts**

For anyone who doesn't as yet have a choir jacket and t-shirt, please see Liz Connell (alto). The jackets are provided free but there is a charge for the T-shirts, you can either purchase the standard T-shirt, available in black or white, at only £10 or provide your own black or white t-shirt for printing at a cost of £4. Liz will be able to help you with this.

Also, if you have lost or damaged your jacket please speak to Liz, the cost of a replacement is £30

## Fundraising

From next week the fundraising table will be at the front of the hall facing the choir. All games are only £1 and remember that the monies raised are to benefit everyone especially when we take on events and activities with you all. It will be one-ticket raffle next week with a fabulous big prize. Go on – have a go!

### Discounted tickets are going very well for Feel The Sound Last week to get your early bird tickets?

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

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.fienta.com/feel-the-sound)

This wonderful day will be taking place on Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 with so many choirs taking part, so get your tickets as soon as you can!

**We've sold 98 tickets so far to choirs including** :- The Stray Notes, The Skipton Choir, Do Your Thing, The Dales Pop Choir, The Contemporary Community Choir and Retrophonics - who we met at Huddersfield, and of course ourselves at KnAC who have purchased 33 tickets so far. **Tickets are still available to choir members with an extra 10% discount, use the discount code KNAC10 Here is the fienta link to purchase yours**  
[www.fienta.com/feel-the-sound](http://www.fienta.com/feel-the-sound)

## 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](mailto:admin@knotanotherchoir.co.uk)



Dates for your 2025/2026 Diary so far.

PLEASE NOTE

*New events and changes are in red.*

- ❖ Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March we will start our preparation for the Eskdale Festival and will be starting work on new songs including “Mamma Mia”, “Unwritten” and “Use Somebody”. When we are preparing for competitions and performances, Craig has asked that you attend all practices, we want to be the best we can.
- ❖ Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March **There will be no practice this evening as Craig is leading the LCPOP Choir: Loud and Live on both the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> April **This will be our Easter break so no choir this evening.**
- ❖ Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> 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. Is the Choir Recital at 6-30. We will be arranging return coaches for those who do not wish to stay over in Whitby, exact timings of our performance slot still tbc with the organisers.

- ❖ **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.fienta.com/feel-the-sound)**
- ❖ **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026 Collaborative Concert with Brand Hall Choir at Holy Trinity Church. More information and volunteering opportunities to follow soon .**
- ❖ **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026 Newby Hall**
- ❖ **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026 Newby Hall**
- ❖ **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July Valley Gardens 2pm to 4pm.**
- ❖ **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November Ripon Christmas fare at Ripon Cathedral. Our performances are at 11.50 and 13.50**
- ❖ **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December (TBC) URC Christmas Concert**
- ❖ **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Concert at Holy Trinity.**
- ❖ **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2027 The Huddersfield Mrs Sunderland Festival.**

*After we'd been to Manchester,  
 Disappointment did abound  
 We didn't even get a place,  
 Tho' we'd made an amazing sound.  
 But putting that behind us,  
 To Cleckhuddersfax we did go,  
 This time quite determined,  
 That no-one was saying 'No'  
 We didn't need to worry,  
 We really needn't have sobbed,  
 Right now we're multiple winners,  
 'Cos this time, we wasn't robbed.*

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 yourselves and each other

Julie H