



Choir News

January
2019



Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir

Diary Dates

- 5 Jan Leylands Estate
- 11 Jan Skittles evening
- 18 Jan Littleover Baptist
- 1 Feb Holbrook WI
- 15 Feb St Martin's Church Allenton
- 1 Mar Willington Village Hall
- 16 Mar Hilton Methodist Pye Hill MVC
- 30 Mar St Mary's Church Chesterfield MVC



Male choir lock horns with SherWIn Singers at afternoon festivities

It's always a pleasure to accept an invitation to sing in concert with the SherWIn Singers and Saturday afternoon 1st December was no exception. Their events are always well organised and on this occasion there was a very sizeable audience in attendance at the beautiful Baptist Church on Broadway, Derby. Both choirs delivered standard items from their repertoire during the first half of the programme. Following a brief interval the choirs resumed with a programme of Christmas offerings which were well received by the appreciative audience. It is something of a coincidence that both choirs have chosen turquoise embellishments to their uniforms although I think it may be some time before the men can be persuaded to wear reindeer antlers. The afternoon concert concluded with a wonderful high tea which was eagerly devoured by audience and choristers alike. The event raised over £600 which will be donated to local good causes.

This season so far,
we've helped to raise

£4341

Lucky Numbers

3 Dec Chris Hare



Interested in joining the choir?

E-mail : DCMVCenquiry@virginmedia.com or call 01332 606356



Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir

Kids Camp cash in from caroling



The choir was first invited to sing carols in Derby City Centre back in 2013. Since then we have undertaken 4 carol sessions each year in the run up to Christmas. This has proved to be a very lucrative activity for our chosen charities and we have always been impressed with the generosity of the public as they pass by to pick up those last minute Christmas gifts. Last year was particularly successful with Mark Vallis parking his "bloodbike" adjacent to us and creating a point of interest. This year Chris Edwards and his team of volunteers have been out in force, rattling their buckets at passers by whilst we assault the ears of shoppers with a selection of traditional carols and popular Christmas songs. Well done Derby Kids Camp.



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Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir

O Holy night at Holy Family



The final concert of 2018 was held on Saturday 8th December at Holy Family Church in Allestree in aid of the Derby Deanery Refugee fund and Project Arusha. The evening's programme consisted of songs from the choir, several solo contributions from choir members and a number of popular Christmas songs which the audience were encouraged to sing along with. First tenor, Tom Fleming, did a sterling job as a stand in Musical Director keeping both choir and audience to the beat. The evening was not without mishap, especially as top tenor, Tony Davenport, was left without a lift; forcing a hurried reshuffle to the line up for a couple of the numbers. Pictured below left with choristers Michael, Shaun and Tim are concert organisers Pauline, Anne, Ilene and Carole. Pictured below right are choristers Tim, Ian, John, Kevin and Tom who made solo contributions to the evening's programme. Anne and Louise, our accompanists performed two festive pieces during the evening - Jingle Bells and Sleigh Ride. The evening was drawn to a close with a lovely rendition from Tom Fleming of White Christmas. The evening raised approximately £365 toward the church's charities whilst a retiring collection of £120 will be donated to Derby Kids Camp.



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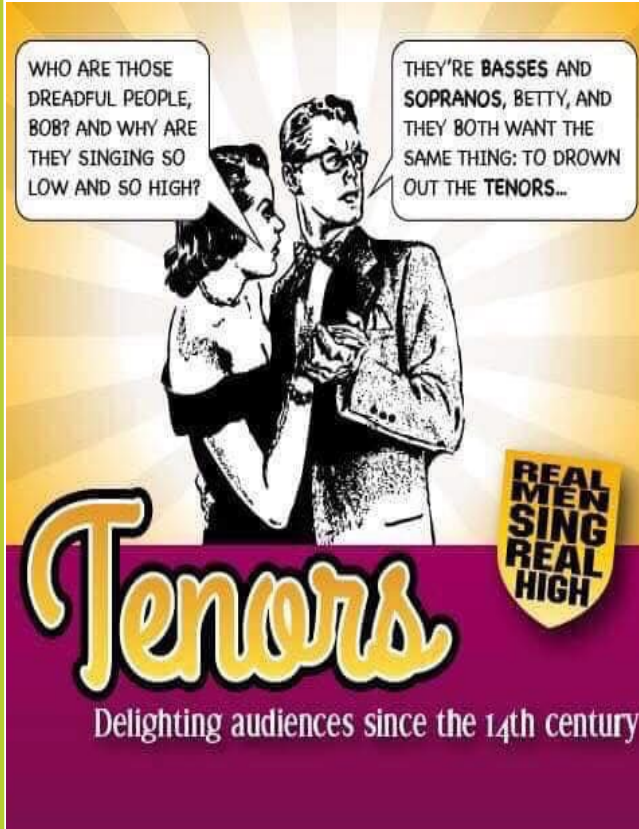


Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir

Choristers “collaborate” for Christmas charity



“During the war....” as Uncle Albert might have said, to be a collaborator would have been a dreadful thing, implying that an individual had cooperated with the enemy! We are delighted that members of other local choirs have adopted a more positive view this year and accepted our invitation to join us whilst we raise money for charity through carol singing. Our thanks and gratitude are extended to Charlie Watts and Steve Walker of the Dalesmen and Tim Wherly of Derventio Choir. As recruitment particularly within male choirs becomes even more challenging the concept of collaboration and cooperation will need to become a common feature of choral life.



Birthday greeting surprise for audience members

In recent weeks the choir has surprised two of our stalwart supporters - Genny and Judy - by being able to wish them a “Happy Birthday” in song at the beginning of our concerts. Both of them were 21 (again).



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Mark's warm welcome to Shelton Lock community

Mark Davidson and his wife Naomi extended a warm welcome to the residents of Shelton Lock on Friday 14th December by hosting a Christmas Carol Concert at his premises in Shelton Lock. Mark has been a friend of the choir for some years now and we were once again delighted to accept his invitation to lead the carol singing. The temperature dropped low for almost the first time this winter but Mark's generosity in providing hot drinks, mince pies and a drop of the "hard stuff" all helped to keep the cold at bay. Chris Hare enjoyed particular attention from one of the local female residents and struggled to keep time whilst fending off the alcohol fuelled amorous advances of his new found friend. Pictured above left are Mark and Naomi with some members of the choir.



The second coming of the Christmas socks

Last seen in public at our Carsington concert in December 2014, the Christmas socks have reappeared this year at the Broadway concert with the Sherwin Singers - but who is wearing them? And more importantly have they been washed since 2014?

The wearers name is revealed in the following riddle:

My first is in "merry" but never in "rye"

My second's in "day" but not in "dry"

My third is in "sorrow" and also in "tear"

My fourth is in "knotted" but not in "fear"

My fifth is in "kite" and also in "wink"

My sixth is in "poppy" but never in "pink"

My seventh's in "happy" but never in "sad"

My eighth is in "her" but never in "lad"

My last is in "tenors" but they're never in "tune"



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A happy new year to one and all

Whilst the choir extends the warmest of new year greetings to all members, family and friends; we extend particular best wishes to two of our members who have not enjoyed the best of health during 2018. Both David Bott and Brian Norris have endured periods of hospitalisation which have kept them away



from the choir this year. We look forward to welcoming them both back during the new year.

Belated Birthday greetings to Clive Titcombe

Just before Christmas, our bass singer Clive celebrated one of those milestone moments in his life - his 65th birthday. One of the gifts that Clive received to mark the occasion was a wooden sculpture designed and created by fellow bass singer Malcolm Richardson. Clive has enjoyed a busy year with highlights including a caravan holiday along the Romantic Road in Germany and a more recent visit to the war cemeteries of WW1. On the 10th November Clive also performed his first solo with the choir. We all hope you've enjoyed your year Clive.



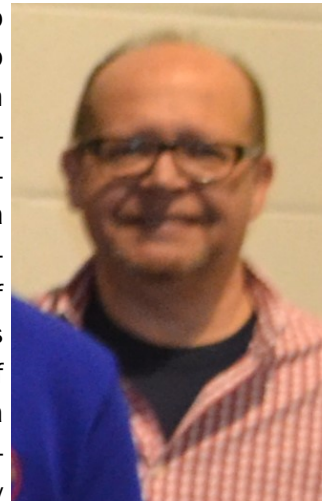
A second Spencer about to join?



The New Year promises to deliver a second Andrew Spencer into our midst. Andrew No2 expressed an interest at our Christmas concert in Allestree and intends to attend our Monday rehearsals in January 2019.

Rob Fletcher

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Rob Fletcher. Rob joined the choir in 2015 - our Diamond Anniversary season - as a first tenor. He attended a few of our rehearsals and got himself fitted out with a uniform but almost immediately



began to suffer a period of ill health and had been absent from the choir for some time. The choir will sing at Rob's funeral at Markeaton Crematorium on Monday 7th January 2019 at 1.20 pm



Derbyshire Community Male Voice Choir

DHU you hear what I hear ? Carols in the Johnson Building

DHU
Health Care



At the request of baritone Ian Truby Ware, the choir were pleased to support DHU Health Care's Christmas Fair and Carol Service at their head office at Pride Park on Tuesday 18th December. Following a warm welcome by Chief Executive Stephen Bateman, the choir sang a selection of carols and Christmas favourites to entertain staff and their families. Stopping only to sample the succulent and mouth-watering offerings of the buffet, washed down with non-alcoholic mulled wine, members of the audience were encouraged to join us in many of the popular Christmas songs within our songbook. John Cumpstone provided some welcome respite for his colleagues by performing two comic solos; the carol singers and an unusual version of God rest ye merry gentlemen, accompanied by evergreen pianist Anne Allen.

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Radio tradition continues

We were first invited to sing carols on Radio Derby in December 2014. A small group of 11 choir members including Louise, Mark, David, John C, Eric, Brian, Ken, Tony and Kevin attended. It has since become a regular event in our Christmas calendar and this year fifteen choir members were able to attend. Our host in 2014 was Richard Spurrs, pictured right with our then longhaired pianist Louise.



It's tremendous that we seem to have established a tradition of singing on Radio Derby in the run up to Christmas. This year we invited Ian Skye to become an honorary lifetime member of the choir and presented him with one of our new beanie hats, a lapel badge and a members handbook. He now has no reason to miss any of our concerts and we expect to see him at several events between now and the end of the season. Many thanks to all those who made the effort to get up early this morning and join in the fun. It's been another long and demanding run up to Christmas but the choir has presented itself well at each event and we have been successful in raising funds for this years' charity - Derby Kids Camp.



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