



# Dorset Police Male Voice Choir & Friends **In Tune** Newsletter

Spring Edition 2017, Volume 14

## Welcome

May I welcome you all to the sixth edition of 'In Tune', the newsletter of the Dorset Police Male Voice Choir & Friends - Spring Edition 2017.

This publication follows on from the Autumn Edition 2016, providing a review of the 'future events' that have now occurred and a list of future concerts now planned for the rest of 2017 and 2018.

The DPMVC remains a stable organisation with no changes to the leadership, although three committee members retired at the May AGM after varying periods of service. We are very grateful to them for their hard work. Tony Gibson, has handed over the mantle of Concert officer to Phil Noel and Howard Patch, Publicity Officer to Henry Feilden. The Musical Director, Dr Jane Oakland continues to energise the Choir to attain even higher levels of performance and we are seeing the introduction of more soloists from each section of the Choir to support songs where appropriate. It is early days but ensures a steady stream of new talent to support an increasing and changing repertoire of songs.

The Choir continues to be ably supported by accompanists Lisa Timbs and Sue Stein. We are very fortunate in having a strong committee led by its Chairman Graham Chambers and Vice Chairman, Malcolm Acreman.

Without their efforts, it is hard to see how the Choir could function, and for that we are all grateful. And it is through their efforts and their committee members. that the size of the Choir continues to grow.



Henry Feilden,  
Editor,  
Publicity Officer



## Recruitment

The active recruitment campaign referred to in the last newsletter has been successful in attracting 11 new members including 5 in the baritone section. New Choristers breathe new life into the Choir and are vitally important for its future health. Not only do they bring in new talent and enthusiasm, but their previous experiences and therefore ideas help to keep the membership and its committee young and current.

However, recruitment does not start and finish with a campaign. It is now recognised that it has to be an ongoing process and therefore greater emphasis will be given to this over the years ahead. One of the best (and cheaper) ways to recruit is by personal contact so, if you know of any men who you think might be interested in singing, we would be delighted to hear from them.



## Recent Concerts

The Autumn season started on **Saturday 17 September** at Swanage Methodist Church and on **Saturday 24 September** with a very successful visit and concert in Jersey. Both of these events have been reported on, in Volume 13 of the Newsletter.

These two concerts were followed on **Saturday 1 October 2016**, when the Choir sang at Queen Elizabeth School, Wimborne. This 'Gala Charity Concert' was in aid of Waggy Tails Dog Rescue and sponsored by Vets4 Pets.

Waggy Tails Rescue Ltd is a registered Charity established in 1994 by Shelagh Meredith, who remains an active Chairman. The Rescue rehomes dogs and other small animals within E. Dorset and W. Hants and so far, has saved the lives of 3500 animals. The Charity is reliant on the generosity of the public and fund raising is a constant effort.



The Queen Elizabeth's School, Wimborne Minster is a co-educational Church of England Secondary Upper School with some 1482 pupils. It has close links to the Minster and was established in 1497 by Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII, who was brought up on the Kingston Lacey Estate. Originally a Grammar School, QE is now defined as a comprehensive Academy. The school was rebuilt, with new buildings going up adjacent to old. These were occupied in 2011. The concert was held in a magnificent new hall with generous proportions.

The concert raised approximately £1200.

### Programme for Saturday 1 October 2016

Roman War Song  
 Amazing Grace  
 Give Me That Old Time Religion  
 Anthem (From Chess)

Solo spot featuring guitarist

With Cat-like Tread  
 My heart Will Go On  
 My Little Mountain Home  
 Rhythm Of Life

Interval

Les Miserables Medley  
 - Do You Hear The People Sing?  
 - I Dreamed A Dream  
 - Bring Him Home

Solo spot featuring guitarist

Softly As I Leave You  
 This Old Man  
 Alexander's Ragtime Band  
 There Is Nothin' Like A Dame  
 When The Saints Go Marching In

The second concert of the Autumn season was on **Saturday 22 October 2016**, when the Choir sang at the Mowlem Theatre, Swanage raising funds on behalf of The Heroes Haven Charity.

This was our second visit to the theatre having been part of a similar concert in October 2015 on behalf of the same Charity. Described as a night of 'The Lyrics of the Choir' and 'The Beat of the Band', the concert included the DPMVC followed by The Band of the Hampshire Constabulary and a guest appearance of Kelp, Shanty Singers. The Hampshire Constabulary played William Tell (Rossini), Beatles: Echoes of an Era (Higgins) and Sinatra in Concert (Nowak). The Finale included Music (Sparke) and the rousing pieces - Rule Britannia (Arne) and Land of Hope and Glory (Elgar).

The Mowlem Theatre, with its modern façade, was built in 1967, seats 400 and is situated on the sea front at Swanage, on Shore Road.



### Programme for Saturday 22 October 2016

Jesus Christ Superstar  
 With Cat-like Tread  
 Give Me That Old Time Religion  
 My Little Mountain Home  
 My Heart Will Go On  
 Alexander's Ragtime Band  
 Rhythm Of Life  
 Les Miserables Medley  
 - Do You Hear The People Sing?  
 - Bring Him Home  
 An American Trilogy

The third concert of the season was held on **Saturday 19 November 2016** at St George's Church, Darby's Lane, Oakdale, Poole in aid of Poole Africa Link. Our guests for the evening were the Cantilena Ladies Choir. This was the second visit to this church in recent times, having performed there in May 2015 (Vol.10).

St George's is a Church of England church built in 1959 with a striking modern interior and wooden roof. In recognition of its post war architectural excellence, in 1996 English Heritage chose to list the church as a Grade II listed building. The pipe organ is well known for its fabulous sound.



The Poole Africa Link was set up in 2009, when a link was formed between Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Wau Hospital in South Sudan.



There have been 12 visits with 4-6 healthcare professionals visiting for 2-3 weeks at a time. However due to the political situation, the scheduled trip was diverted to Lira in Northern Uganda. This has provided a safer base for staff from South Sudan as well as assistance of the referral hospital and several schools of nursing in Lira.

The MC for the evening was Rev. Fraser Smith. A wonderful evening was had by all that attended. The evening raised net £708.

#### Programme for Saturday 19 November 2016

DPMVC  
Gwahoddiad  
Anthem (From Chess)  
My Little Mountain Home  
A Roman War Song

Cantilena  
Gratias Agimus Tibi  
The Lord is My Shepherd  
May it Be

DPMVC  
Va' Pensiero  
My Heart Will Go On  
African Prayer

Interval

DPMVC  
Jesus Christ Superstar  
Softly As I Leave You  
Rhythm of Life

Cantilena (accompanied by St Michael's Middle School Djembe Drummers )  
The Lord's Prayer ( African Sanctus )  
Thulasiswe  
Dry Your Tears Africa from 'Amistad'

DPMVC  
The Rose  
This Old Man  
Alexander's Ragtime Band  
There is Nothin' Like a Dame

The fourth event of the season was on **Tuesday 20 December 2016** when the Choir sang at the annual Dorset Police Carol Service, held at Wimborne Minster.



This event has become an important part of the calendar. As is customary before the service began, the Dorset Police Male Voice Choir sang a selection of songs from their repertoire, which was followed by readings and congregational carols and a solo by Melissa Nock. The choir also sang within the service,

three Christmas carols. This was followed later in the service by the Dorset Police Brass Ensemble and The Boscombe Salvation Army Songsters. As always, this annual Christmas service, proved to be very popular and was well attended.

A magnificent event, held in a beautiful landmark Anglican Church to mark the end of 2016.

#### Programme for Tuesday 20 December 2016

Amazing Grace  
The Lord's Prayer  
Gwahoddiad  
When A Child Is Born  
Virgin Mary  
Old Time Religion

During the service  
Torches  
Holly And The Ivy  
O Holy Night

The fifth concert of the season was on **Saturday 25 February 2017** at the Weymouth Pavilion Theatre, when the Choir took part in 'A Musical Extravaganza' in aid of The Royal British Legion.



This 'Musical Experience' was a departure for the Choir and pushed out all the boundaries. The concert had no less than 6 different groups including The Weymouth Choral Society, two Soloists, a Children's Choir - The Let's Dance Musical Theatre Group, The Dorset Police Male Voice Choir, and The Weymouth Concert Brass Band. The soloists included the opera singer Laura Stephanie Sharley and Peter Thorne who played the Flugelhorn.

The 'Grand Finale' included The Entire Assembled Choirs, Band and Soloist's, who joined together with the audience to sing You Raise Me Up by Westlife.

This was a very different experience for the Choir and excellent PR in a part of the county where it is not well known. Feedback described the performance as 'outstanding', smart, professional with 100% concentration.

The sixth concert of the season was on **Saturday 18 March 2016** at The Minster, Ilminster, Somerset. The concert was in aid of a local Rotary Club Charity and introduced by the Rotary President, Harley Pope. All funds raised were given to the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Service.

The Minster, also known as The Church of St Mary, dates from the 15th century and has been designated as a Grade I listed building. The parish church is large and stands above the town. It has an impressive facade with stunning architecture and a spectacular tower, which is said to be copied from that of Wells Cathedral. The church was refurbished three times during the Victorian period and in 1902 and is built from Ham Stone, a Jurassic limestone.

The Choir sang well in this fine church. The concert included a soloist - Amanda Downing.

This was a good concert, well received by the audience with many favourable comments.

#### Programme for Saturday 18 March 2017

Llanfair  
African Prayer  
Amazing Grace  
Give Me That Old Time Religion  
Soldiers' Chorus

Soloist – Amanda Downing  
The Water Is Wide  
Ever Time

My Little Mountain Home  
Rhythm Of Life

Medley From Les Miserables

- At The End Of The Day
- I Dreamed A Dream
- Bring Him Home
- Do You Hear The People Sing?

Soloist – Amanda Downing  
Somewhere Only We Know  
The Rose

My Heart Will Go On  
Alexander's Ragtime Band  
There Is Nothin' Like A Dame

The seventh concert of the season was on **Saturday 8 April 2017** at St Peter & St Paul Parish Church, Blandford in aid of the Cupola Project and other Rotary Charities.

This was a repeat visit for the Choir, having sung there on February 2015. This beautiful majestic church, was built in 1732 after the great fire of Blandford in 1731. It is an excellent example of a church in the classical Georgian style, with white ornate columns, and many Georgian fittings. The church is one of the Choirs favourite concert venues, offering excellent acoustics.

The solo spot for the evening featured Alice Couling, winner of Blandford Rotary's 'Young Musician of the Year' competition 2017.



The concert was as usual well attended by an appreciative audience.

#### Programme for Saturday 8 April 2017

Llanfair  
African Prayer  
Amazing Grace  
Give Me That Old Time Religion  
Soldiers' Chorus (from Faust)

Solo Spot: Alice Couling

With Cat-Like Tread  
My Little Mountain Home  
Rhythm Of Life

Interval

Les Miserables Medley

- At The End Of The Day
- I Dreamed A Dream
- Bring Him Home
- Do You Hear The People Sing

Solo Spot: Alice Couling

Softly As I Leave You  
Alexander's Ragtime Band  
There Is Nothin' Like A Dame  
An American Trilogy

Two further concerts have taken place in May and June and will be reported on in the Autumn Edition of the Newsletter volume 15.

#### Saturday 20 May 2017

Concert In aid of Victoria Education Centre  
Joint Concert with The City of Newport Male Choir  
St Ambrose Church, BH4 8BE

#### Saturday 17 June 2017

Concert in aid of Church Funds/ Organ refurbishment  
Holtwood Methodist Church, Holtwood, Wimborne  
BH21 7DT



## Future Events

### Saturday 14 October 2017

Concert in aid of Poole and District Parkinson's UK  
St George's Church, Oakdale, Poole BH15 3EU  
Contact is Gemma Cataldo  
(07787) 851383

### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November (TBC)

St Marks Church, Highcliffe, BH23 5AB  
In aid of Choir funds  
Contact is through Concert Secretary please

### Date TBC 20 December 2017

Wimborne Minster, High Street, BH21 1HT  
Dorset Police Carol Service  
This will be a service and no tickets are required  
Contact is Revd Simon Evans, Force Chaplain



### Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Joint concert with Casterbridge MVC  
Further details to follow when available

### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018

The Rotary Club of Bridport  
The United Reform Church, East Street, Bridport  
DT6 3LJ  
In aid of Rotary Charities  
Contact is Bernard Paul Tel 01308 427475

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Coade Hall, Bryanston School, DT11 0PX  
S.S.A.F.A (Military Charity)  
Contact Doc Addison 07771074484  
Contact email: jcdocaddison@gmail.com

## Personal Profile

### Richard Jones - Choir Treasurer

Born in Cardiff Rich graduated from University of Wales and built a career in IT, writing his first computer program in 1963. He began his career at Rolls Royce providing computer facilities for jet engine design and also collaborating with companies in the USA who were part of the NASA programme. He then moved to systems analysis and consultancy work which took him to the North Sea oil platforms, Nigeria, Malta, USA and continental Europe. Rich then ran various IT Services companies and spent the last twenty years of his career responsible for the commercial aspects of large IT outsourcing contracts.



He met his wife Pam when she was IT Director at a large UK Retailer, married in 1981 and they now have three daughters. Pam gave up her career to bring up the children and then gained a degree in Psychology, developing a successful career as a councillor.

Always a participant in sports, such as rugby, squash, swimming and running Rich continues to walk and attend the gym regularly. His interest in music dates back to the rock 'n roll era of the 1950's when he saw Bill Haley live in Cardiff!! Now his musical tastes have matured somewhat and he is an active committee member of the choir.

He lived for 28 years in Buckinghamshire and since retiring in 2005, Rich has built his own house, formed a band and been a trustee of a charity looking after 2,000 vulnerable people. They moved to Poole in 2014 where he joined the choir and local gym and sea fishes regularly with a local skipper from Fisherman's Quay.

Pam & Rich continue to travel widely with two daughters in London and one in Australia and have currently travelled in 68 countries and counting!!



## Social Events

The social life of the Choir is very important to all its members. When like-minded individuals have a common interest or passion, the energy generated can move mountains. Regular meetings at rehearsals or at a concert are all part of generating strong bonds. The Choir's Annual Dinner Dance, held each January becomes an important culmination of all the years social activities. It is a time to meet up with old friends and share the Choir with one's partner.

The first social event of 2017 therefore, started with the Choir's Annual Dinner Dance, held on **Saturday 28 January 2017** at Bentley's Restaurant, Dudsbury Golf Club, Ferndown. This black-tie event is always well attended by Choir members and some Friends of the Choir.

The Golf Club restaurant is an excellent venue to stage such an event and such as on previous occasions, the provided excellent food and wine, served to about 95 people. The event was organised by Charlie Challenger and the MC for the evening was our Chairman, Graham Chambers, who led the way with a number of speeches and thanks.

The dinner was followed by entertainment by the very talented local band, 'Eternal Flame ' to whom members danced the night away. This was as usual, yet another successful evening at Bentley's, which was well received and enjoyed by all those who attended. We would like thank all those, that helped to organise this event.

On **Saturday 18 April 2017**, a party of devotees from the Choir, repeated last year's pilgrimage and went to the Pavilion Theatre, Bournemouth to see the brilliant Ken Dodd, who is now in his 89th year. Performing in front of a packed audience, the great solo performer was as brilliant as ever, albeit with his frequent coughs and lapses in memory.

Although the show was shorter than last years by 30 minutes, the theatre was no less packed, as he related his famous jokes and ponderous stories.

The **Golf Section** had three events at the latter end of the 2016 and these were in August, October and November.

So far, this year we have had two outings, one at Moors Valley and the other at Ferndown Forest, with more to follow.

As usual, it is a fun day with prizes for the longest drive, nearest the pin (that's the hole to you) and overall team winners. These events are followed by a meal in the clubhouse of whichever venue we happen to be at.

Other venues we have used in the past, and will no doubt use again, include Bulberry Woods, Queen's Park and Crane Valley.

## Final Comment From Your Chairman

As can be seen from this Edition of the Newsletter, the Choir has performed in no less than seven concerts in a variety of locations whilst at the same time taking on new challenges. It is noticeable that the choir is being asked to sing at more concerts outside of the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole conurbation and this trend will be continued into the 2017/8 season. This is a great reflection on the consistent high standard of the Choir's performances under the direction of Jane our MD.

We are also now seeing the benefit of our recruitment programmes over the past 6/8 months come to fruition, that has seen our numbers increase. It is essential for the long term future of the choir that we continue to attract 'new blood' both as singing members and future committee members.

If there are any 'Friends of the Choir' who feel that they would like to help with the administration side of the Choir then I would be delighted to hear from them.

I hope that every reader continues to enjoy the long evenings and hopefully many more sunny days before we start our next concert season in October.



## Give As You Live

The Choir would like to bring to the attention of the Friends the [www.giveasyoulive.com](http://www.giveasyoulive.com) website.



By simply searching for a retailer online within this website you will raise money for your nominated charity. The DPMVC has now been registered as a charity within the website, so please nominate the Choir and raise money on our behalf.

## Introducing 'Friends' of Dorset Police Male Voice Choir

By simply coming to one of our concerts, you have already shown your support for the Choir.

If you would like to stay in contact with the Choir and become a 'Friend', simply complete a Friend's Membership Form available at the time of the concert.

Please provide your name, postal address and postcode, telephone number and most important of all your email address, so that you can receive invites to all future concerts and receive our *In Tune* Newsletter.

Further details about any of the concerts can be obtained from the Choir Concert Secretary, Phil Noel at:

Email: [bookings@dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk](mailto:bookings@dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk)  
or the website [www.dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk](http://www.dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk)

For further information regarding the activities of the Choir, please contact us at:

Email: [friends@dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk](mailto:friends@dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk)

## Images from DPMVC Dinner Dance 2017

