

December 2016 NEWSLETTER



Hello ladies – It's hard to believe that the second half of the autumn term is already coming to an end and we have Christmas in our sights. On the Saturday between terms we took part in our fourth Concert of Brass and Voices at Rothwell which was, as always a most enjoyable experience, greatly appreciated by the audience and raised much needed funds for local charities. Two weeks later we took part in Music for Marie Curie at Spalding, organised by members of the Spalding AHOH group - raising a fantastic sum of £1600 for the charity.

There are a number of less formal performing opportunities now on line to book before Christmas – see the section below for details. If you are thinking of signing up for performances but not sure if you want to take the plunge, the Christmas selection is a good place to start – festive jumpers and tinsel add to the relaxed atmosphere and it is somehow less intimidating. Christmas audiences are especially forgiving – and I am really keen that as many of you as possible choose take part in performances which is a different aspect to membership of AHOH and always a great experience. A group of choir members will shortly be taking part in filming for a TV commercial singing a parody of “The Twelve Days of Christmas” with the video component being filmed at Thorpe Hall Hospice, the home of our adopted charity- another first for A Handful of Harmonies.

Autumn term B concludes week beginning 5th December for all sessions except Oundle whose final session is on 22nd December. Each group has planned something to celebrate Christmas either combined with a session or a separate meal – so whatever you are doing I hope you have a great time! Thank you to those individual members who have organised this for their respective groups.

So- what lies in store.....??

Performances

There are some performing opportunities available to sign up for on the AHOH website, for more information please visit the website or use the following link - <http://www.handfulofharmonies.co.uk/concerts/>

Saturday 3rd December 2016 2-00pm Castle Bytham Senior Citizens Entertainment *Castle Bytham NG33 4RJ*

Tuesday 13th December 2016 7-30pm Crowland WI Christmas Party *Royal British Legion, Crowland PE6 0AW*

Saturday 17th December 2016 7:00pm Christmas Concert Northborough Village Hall *Northborough PE6 9DP*

Sunday 18th December 2016 6-00pm In- Patient Songs City Care Centre *Peterborough CCCThorpe Road PE3 6DB*

Performances are **not** limited to Show Choir members unless specifically stated so please sign up. There is room at Show Choir for some new members and this is the opportunity to practice interesting pieces in a larger group to take part in performances.

Please note that for all public performances there is an expectation that choir members will use the online materials available to practice and ensure they are confident in the material that they will be performing.

Celebrating Christmas

The AHOH annual Gala Dinner takes place on Saturday 3rd December at The Bridge Hotel in Huntingdon and thank you to Rosa Beckerton for organising this again this year.

Spring Term A

Remember that you can buy your termly membership online for the “Shop” tab of the AHOH website – a small administration fee is included. Please do remember that the bursar needs to see your card at every session, even if it is a PP and does not need to be marked, to make sure you are included on the register. The new term begins promptly in 2017 at Bourne on 2nd January with sessions beginning at every location during that week.

The Non-Singing Fun Side

The National Lottery syndicate is growing slowly – if you would like to join please contact Genevieve Stocker secretary@handfulofharmonies.co.uk – as they say you’ve got to be in it to win it 😊

Many of you have seen the AHOH choir members Eggheads performance which was aired on 26th October. I would like to thank everyone for their supportive and complimentary comments. It was a very interesting, albeit nerve racking experience!

Friends of A Handful of Harmonies

Please see the “Friends” noticeboards on display at weekly sessions for information about forthcoming events and have a chat to your representative if you want to get involved.

The 2017 Calendar was produced during the summer and is now on sale for £6 on a *buy one get one free* offer – please see your Friends of AHOH representatives at sessions to buy yours whilst stocks last. 😊

So thank you for your continued support as we head into our usual busy Christmas season; I hope you will be able to join us at some of our performances and I wish you and yours a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Andrew xxx

*Let us have music for Christmas, Sound the trumpet of joy and rebirth
Let each of us try, with a song in our hearts, To bring peace to men on Earth*

Mildred L Jarrell -Author