

Successes

Success isn't just a matter of the 100 first prizes (at least) we have won over the years.

We count our success in other ways, too. Here are some:-

No Barriers to Entry – Colne Valley men are **not selected** for their musical education or established singing skills. We are, mostly, just ordinary blokes who have learned to love singing.

If you want to join us, we'll make you very welcome – doesn't matter if your voice is untrained or you can't read music. When you feel ready we'll give you a brief test, which most people who want to be part of us pass without difficulty. We have an expert voice coach in Thom Meredith who can bring out our skills and he's endlessly patient as we struggle with new pieces. Soon you'll have them off by heart.

The great joy of singing in a choir is that your individual voice may be 'a bit rubbish' – but collectively we can reach the sublime.

Continuity – We've been around since 1922 and for over 70 years of that time we've had just two conductors:



George Stead,
seen here visiting
Buckingham Palace to
receive an MBE,
led the Choir for 46 years

and

new boy,
Thom Meredith,
is well into
his 26th year with us
and still has a
sense of humour.



Boys Choir

We started a
choir for
boys:
to nurture the
community's
male voice
choir future.





To keep this initiative current, the Choir regularly does visits to all the primary schools in the area to have a sing-along with some fantastic kids.

World's Best Accompanist – well probably – the choir is constantly staggered by our good fortune in having Maestro, Keith Swallow, as our piano player and that for 56 years and counting!

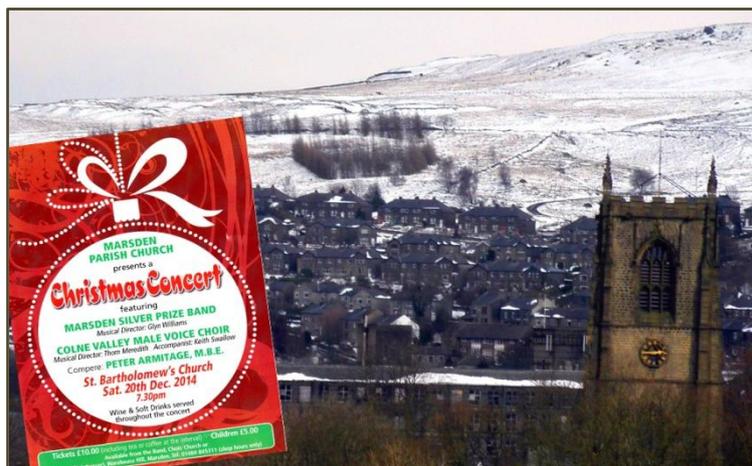


We work with the best Brass Bands - our Christmas Concert, filling Huddersfield's amazing Town Hall, is a highlight of our choir year and a not-to-be-missed event in the local cultural calendar.



This is the Brighouse & Rastrick Band, current Yorkshire Area Champions – effectively the best of its kind in the World - with us and the Colne Valley Boys at the Town Hall at Christmas 2014

Friendly Christmas in Marsden – as guests of the Marsden Silver Prize Band, this event is becoming an increasingly essential part of pre-Christmas celebrations in the Colne Valley



The 'Last Night of the Proms' style Concert. organised by the Salendine Nook Rugby Club, and including our friends from Honley Male Voice Choir and the Lindley Band, make for a great summer evening. The big finish with 'Land of Hope and Glory' and fireworks over the stand has the crowd up and dancing, waving their Union Jacks.



Tom Law – soloist at Choir gigs

We give about a dozen concerts a year - mostly local but occasionally as far afield as Besancon or California, sometimes with guests, sometimes just with our own in-house talents.

