

The World Cup and Colne Valley Male Voice Choir

Few people know that CVMVC did a World Cup song.

But we did - commissioned with the Yorkshire Building Society Brass Band, selected Choir members recorded a patriotic anthem, "Our Boys, Our Heroes" to wish our players well in the 2006 tournament in Germany.

It wasn't a bad song, as football songs go, and the Choir members, who got together at very short notice, made a great sound.



Hear the song and recapture England's best goals by clicking here or on the TV.

And Best of Luck in Russia, Lads

https://youtu.be/bNhIP6DtJ7w



Our boys, our heroes in the recording studio in 2006

Getting Ready for 'Concert on the Hill'



It's the biggest open-air event of the year



Simon says....

As CVMVC walk on stage at the start of a concert, there are often whispered comments from the audience along the lines of "Who's the mad Hippy with the pony tail?"

This is just our baritone, Simon Durrans.

Although Simon has sung with Colne Valley for 12 years, and is our Baritone Section Leader now, he is involved with other musical projects outside of the Choir.



He is a leading member and musical director of the Marsden based classic rock band "HD7" and Pink Floyd tribute band "Dark Side of the Moor" (same people in both bands...just different hats of which he is the lead singer, keyboard player and rhythm guitarist.

HD7 play regular gigs in and around the Colne Valley, playing in pubs and clubs. Dark Side of the Moor are now focusing on larger venues in order to accommodate the larger light show which accompanies the performance.

They recently played a sell out gig in the **Maltings Theatre** in **Berwick upon Tweed**.



Simon also involved the local community at this gig, by inviting Berwick Middle School chamber choir to join the band on stage to sing "Another brick in the wall".



Simon also plays in an acoustic guitar duo called "**Acoustimosh**" with his son Mark (who is lead guitarist in the other bands). They still play classic rock and Pink Floyd, but on acoustic guitars to give a completely different style and feel to the music.

Although his other band members jokingly mocked him when he joined Colne Valley, they are now seeing the benefits. Simon takes what he learns from the choir and from **Thom Meredith** in particular and applies it to the band, running regular vocal coaching sessions with the four singers in the group, constantly developing the harmonies and tone.



Simon said. "The other members of the band didn't understand me joining a choir at first, but I think they're coming round to the idea and many of the choir members certainly don't get how I can be in the choir and play loud rock music as well!

However, I am a strong believer that good music is good music, whether it is Classical, Rock, Pop or Choral."

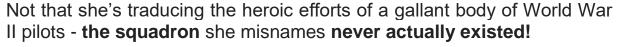
If you would like to see Simon performing as his alter ego, with HD7, the next gig will be at **Marsden Socialist Club** on the 23rd June at 9pm and - nothing if not eclectic - at **Marsden Liberal Club** at 9.00pm on 11th August 2018.

666 Squadron

Several readers, more observant than the Edltor, have taken him to task over the write-up of the **Alzheimer's Concert**. It seems that an item by **Black Dyke Band**, '633 Squadron' was inadvertently called '666 Squadron'.



This tiny error is in **Suzanne Smelt's** excellent piece for the **Huddersfield Examiner** describing a fine concert in the Town Hall.





633 Squadron

633 Squadron was a 1964 British film that depicts the exploits of a World War II British fighter-bomber squadron.

In fact, the **Royal Air Force** (RAF) did not form a unit called "633 Squadron" during the Second World War. It was entirely fictional. There was a 613 Squadron, equipped with **Mosquitos**, credited with an attack on a Dutch Central Population Registry building on 11 April 1944, where the Germans held their Dutch Gestapo records.

633 Squadron - the film - had its world premiere on 4 June 1964 at the Leicester Square Theatre in the London's West End. Critics derided the wooden acting and hackneyed plot, especially the miscast Mirisch Pictures contract star, **George Chakiris**, but the aerial scenes were considered spectacular and with **Ron Goodwin's music** remained the main attraction. The extensive footage of the Mosquito was also of considerable interest to aviation enthusiasts.

633 Squadron appears on the list of "The 100 Greatest War Films" voted by the UK public.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3iM5QphawQ

Watch a clip and hear the stirring theme tune by clicking here or on the TV.

The important thing ...

The important thing was the concert. A terrific evening's entertainment with over 200 voices and one of the country's finest bands, gathered together to raise funds for **Alzheimer's Research UK**.

The inspiration behind the enterprise was **Norman Mellor. Voice of the Valley** asked him for his committee's thoughts a few days after the concert?



"What did we feel about the concert? We felt, as I'm sure everyone did that, that it was not only a financial success but a musical one too.

To put on a concert needs a fair amount of luck plus some fine musicians. I think the evening had those in copious amounts with **Thom** and **Steve** leading from the front, welding eight choirs into one, plus the brilliant **Black Dyke band** and **Sarah** in fine voice as usual, backed by **Catherine** and **Keith**.

The luck, that there was a great number paid at the door. I had been sweating that we would not have had a full Town Hall, (oh ye of little faith) but the audience were brilliant.

And the outcome - we raised £12,230.00 for the Charity.

Raising so much money enjoying oneself, brilliant.

We now have our **Annual BBQ** to come.

Saturday July 14th,

5-30 to 8-30ish.

It's a ticket-only do but your readers may like to contact me to get a ticket."

Many thanks" Norman



Clifton Music Festival

Clifton, a picturesque village in Nottinghamshire, is once again to be the venue for a Choir performance.

We'll be there on the evening of **Saturday July 14**th at the Clifton Music Festival in the delightful medieval church.



Once again the concerts will feature our own soloists.

The church is quite something. It's Grade I listed as a building of outstanding architectural and historic interest.

Opened in **1290**, Saint Mary's church is mentioned within the **Domesday Book**.

Historic tombs of long-dead nobility, clutching their swords haunt the side passages.

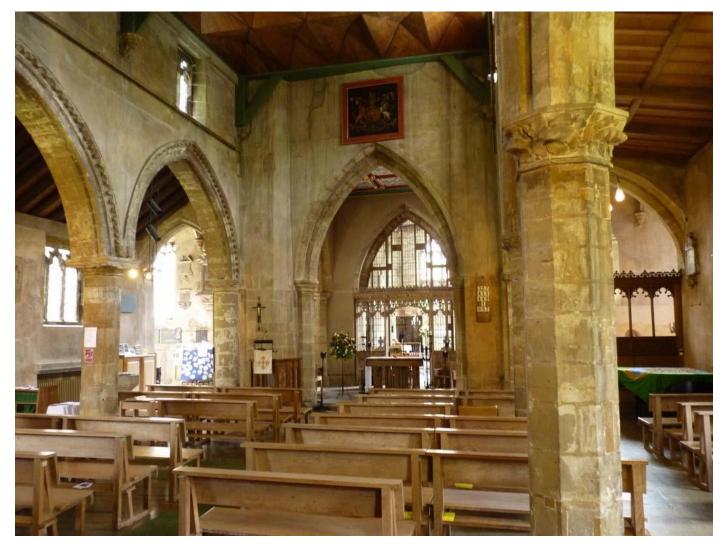
The oldest part of the church is the north arcade of three bays which is transitional, but with two Norman-looking corbel heads.

The Clifton family of Clifton Hall, (next-door) are recorded in several monuments around the church.

It has an enviable musical tradition and the church features a superb Marcussen Organ (quite recent – built in 1973).

It's quite a small church but a lovely resonant place to sing in.





For those not travelling on the Choir coach, the satnav setting should be 'Clifton Hall Drive, Holgate, Clifton, Nottingham **NG11 8NH**'

Do come – we can assure you an enjoyable evening.

Happy Accident

Sometimes circumstances conspire to bring about a good outcome when the initial news is bad.

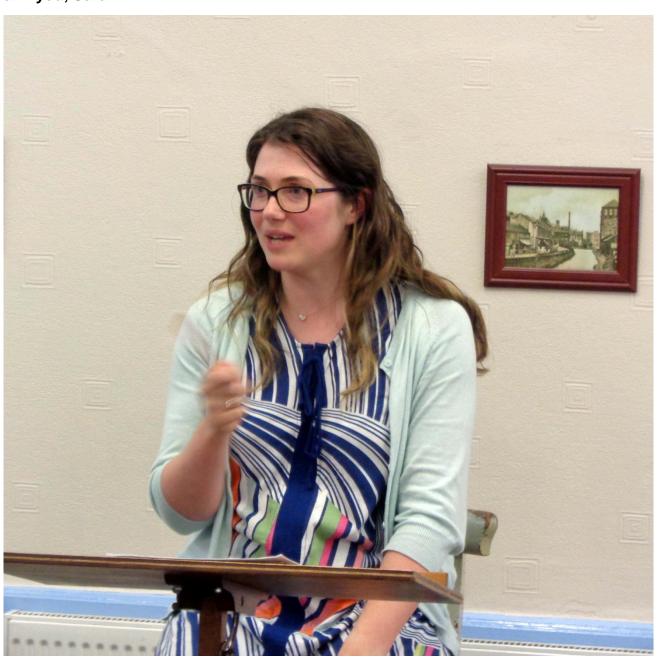
First the bad news – Colne Valley Conductor, **Thom Meredith**, phoned from his sick bed to say that an awful cold was going to keep him from leading the rehearsal. Thom's dedication is unquestioned and his robustness proven by years of vigour – so we knew it was no small thing.

But then the good news - much-admired occasional conductor, **Sarah Ogden**, was able to rush back from running singing workshops in the North East - Alnwick to be precise - to lead the evening's rehearsal.

She had had notes from Thom, ie 'Watch them on this bit, they tend to make it up.' so she was having no nonsense. And such is her skill and experience that quickly knew just what she wanted from us, regardless of what Thom might have written - (Probably he was delirious with fever when he scribbled such calumnies, anyway!)

She had us bring out our inner romantics. Always a good move with us softies!

Thank you, Sarah



If you enjoy your Voice of the Valley, you can add your friends to the circulation list.

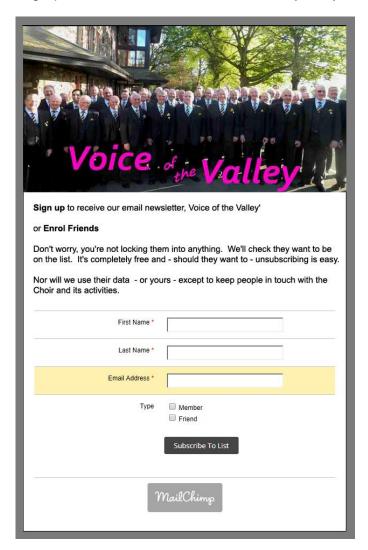
We just need a name and email address. We don't use the information for anything else apart from keeping people up to date with the choir and its activities and, should you want to, unsubscribing is very straightforward.

Those who get the printable edition, should ring Secretary, Jenny Baxter, on 01484 645192.

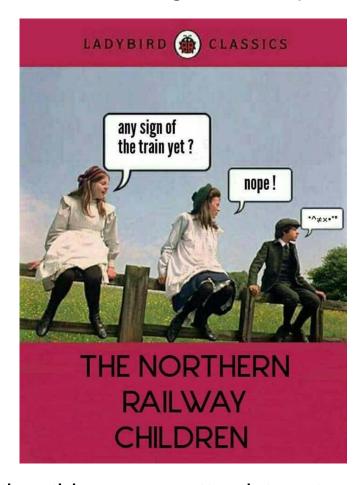
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And if you want to subscribe to VotV, Click here

That will bring up the enrolment form, which is very easy to deal with



And another thing ... a little joke



And another thing ... a pretty picture to end with...



VotV June 2018