

Voice of the Valley

COLNE VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR NEWSLETTER MAY 2021 EDITION

Jolly Good Show....

... is the verdict on the Spring Concert by Colne Valley Male Voice Choir.

With close on 1,700 views and 8,923 page-views this month on the website, the Choir's Spring Concert has evidently proved to be a 'hit' with our audiences.

We were helped by a great piece by **Cathy Killick** & presenter **Amanda Harper** on **BBC Look North** which flagged up the event to a very substantial audience across the Yorkshire region. Well done Cathy – even if you did rather stress the Choir members' advanced years - and well done, too, to Choir members **Brian** and **Ken** for setting it up.



One TV viewer, **Iris Higginbottom**, seeking guidance on how to find the concert online, wrote that she had seen the mention on Look North.

'I have a choir myself and it was sheer joy to hear you sing last night. Many thanks'

If you didn't see the **Look North broadcast**, the BBC gave us a copy so you can **watch it here**.

The concert itself went live on Youtube on April 3rd and is still available to watch again on this link. **Click here.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i762LiLf9ms>

Our viewers loved it...



After some fine scenes from the Colne Valley countryside set to a recording of the Choir singing, the Concert proper started with Raymond's welcome - and our first virtual performance **'Some Enchanted Evening.'**



Lots of positive messages reached the Voice of the Valley Editor. It seems people really liked it.

'... thought the Spring Concert was FAB !! Well done to all of you who put it all together. It was brilliant - we had relatives in Leicester, Coventry, Sheffield and Bury who really, really enjoyed everything about it, not just the singing but the super local scenery that featured!'

"Excellent concert...thank you to everyone who clearly did a lot of hard work in putting it all together."



Chairman, Joe stones, summed up the picture from the Choir's point of view...

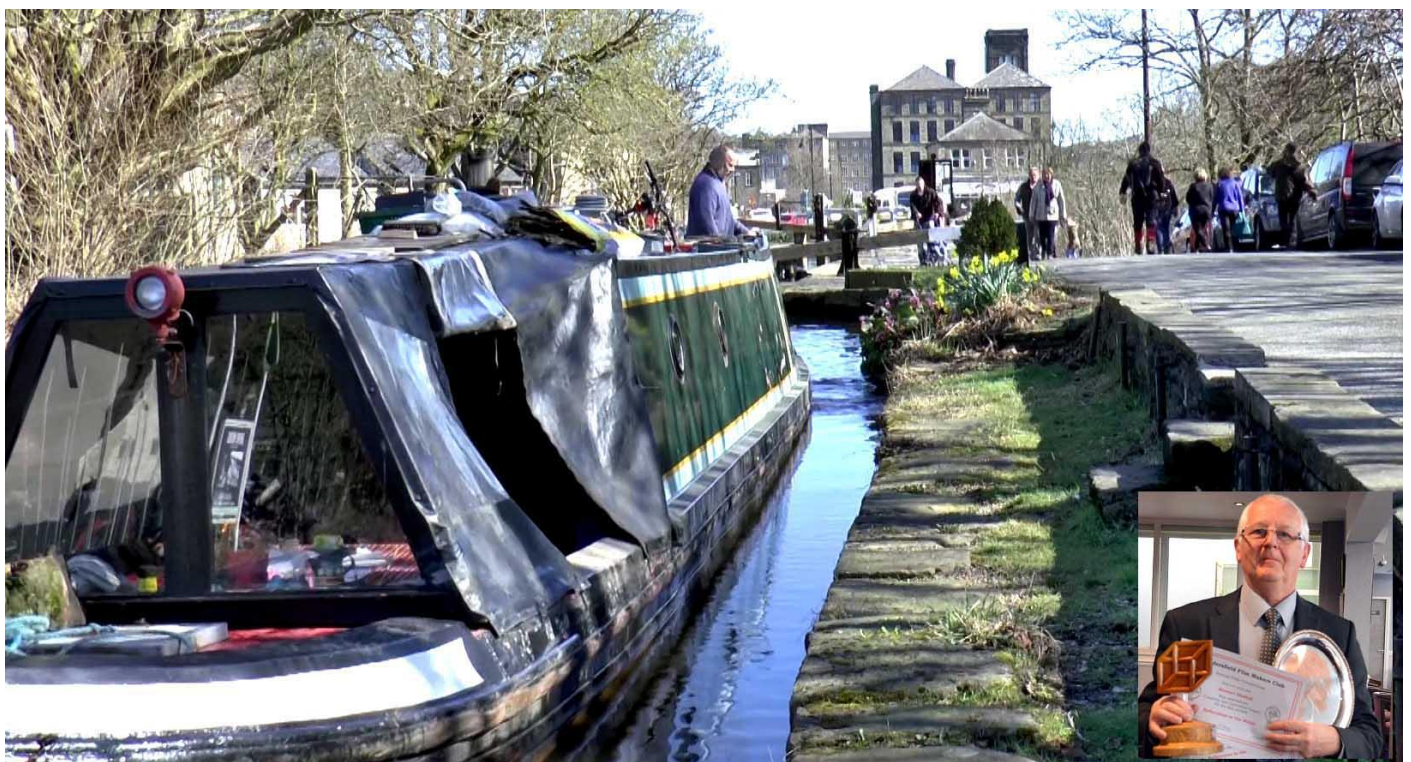
'Hi, everyone, I just wanted to say a huge well done to everyone involved in the CVMVC Spring Concert production. A lot of effort, focus and hard work has clearly been put in.'

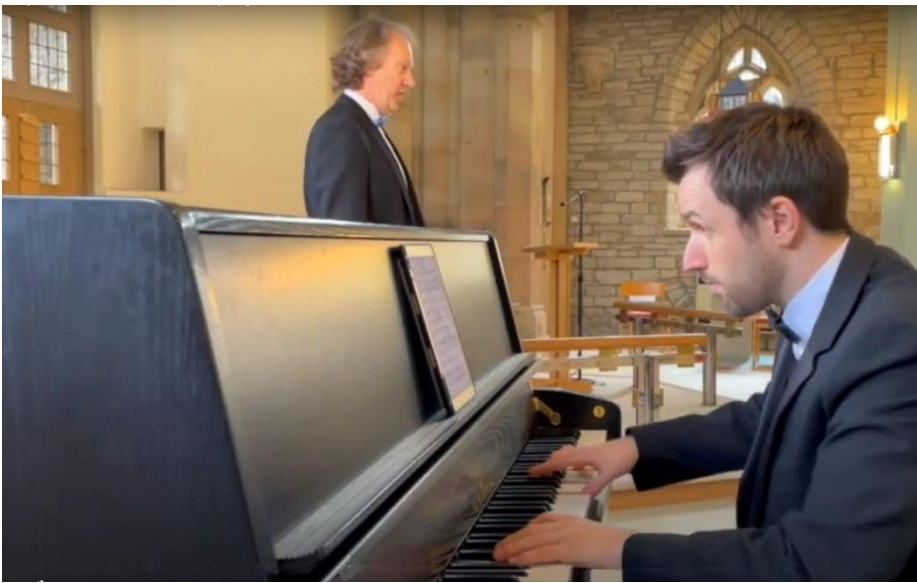
Please continue to share and encourage friends and family to watch and promote the work of our fabulous Choir and supporters through watching our YouTube concerts etc.

We can hopefully look forward to rebuilding our usual live singing in carefully planned steps from the end of May (providing government guidance doesn't change).

Thank you to everyone who sings or supports us. We will be stronger for what we have been through and played our part in terms of choral singing in the most difficult times for many years.'

Prize-winning local cinematographer, **Stewart Gledhill**, wrote *'Fantastic, well done to everybody'*. Stewart had contributed his fine film **'Gongoozling'** about the canal boats in the Choir's home village of Slaithwaite - the lovely backdrop to the Choir's version of **'Plaisirs D'Amour'**





Of course many of the plaudits were directed at Thom and Chris for their talents, hard graft and whole-hearted support.

'What a good concert it was on Easter Saturday evening and thanks to all...

.. and good to see Keith playing at Harold's concert,'



Choir Fan, **Jennifer Archer**, who contacted Voice of the Valley to say she sings along to Colne Valley CD's whilst doing the ironing in her home in Kent, writes....

'We watched the concert on Sunday and thoroughly enjoyed it. No doubt a few other folk took the opportunity to sing along to 'Another Day' as the words appeared on the screen! It's especially nice for us to see the pictures of your local area as we've really missed coming up and visiting our favourite places. Well done to everyone who took part, whether performing or putting it all together.'



My husband has had both jabs and I'm soon to have my second one then we will be heading North again - now that it looks as though all is going to plan with the 'roadmap'.

Not too long before choir members can start singing together either, we hope! Best wishes to you and the rest of the CVMVC - hoping to see you perform later in the year!'

The concert featured the wonderful voice of the late Choir First tenor, **Arthur Quarmby** singing 'Ride the Chariot', set to footage of a steam train, travelling the Yorkshire Countryside - kindly provided by **Barry Slater** and with thanks to the **Keighley & Worth Valley Railway**.



Arthur died just over a year ago after decades of support to the Choir. (Incidentally - and not wishing to tempt fate - no member has died of Coronavirus or any other cause this last year.)

His widow, **Jean Quarmby**, writes...

'Thank you. I thought the concert was amazing. The combination of music, scenery and historical episodes produced a memorable experience for me particularly to see and hear Arthur singing. I send my thanks and congratulations to all the people involved in the production of the concert.'

Best wishes

Jean'



Some concert viewers made contact to find out more about the Choir, subscribing to our in-house newsletter....

'Thank you very much for letting me know that I am now on the Readers' List for Voice of the Valley. I shall look forward to the newsletters.'

Before I go let me tell you how very much my husband and I enjoyed the recent Spring Concert. From start to finish it was superb. We were spellbound.'



This all bodes well....

All this positive feedback bodes well for when we finally get back to live performance.

And here's another good thing. Treasurer, **Simon Durrans** reports that quite a few donations have been made by viewers who thought the show merited chipping in a few pounds to help keep the Choir afloat financially.

You can still donate if you want.



Want to donate?

It's easy...

Text 5CVMVC to 70085
to donate £5.00

Text 10CVMVC to 70085
to donate £10.00

Email Simon if you want to 'Gift Aid' any donation. He'll send you a form and likely your donation will be worth 25% more. [Click here.](#)

Relive the moments.....

... and should you wish watch the concert again remember it's just a click away.



Global Weirding?

First a surprise snowstorm, then bone dry and then the inevitable fire on the Moor - all in the same month!



So the Suez story is history but.....

BREAKING NEWS : Yorkshire holds it breath as main shipping route of pork pies is blocked !!
Fred Slathwaite , Captain of the vessel, said " One minute we were fine , then a gust of wind caught us !!"

"Yorkshire is expected to loose as much as £3.45 a day until the carnage can be cleared, which could potentially take weeks. " a spokesman said.



Choir member involved in the Dark Arts?

Dabbling in witchcraft? Blackmail, perhaps? Maybe offering to fit 200 Club Supremo, **Les Stones**, with a pair of concrete boots on the canal edge at Slaithwaite?

Who knows? Maybe it's just good luck that First Tenor, **Peter Stubbs** has just won £185 in the **200 Club** draw this week. (26th April)

And of course it's pure coincidence that Voice of the Valley reported a Peter Stubbs win **only last September**, when the same chap won **a massive £1,000**.

Maybe it just shows what a good scheme **the 200 Club** is - you have a one in 200 chance of winning in every weekly draw - phenomenally good odds compared to the National Lottery.

Well done, Peter and remember even if you don't win next week your £1 per week per number will be helping the Choir stay afloat in troubled times.



Get a number now.

 The logo for the 200 Club, featuring the number "200" in large, white, 3D-style digits on a blue background, with the word "CLUB" in smaller white capital letters below it.	<p>Just one pound a week buys you one of the 200 Club numbers.</p> <p>There's a good chance of winning: £45 in prize money weekly, £185 in the monthly draw and two whopping £1,000 draws each year.</p> <p>Even if you don't win, you win - because half of the fund supports Choir concerts and performances.</p> <p>Contact Choir Secretary, Jenny, on 01484 645192</p>
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Another Peter gets in touch



Readers will be aware that second tenor, Peter Hatton, Choir member for donkeys' years, is also a member of that choir just over the Pennines in nearby Saddleworth.

His other choir does an annual **Saint George's Day concert** - but clearly for the Saddleworth men, too, live performance has been impossible this year.

Like us they've done the next best thing....

Hi,

*You may not be aware that **Saddleworth Male Voice Choir** have just released a virtual St George's Concert.*

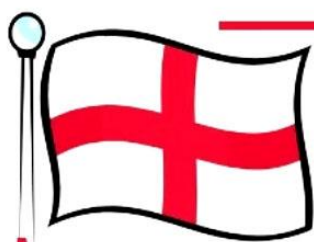
So I'm sending the link...

<https://youtu.be/8wDRG1HUk6Q> . Click here

I think it's good to share what we're doing with other choirs, as I've shared CVMVC's concert with our Whats App group.

Stay safe. Cheers.

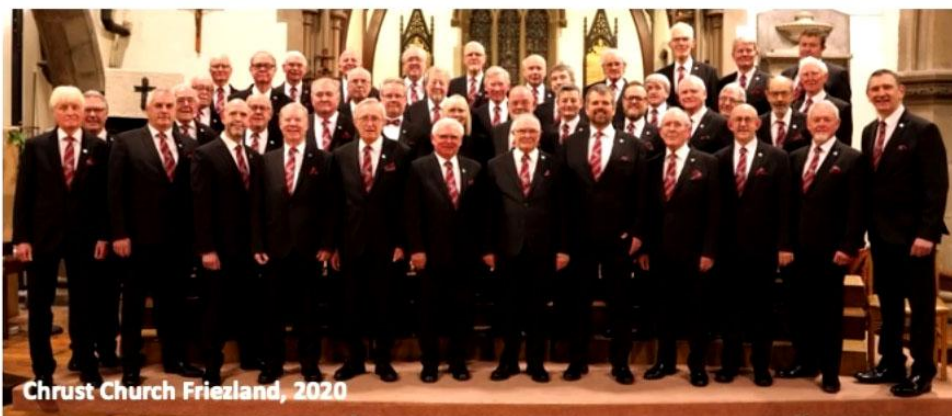
Peter



Donations will be welcome to support the choir and its chosen charity 'Mobiloo'

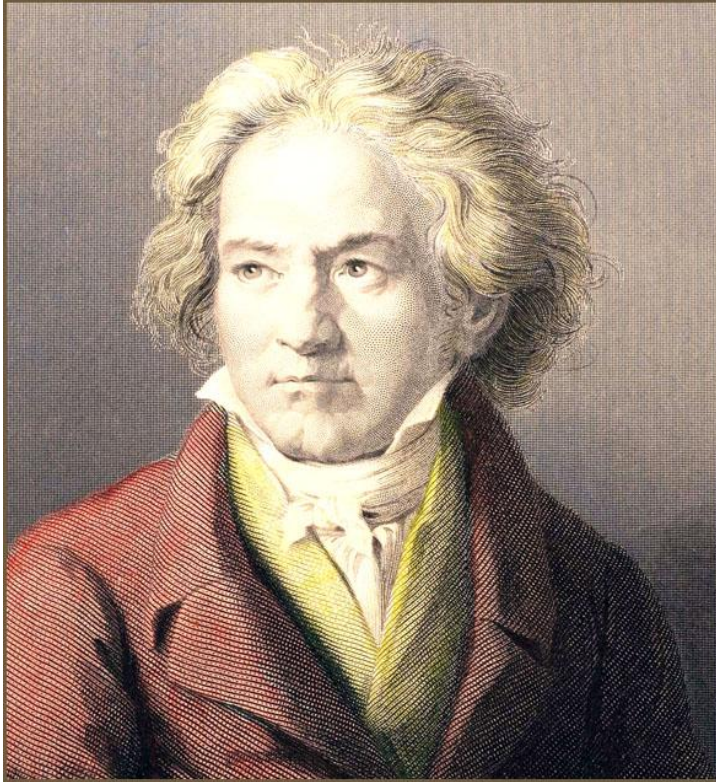


Saddleworth Male Voice Choir **Thank you for watching our virtual** **Concert for St. George**

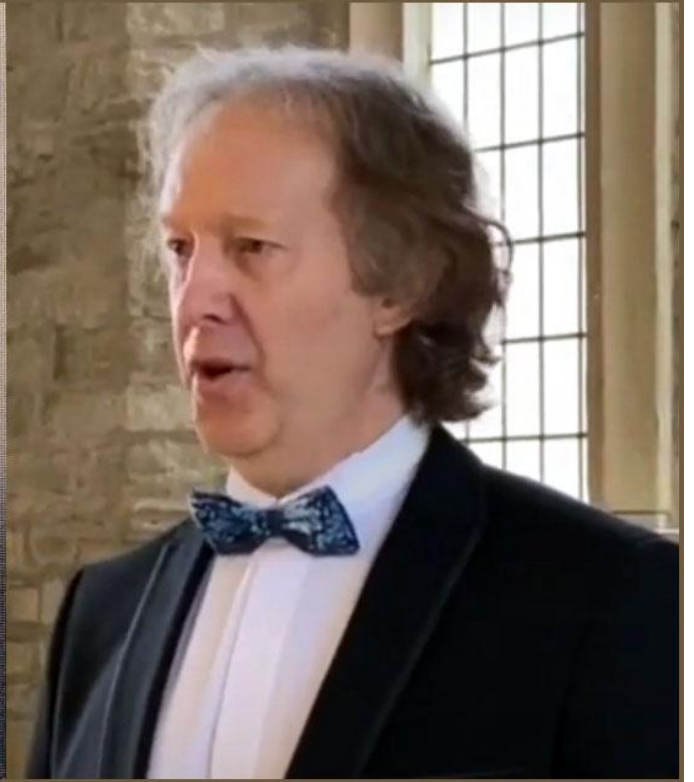


Chrurst Church Friezland, 2020

Could they be related?



Ludwig van Meredith?



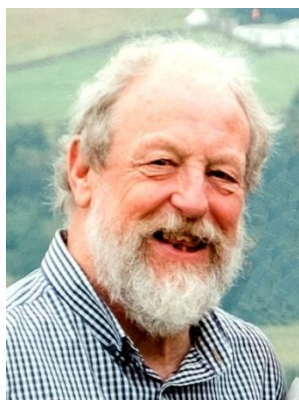
Thom Beethoven?

One can, occasionally, be found composing, the other, if found at all, would be decomposing.

Well it made me
smile....



And so did this...



Send me a picture.

Tell me your news

At this time of continuing distancing and social isolation, VotV readers, whether singers or audience-members, still can't yet meet up.



But we can keep in touch.

Let the VotV Editor know if something happens to you that might be of interest and has some connection - even if it's a bit tenuous - to the Choir. Doesn't matter if you are not very confident writing, I'll help you put into publishable shape.

Voice of the Valley Editor: John C Clark

Ring Choir Secretary, Jenny, on 01484 645192
to join us or join our Readers' List or for other queries

