



Start of a fresh relationship?

Sunday afternoon saw a new collaboration between local musicians, which has not happened for many a year: that is a concert by the **Slaithwaite Band**, with Colne Male Voice Choir and Colne Valley Boys as their guests.





A good and enthusiastic audience at St James' Church heard the resurgent Slaitwaite Band performing under their Musical Director, **Leigh Baker**.

(CVMVC knows Leigh quite well - he was guest conductor of Brighouse and Rastrick Band at one of our great Town Hall Christmas Concerts.)

And they are a fine band, established in Slaitwaite in 1892 and going strong after 130 years.

Interspersed with the Band's repertoire were performances by the men of the Colne Valley (just 100 years old) and the boys of Colne Valley Boys, both under the direction of **Thom Meredith**, supported by inestimable accompanist, **Chris Pulleyn**.





Ably conducted by Leigh Baker



& compèred by Radio Leeds' Andrew Edwards

The audience and your Editor reckoned it was a brilliant concert.



Could this mark the start of a fresh and fruitful collaboration between two long-established musical institutions?

Let's hope so.

Basil's glory days

The last edition of Voice of the Valley mentioned the recent death of former second tenor **Basil Hirst**, who passed away aged 96 in Bradford after a long and full life.

Basil had been for many years a prominent member of Colne Valley Male Voice Choir; a good-humoured chap, a very talented singer and musician and always a positive and supportive mentor to newer members (of whom your Editor was one).

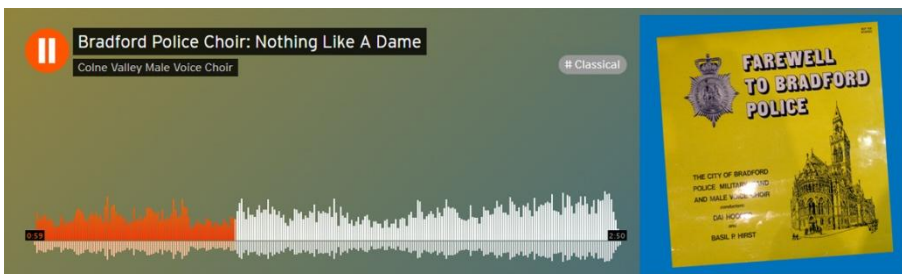


Most of us knew that Basil had been a policeman through much of his working life and that he'd been connected with a police choir.



A recent discovery by **Stuart Baxter** throws some more light on this. It turns out that **Superintendent Basil Hirst** had been a singer in the City of Bradford Police Male Voice Choir for many years and that he had taken on the conductor's role in 1970.

That it was a fine choir is evidenced by these two clips from their 1974 long-playing record, '**Farewell to Bradford Police**'. This recording was made to mark the end of the choir and the end of Bradford City Police, as the various West Yorkshire police forces were merged into one Metropolitan Police Force.



Readers will, I'm sure, enjoy '**There is Nothing like a Dame**' from South Pacific

<https://soundcloud.com/john-clark-124140241/bradford-police-choir-nothing-like-a-dame>

..... And

'**All Through the Night**' a song that was performed by CVMVC in the Christmas ad we did for Sainsbury's many years later, giving us our 15 seconds of fame.



<https://soundcloud.com/john-clark-124140241/bradford-police-choir-all-through-the-night>

Both these excerpts show the quality of the choir and, by implication the quality of the person who led them.

Well done, Basil, RIP

A Lancastrian complains...

I thought he was a decent sort of chap - worthy of being a Yorkshireman - but, bass, **Brian Fairclough** has sent *VotV* a letter of complaint.

He feels traduced that I should have called him a Yorkshireman and says that if it gets out amongst his Red Rose brethren his name could be mud.

*'As usual I read with great interest that recent *VotV*. Imagine my surprise when I saw that it contained a picture of a handsome lad who was called a true Yorkshireman!!*

Wash your mouth out with Carbilic John!

Tha' cawnt inflict such a slur on a proud Lanky lad as that. Nay,Lad, Nay.'



Brian, who was born near St Helens claims he was 'blessed to follow a Red Rose route all of his life' but had the good sense to settle in 'God's own county' some 40 odd years ago.

He it was, who sent us some 'Yorkshirisms' to decipher

Intitot?

Smarrarweeim?

Lerrim purrisaton

Edurrant purrizead undertwatter

Corforus arpastate intmornin

Eesezitintis burraberritis

Did you manage it? No prizes for getting them right.



Isn't it hot?

What is the matter with him?

Let him put his hat on.

He dare not put his head under water.

Call for me at half past eight in the morning.

He says, it isn't his but I bet it is.

Well, *VotV* supposes it might be in order to apologise to Brian for the factual error but your Editor still reckons he should feel flattered that we thought he could be one of us.

Christmas is coming

In our area that means two things; Messiahs all over the place and Colne Valley Male Voice Choir's fabulous Town Hall Christmas concert. This year is no exception. One of the best 'Sing it yourself' Messiah's will be this one by the Outlane Singers - not least because the tenor and bass soloists will be our very own Chris Pulleyn and Thom Meredith.

It's on Sunday December 4th at St Stephen's Church in Lindley. Singers are invited to bring along their own copies of the score.

The OUTLANE Singers

Come and Sing 'Messiah'

Soprano	Rhianydd Beaumont
Mezzo-soprano	Sally Perkins
Tenor	Chris Pulleyn
Bass	Thom Meredith
Organist	Malcolm Hinchliffe
Conductor	Suzanne Smelt

Sunday 4th December 7pm

St Stephen's Church - Lindley - HD3 3JB

Registration from 3.30pm - rehearsal 4.00-5.30pm
Tea break from 5.30pm (bring your own packed-tea)
What to wear for concert - ladies: black trousers/skirt and white top, men: suit and tie (DJs not expected)

Please bring your own copy of 'Messiah'
Participation fee: cash donation on the day towards concert expenses

Please complete the details below* and return by post or email to Suzanne Smelt - 780 New Hey Road - Outlane -Huddersfield -HD3 3YJ; suzannesmelt@hotmail.com

Name.....Phone.....
Address.....
.....
Email.....

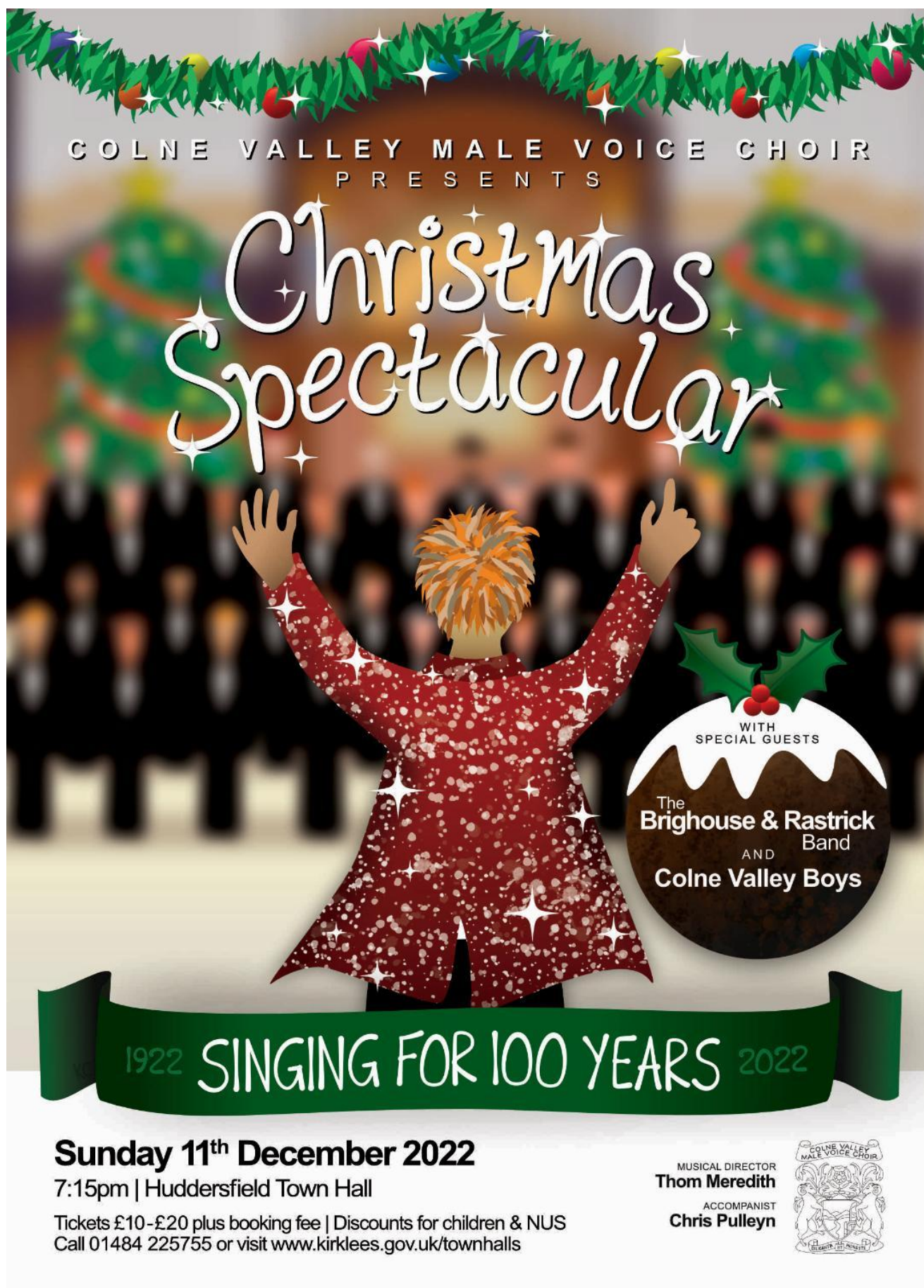
Please indicate your voice part:

Soprano.... Alto.... Tenor.... Bass....

*Unless you give permission, these details will not be used for any purpose other than in connection with this event or to inform you of a similar event

The following Sunday CVMVC invite you to join us at the Huddersfield Town Hall for our annual Christmas Concert. Once again our guests will be Brighouse and Rastrick Band and Colne Valley Boys.

Get your tickets now. A good way is to phone Roger Fielding on 01484 846262.



COLNE VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR
P R E S E N T S

Christmas Spectacular


WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
The Brighouse & Rastrick Band
AND
Colne Valley Boys

1922 SINGING FOR 100 YEARS 2022

Sunday 11th December 2022
7:15pm | Huddersfield Town Hall

Tickets £10-£20 plus booking fee | Discounts for children & NUS
Call 01484 225755 or visit www.kirklees.gov.uk/townhalls

MUSICAL DIRECTOR
Thom Meredith
ACCOMPANIST
Chris Pulleyn



200 club news

The 200 club is a choir fundraising draw which offers a great chance of winning a weekly prize. As the name suggests, here are a maximum of 200 numbers in the draw.

It is open to anyone who wishes to support the choir, not just choir members. If you subscribe, you will be allocated a number which will be entered in the good old, antique tombola drum every Monday night.

There is a six-monthly prize of £1000, a monthly of £185 and a weekly prize of £45.

There are some available numbers at the moment, so please think about buying a number.



Noel Clarke - won £185 on Monday

Entry costs only £1 per week and you can pay annually or just whenever suits you, such as monthly, quarterly etc. You can pay cash, by cheque or directly into the bank. Whichever suits you. If you already have numbers and wish to pay by online banking, drop me an email or a phone message/call and I will give you the details. It's really easy once you are set up.

The lucky winners since we last published in June were:

- £45 – *Peter Hirst, Lois Hall-Jones, John Clark, Betty Peel, Chris Hartley, James Cook, Graeme Stevenson, Barbara Muskett, Michael Hirst, Barbara Nutton, Jenny Baxter, Carol Hey, Gina Fielding and John Clark*
- £185 – *David Morrison, Brian Hibbert, Noel Clark*
- £1000 -- *Gerald Stead.*

The 200 club is an important source of funds for the choir and a very good chance of winning for you, so please consider taking a number or more for only £1 per week for you and your family and friends.

For more information or if you wish to take a number, contact **Peter Kelly** on 07802 544717 or by email on peter.kelly10@btinternet.com





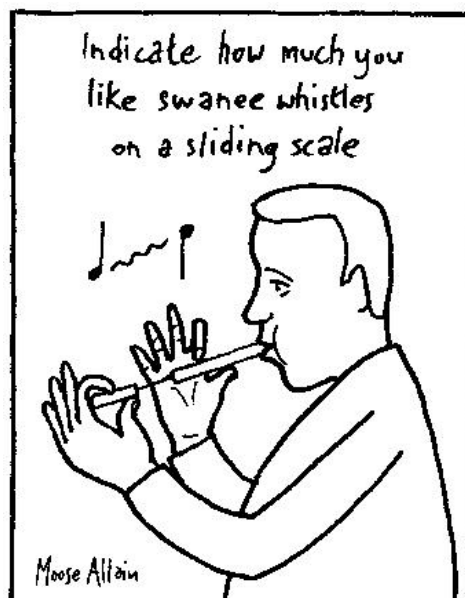
Guess who is in the scary Halloween costume

Well it made me smile....



"Hi, I am the replacement for Liz."
"Same here"

....and so did this



And remember VotV always welcomes reader contributions.



colnevalleymvc.org.uk

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