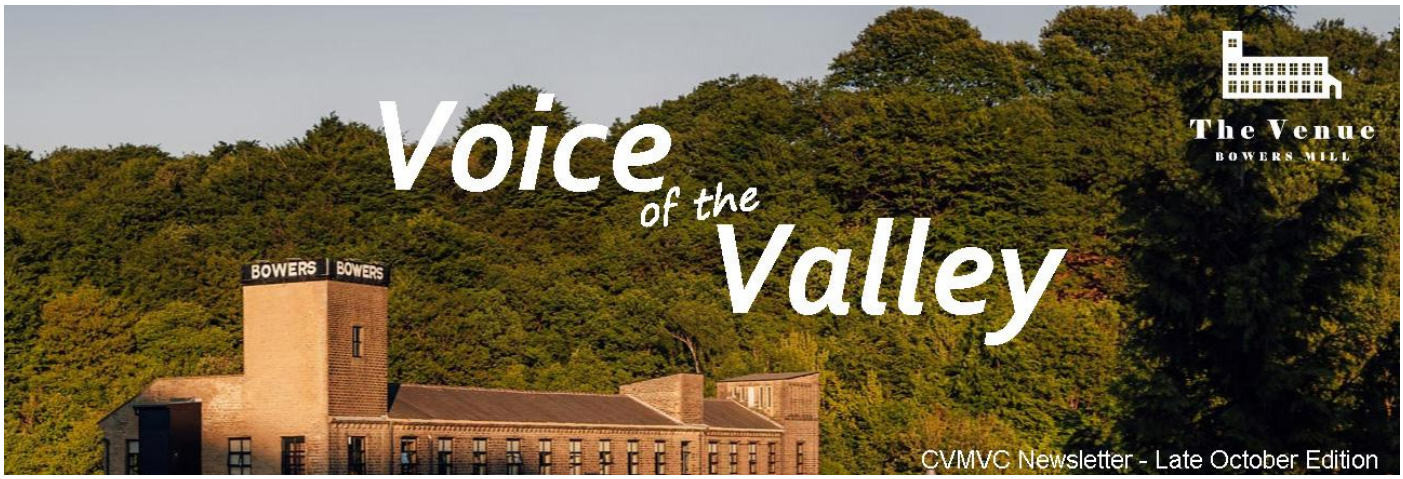


Choir Day at Bowers Mill

Singing, workshops, good food and camaraderie; these were the key features of the Choir Day that we recently celebrated at 'The Venue' on Sunday, the 4th of October.


Sight-reading session with Chris


Sunday morning - gathering for first workshop

'What a good day it was too', said all the Choir singers that gathered for workshops and expert voice coaching.

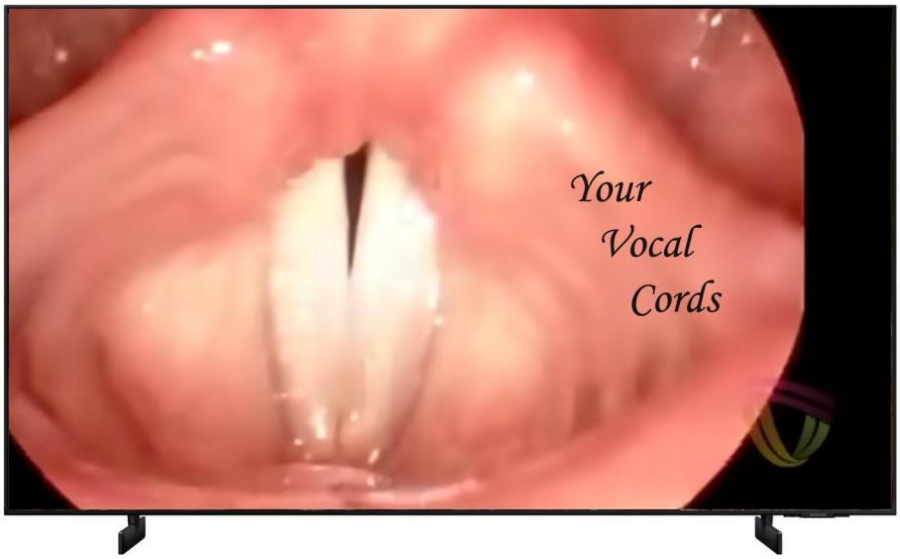
Our professionals, **Thom**, **Chris** and **Rhianydd**, backed up on the keyboards by **Benjamin**, and **Grace**, led stimulating workshops. These covered a wide range of vocal exercises and practical development of musical knowledge.

Rhianydd reveals the physiology

“I thought only women had pelvic floors,” said one singer, “But now I know better” He said this as he engaged with new knowledge of **Whole Body Involvement** in voice production.

This was so cogently explained by the wonderful **Rhianydd Beaumont** along with, almost too graphic, evidence of how our remarkable vocal cords work.

They are no longer than the nail on your little finger but - along with judicious use of the astonishing resonant cavities in our upper torsos and heads - can create a full and beautiful sound.





See the video – Click on this link:- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y2okeYVclQo&t=27s



Thom, in his smaller group also focussed on sight-reading intervals, using a selection of the new music, that will feature in our up and coming Christmas repertoire.

Real Hospitality

The Venue looked after us most excellently, keeping us topped up with coffee, tea - and biscuits - and a hearty lunch.



Camaraderie: Keith and Choir pal, Rob Taylor

And an excellent evening followed



Bass, Steve Keeley savours the welcome



Top-hatter, Neil Carey with partner and Baritone, Matt Treese

Over 100 plus participants arrived for a celebratory dinner after our hard working day. Such an attractive lot; VotV is hard put to decide which to feature!



Stylish Couple - Joe Lodge and partner



Banquet Photos - thanks to Lucy Stones

Our evening repast complete, our guest of honour, **Andrew Edwards** regaled us with anecdotes from his career in the BBC.

What a good speaker he was.

Then came an '**Awards Ceremony**', recognising choir members for outstanding contributions. Thom and Chris got one obviously, as did **Kieren Chadha** and **Roger Fielding** for his sterling work as 'Ticket Supremo' for our Town Hall Christmas concerts over many years.

Geoff Bedford got a much-merited certificate for securing sponsorship funds. Also rewarded was **Matt Houston** for his (and **Linda**'s) years of devoted effort with Colne Valley Boys.

Our audience was also pleased to see **Alex Pearson** recognised for his Social Media promotions.


'Social Media' Alex gets deserved award


Award-winning VotV Editor with Photographer, Chris Wilson

Thom rounded off the evening with thanks to all and we went off to our beds reinforced in our commitment to our wonderful Colne Valley Male Voice Choir.




Assembled diners focus on post-prandial entertainment

Ring those Christmas Bells

It's coming soon! That's right; Christmas will soon be upon us.

The Choir is deep into rehearsal for our Christmas concerts and they will be ‘crackers’.

One of the songs which will undoubtedly be a big hit is ‘**Ring Those Christmas Bells**’.

Its comic lyrics include some challenging tongue-twisters. At the moment we are all at ‘sixes and sevens’ with them but, no doubt, we will be on top of the diction when we go on stage at the wonderful **Huddersfield Town Hall** on **December the 13th**.



Voice of the Valley, after a most diligent search, has discovered that the **Maplewood Glee Club** in **New Jersey, USA** is a choir that has grappled with the same music and lyrics, - and they look quite happy about it.

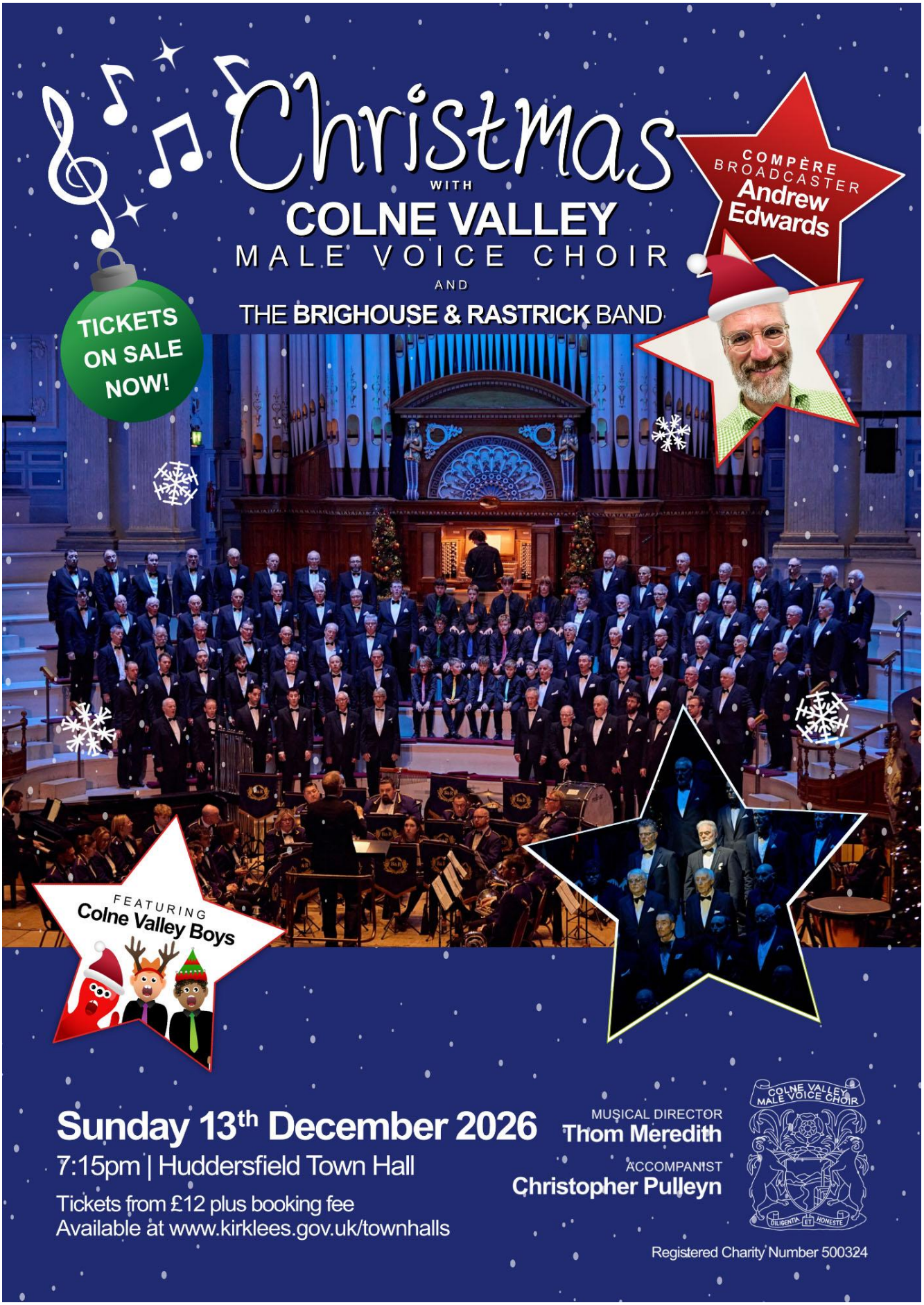
They produced this fine ‘Covid Era’ video rendition of ‘Ring Those Christmas Bells’.

Voice of the Valley is happy, too, to enable readers to hear what is in store in a few weeks time when we sing it.

Watch the video; it's terrific and many thanks to the Maplewood Glee Club.



https://youtu.be/cmAdyYdmWN0



Get your tickets:- Click here- we'll be at Marsden, too, on the 19th

https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/town-halls/book-tickets.aspx?eventId=163002ARVVMPDDJKPSBHTMPKPPJTGHHHV

Lake District Tour

The proposed Lake District Tour is now a reality and the dates have been announced.

These are the dates for the tour:- **Friday 4th June - Sunday 6thJune 2027**.

To enable Choir members with work commitments to participate, members can vary their arrival times. Those with more time might well arrive earlier and stay over longer. Flexibility is maximised.

VotV can't yet reveal the complete plans, where we are to perform and so on. Nor can we be definitive, just yet, as to the costs, the levels of subsidy etc. Singers should await announcements in due course.

But VotV can confirm that the hotel is super, and the tour will be an exciting venture – with lots of fun things in one of the country's most beautiful locations.



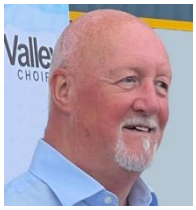
Singers;-

Look forwards to the details

Mark these dates in your diaries straight away

Friday 4th June - Sunday 6thJune 2027

Another chance to join the fabulous Ellie sax



'Good Morning, Gents, (Choir Chairman, Andrew Leyland, writes to the men)

Ellie Sax** has asked for CVMVC to join her once more – this time at her '**Faithful**' gig in **Halifax Minster** on **16th December 2026.



*Ellie and Harry have invited both us and the **Halifax Musical Theatre Choir** to join them again in this special Christmas gig. Imagine Ellie's saxophone floating round in the Minster echoing acoustic - add to that two fine choirs and Harry's electro-beats: this will be a phenomenal concert.*

*Singers will remember this exciting collaboration from that fabulous summer performance at the **Piece Hall**.'*

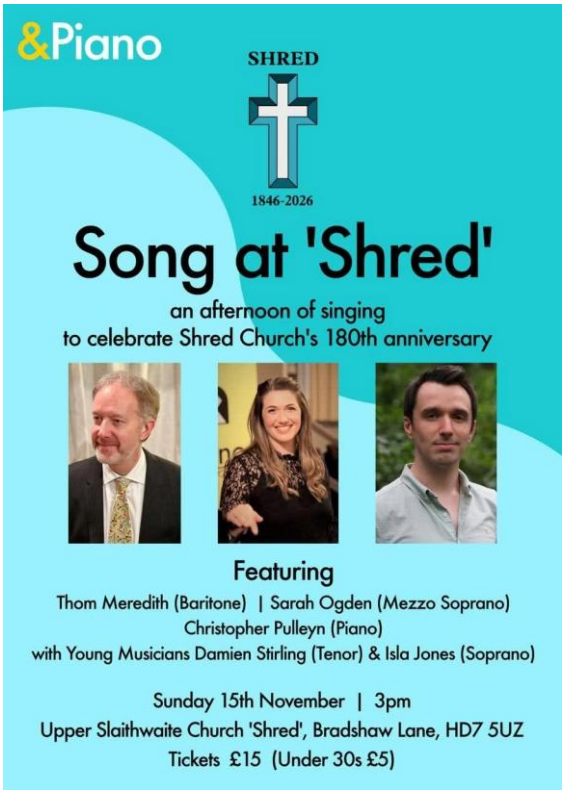
Regards
Andrew



VotV Agrees-

It'll be fabulous





& Piano and Friends go to Shred....

.....you should go, too!

Sunday afternoon, November the 15th

Snow, Snow, Snow



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co-uk3fvneY

Here's a silly song, we might be adding to our Christmas repertoire. Enjoy!

The Boys are back in Town



Thank you for reading VotV – take a look at our website, too.

Colne Valley Male Voice Choir
Est 1922

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