

Publicity and Promotion

I'm working on an update of our chorus brochure and reviewing simpler formats (business cards, A5 flyer) of chorus promotion to hand out at singouts and public events.

We will soon be arranging a full uniform chorus photo session to provide a choice of promotional photos. With the help of Mike, Ron and the rest of the committee I am gathering information on local websites and contacts.

Several ATFs ago I asked for copies of local papers in your area including 'freebies', please bring them in. Performing at 'open mic' nights is increasing our public exposure and the a-capella barbershop sound provides variety and novelty to these events. **Clive Clark**

Section Rehearsals I Hope you all enjoyed the new style section rehearsals. The aim is to generate an accurate unit sound, within each section.

There will be some 'dot bashing'. Those who learn new songs quickly will be able to help those who need more time, who will in turn have in incentive not to slow their fellow singers' progress. In sections you will be able to practice phrasing, dynamics, legato, tempos, vocal colour, even facial expressions. You can try out the format that best suit you – in a circle or in a performance stack. Have fun! *Ron*

Thought for January
Music is beyond culture, beyond time, because it expresses the soul. *HJ Lim (Concert pianist)*

Springtime Harmony 22nd April

It's only 15 weeks until our show at the Electric Theatre in Guildford. Michael will be putting out a Singout Sheet shortly so please make it a priority to keep the afternoon/evening clear and sign up. We need a maximum turnout for this chorus showcase.

We'll be performing with other talented acts and it'll be a fun day. Tickets are now bookable at the Electric Theatre Box Office 01483 444 789 or www.electrictheatre.co.uk. There is small booking charge to cover ET administration. Our show is also advertised in their quarterly events programme available at the theatre and posted to patrons.

Clive Clark

An evening at the Rowbarge I hope we managed to catch everyone who meant to come on our first Tuesday when we were locked out at Bellfields. The booking had been made but the caretaker had not been told.

The impromptu session at The Rowbarge was well received though! We even got a Singout out of it on 21st February.

Mike Hurdle



Around the Fringe

From the Chair

We were saddened to hear of the untimely passing of Neil Watkins just before Christmas. We remember his guest evenings at our 'Come 'n' Sing' courses and we had been planning to use some of his arrangements for competition. He has made a major impact on many people in the world of Barbershop and in the church he



actively supported in North Holmwood. I joined many of his friends who turned out in strength at his funeral in late December. He was described as a man who looked su-

We are looking forward to an evening on 13th March with

Aidan Brand

Arrive on time, ready to sing.

premerely laid back whilst contributing a lot.

I have written to Kay to offer our club's condolences and to say how much people enjoyed his evenings with

us. We ended 2011 in style with our social evening; and we started 2012 with a warm welcome to Derrick Catchpole, who sang with us for the first time at the Rowbarge. Derrick is an experienced chorister and we hope he will see a future singing with us.

We have much to look forward to this year, including our own show in Guildford. A very Happy New Year to all.

Mike Hurdle

Get Quartetting

Our quartet evening 25th February approaches fast. Give it a go! We already have quartets registering from other clubs. What can Surrey Fringe do?

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Surrey Fringe Meets every Tuesday evening from 7:45—10:00 at Bellfields Youth and Community Centre.—Hazel Avenue, Bellfields, Guildford GUI INS

Around the Fringe

Forthcoming Events

Thanks and congratulations to everyone - and especially the new members - who turned out for so many singouts and carols during December. We have received thanks and support from all the organisers. Now for 2012!

Organisers need to know well in advance if we can perform so that they can publicise the event, or engage another act if we can't make it.

Christchurch Hall, Guildford: Singout for OAP social club.

Thursday 2nd February, 2:00pm

Bellfields—Fringe Quartet Competition

Saturday 25th February 2011 @ 7:30 pm

Outer Fringe

Surrey Fringe is often asked to provide a quartet or an octet for a singout where the occasion or the venue is too small or intimate for the full Chorus. We don't have an 'official quartet' and in the past we have either declined the gig, passed it to another Chorus or asked whether anybody wanted to 'have a go'. None of which is satisfactory. Recently, Johnny Robbins together with Trevor, Graham and Clive Clark performed very successfully as 'Outer Fringe' at a Concert in Johnny's village and have booked 2 more gigs as a result.

'Outer Fringe' has since expanded to a group of eight so that if one member cannot make a gig then there will be a substitute. The group is starting with chorus songs but hopes to develop its own repertoire in due course

If Surrey Fringe gets a request for a quartet or small group we should now be able to

St Mary's Byfleet: Singout for OAP social club.
Thursday 8th March 1:30pm

Godalming Music Festival.
Tuesday 27th March 2012

Electric Theatre Guildford: Surrey Fringe Spring-time Harmony Show
Sunday 22nd April 2:00pm and 7:00pm

BABS 38th Annual Convention, Southport Theatre and Convention centre.
25th-27th May 2012

If you cannot attend a singout due to unforeseen circumstances, please inform me as early as possible. For a last minute emergency you can phone me on 0794 654 8312 @Michael

meet the demand. Michael will handle the request; Johnny will organise 'Outer Fringe'. He may even call on a substitute, substitute.

Our normal quartet spot is rather daunting for many. So this will be taken instead by a fortnightly 'Sing with Outer Fringe'.

Guest Educator Make a note to be early on 13th March when we have an evening of **Coaching by Aidan Brand.**

Aidan sang in the church choir from an early age. He helped found Capital Chorus and had a spell with Thames Valley Chorus where he was tenor section leader. He achieved convention finalist on three occasions with the quartet Figaro, before rejoining Capital Chorus. Recently, Capital Chorus has achieved small chorus award and Most Improved Chorus.

We are guaranteed a super evening.

Around the Fringe

New Year's Resolutions

Those of you who have been around for more than four years will realise that the Surrey Fringe has developed significantly over that period. Four years ago I set four goals for the chorus:

To sing with Energy,
Soul, Beauty, and
With us next week.

Our **Energy** is coming from our enjoyment of what we do; it will increase as each of us grows in confidence.

Singing with **Soul** demands that we understand what we are singing about, the story we are trying to tell, the emotions we are trying to communicate and our empathy with the audience.

To sing with **Beauty** we need to be singing the right notes and words. We need to be singing as a chorus with all voices contributing to the overall sound.

The incentive to sing **With us next week**, comes from setting and achieving goals, and having fun doing it. *Ron*



December 2011 Social Evening