

After a Busy Autumn...

On 20th November we gave a concert in support of the **Centenary Celebrations at Crowle Methodist Church**. The picture was taken during the performance of Galloping Godiva.



Christmas started for the choir on 27th November when they went to Hull to take part in the "Countdown to Christmas Band and Choir Concert" with the United Co-operative Yorkshire Brass Band. The event, at the Guildhall in Hull was in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief and St Andrew's Hospice, and was organised by the Co-operative Group and United Co-op.

On 19th December we'll be at the New Life Church, this year's venue for the **Scunthorpe Choral Society Christmas Concert**. Concert starts at 7.30 p.m.



...we're looking forward to 2005:

Plans are in place for an exciting trip to Paris next July. Around 40 members of the choir have signed up for the visit which will involve a chance to tour and sing at the Disneyland Paris complex, as well as other venues in and around the city.

We also aim to attend the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales. An audition tape has been submitted for the Senior Children's Choirs class which take place on Wednesday 6th July.

More information about the event at www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk/



**Llangollen International
Musical Eisteddfod**
Eisteddfod Gerddorol Rhyngwladol Llangollen



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ALLEGRO!

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SCUNTHORPE COOPERATIVE JUNIOR CHOIR NEWS

INTERESTING TIMES FOR OUR CONDUCTORS

In August, Andrea Jeffries, conductor of the beginner's training choir spent a week at the University of Leicester on the British Kodaly Academy's Summer School.

"There were about 80 of us all together, some who had attended for years, and some who were, like me, novices. The age range was from fourteen to about seventy. Many were teachers, but I also met a music therapist and a grandma who wanted to start a music activity group at her local playgroup! Continued overleaf



We say farewell to Andrew Ella at the end of this year.

Andrew has conducted the training choir and deputized for Sue Hollingworth since 2002. He's just been appointed to a new position as Choral Animator in Warwickshire and leaves his current teaching position at the end of this term.

We wish him every success.

Conducting ABC for Charlotte Turner

Thanks to Sue I decided to go on the Associated Board of Choral Conductors course held in Exeter this year. She suggested it after I had taken the training choir for one rehearsal and realised that if I were to do it again, I would have to do better than just randomly waving my arms around in time to the music!

I was one of ten on a Young Choral Conductors course running along side the main programme. Our course was run by Therese Tkach Hibbard who was really vibrant and great fun! She taught us the basic conducting technique and then it was our turn to conduct the others singing a choral work. I had the night to practice and so stayed up until the early hours conducting 'Oh Salutaris' in front of the mirror! When it came to the real thing, it was quite nerve racking having nine faces staring at you expecting you to control everything they did. It made me thankful I wasn't conducting my own choir considering there are

over one hundred of us!

In between Therese teaching us, we listened and participated in lectures given by visiting conductors, one, Edward Bolkovac coming all the way from the USA. This took place with everyone else on the main course and we all formed one choir for the conductors to conduct and show us the technique to use. With about 150 of us singing in SATB, it was a huge sound! The conductors were so knowledgeable and friendly and they gave really constructive advice. It made me appreciate just how skillful successful conductors are.

I left on a real high and talked non-stop about it all the way back to Lincolnshire. The conductors there were inspirational and the company of like-minded individuals was enjoyable. It was a real turning point for me because it made me certain that I wanted to study music at University and who knows, perhaps even conduct a choir in the future.

Charlotte

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The most important visitors of all were a busload of lovely Hungarian ladies who were to be our tutors for the week.

Each day started with twenty minutes of communal singing (or voice warm-up) followed by a morning of solfege (musicianship). We received tuition appropriate to our level of knowledge and by the end of the week my group could sing pieces in sol-fa whilst signing the sol-fa in canon with ourselves! Before lunch we had an hour of choir practice: for the first five days everything was sung in sol-fa before we even tried the words, and although this was initially confusing for beginners like myself, it did help us to get to know the music thoroughly. After each piece, the conductor, Lenke, would either pull a face or exclaim, "Eet ees bee-yoo-ti-fool!"

In the afternoons we could choose from a range of musical classes. The best were Lucinda's "Early Years" class where we could pretend we were three years old and play musical games with puppets or a giant scrunchie, and Alison's "Children's Choir" which was such fun that we spent much of the time in stitches!

At the end of course concert, where the choirs and solfege groups performed for each other, the standard of the choir was particularly high, and reminded us all that we had improved considerably. I felt tired after a busy week, but full of new ideas for musical activities both with school and with the little training choir.

If you ever get the chance to attend a BKA Summer School, take it; you'll meet interesting people and have loads of fun!" Andrea

Andrew Carter – Composer of the Quarter

Our choir has sung many works by Andrew Carter. When we were in Canada his *Badgers and Hedgehogs*, from *Bless The Lord*, was a favourite with choir and audience alike. This summer a number of our choristers took part in a performance of his *Benedicite*, a piece for SATB with children's choir and orchestra, conducted by Andrew, with Grimsby Philharmonic Choir. The main choir are singing the Cantata *Galloping Godiva* at their current Concerts.

Andrew Carter was born in 1939 into a Leicestershire family of tower and handbell ringers. Following a music degree at the University of Leeds, he joined York Minster choir as a bass songman. For a decade, he was also Director of Music at the Bar Convent Grammar School.

In 1965 he founded the Chapter House Choir at York Minster. During his 17-year conductorship, the group became nationally well known for its various awards in the BBC Let the Peoples Sing competition. In 1984 Andrew and his family were invited to New Zealand for a year, where he was Director of the Auckland Dorian Choir, University Chamber Choir and Youth Choir.

Andrew has composed several large-scale works for choir, soloists and orchestra, including the *Benedicite*, which has been widely performed on both sides of the Atlantic and in the Antipodes. *Horizons* and *Musick's Jubilee* were

commissioned and premiered by British Choral Societies, whilst *Te Deum*, and more recently *Maryland Magnificat* (2002) were both written for American Lutheran Choirs.

As a composer and choir director Andrew Carter has travelled extensively in the United States, and he regularly workshops his music at home and abroad.

Biography taken from the web site, www.andrewcarter.org.uk.

