

CHOIRS GIVE CHAMPIONSHIP PERFORMANCE

On Saturday 28th October Biddulph Male Voice choir (West Midlands Male Voice Choir of the year 2023) travelled to Rawtenstall, Lancs. to perform a joint concert with the Rossendale Male Voice Choir (Lancashire Choir of the Year 2023), this being the return concert following Rossendales visit to Biddulph in March 2023.

The concert was performed in the beautiful surroundings of St Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, with its fabulous acoustics, to a 200 strong audience who were not to be disappointed.

Rossendale opened the concert with "Let the river run", the beautiful and melodic "Seal Lullaby" , "Homeward Bound", and the fabulous "Anthem" from "Chess".

Biddulph then followed with a resounding and powerful rendition of "African Prayer" the soulful "I Dreamed a Dream" from Les Miserables, and two more upbeat numbers "With a voice of singing", and "Take me home"

The two choirs then combined beautifully under the direction of Rossendale's conductor Mathew Thomas, to sing the melodic "Morte Cristi". The sound of 70 voices singing in close harmony was absolutely breathtaking and finished the first half with long and sustained applause from the audience.

Biddulph opened the second half with the traditional welsh song "Gwahoddiad", followed by the modern "One day like this", "Deus Salutis" which the choir sang in Welsh to the delight of the audience, and finished with the ever popular "Working Man".

Rossendale continued their performance with the powerful "We rise again" and a new quiet and reflective number "The sweetest kick", before living up their performance with "Beatles for choirs" , a medley of songs from the fab four, and the anthem "Seize the day". After a standing ovation the choirs performed together again with a strong version of "When the saints' under the direction of Biddulph's conductor Anthony Marks, which ended what had been a fabulous evening by two championship choirs.

Thanks must go to the accompanists of both choirs, Liz Baker for Rossendale, and Wendy Brown for Biddulph for their invaluable contribution to the evening. Without them the choirs would be lost!! Thank you ladies.

Biddulph are once again in action on Saturday 11th November, at Bethesda Chapel, Hanley, when they bring the chapel's concert season to a close. This is a free concert with donations gratefully received for the renovation of this wonderful historic building.

On Saturday 9th December, the choir will perform its Christmas concert at 7,30 pm at Biddulph Town Hall. Tickets are £10 each for adults with U16s going free. Tickets for this will be on sale soon.

The choir is recruiting new members, and anyone interested should turn up at Biddulph High School, Conway Road, Knypersley, at 7.00 pm on a Wednesday night, where they will be

given a warm welcome. No previous experience necessary and no need to read music.
Just come and experience the joy of singing with like minded people.

Anyone wishing to book the choir for a concert in 2024 should phone 07786 121862 or email
concerts @biddulphmvc.co.uk as soon as possible as spaces are already being booked.