



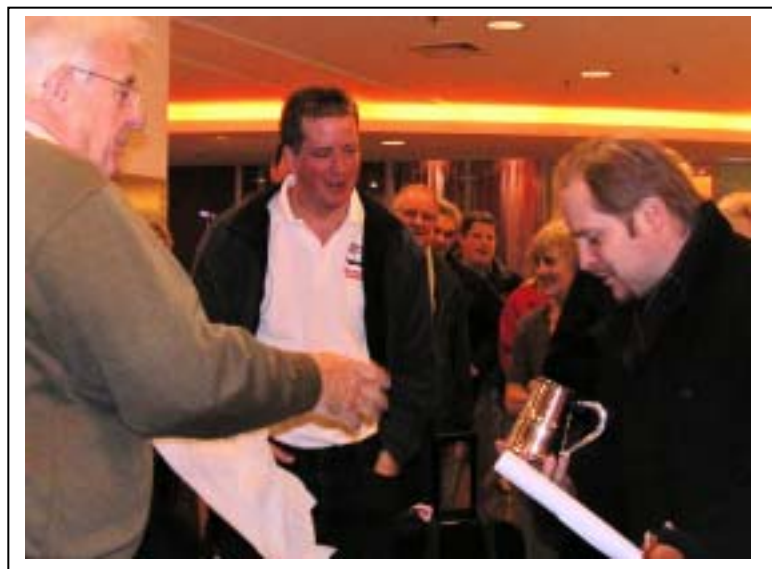
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THE RAG AND NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2007

Went
Away
Rehearsed
Sang
And
Won

THANK
YOU
MACIEJ



Presentation of English Pewter Tankard
Photo by Denis Swift

READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

A LOOK AHEAD TO

DECEMBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	December 2007				1
2 CHRISTMAS SHOW Desborough suite Maidenhead	3	4 Daytimers Thamesfield Nursing Home Henley Rehearsal	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Rehearsal TAG RAG COPY DEADLINE	12 Daytimers Christchurch Court Reading	13 Daytimers St Mary Butts Churchyard Reading	14	15
16	17	18 Rehearsal TAG RAG DISTRIBUTION	19 Daytimers Weirside Court Orts Road Reading	20	21	22
23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29

**Calendars showing the remaining days of November 2007 and the month of January 2008
are at the back of TAG RAG**

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY * indicates an addition or update to last month's Tag Rag

2007	NOV	28	Wed	Daytimers+	Saville Gardens (early evening)
	DEC	2	Sun	Full Chorus	Desborough Suite Maidenhead
	DEC	4	Tue	Daytimers	Thamesfield Nursing Home Henley
	DEC	12	Wed	Daytimers	Christchurch Court, Reading 2.30 sing
	DEC	13	Thu	Daytimers	Planting ceremony St Mary Butts church am
*	DEC	19	Wed	Daytimers	Bristow Court Caversham (revised venue)
2008	JAN	17	Thu	Daytimers	Lynwood Nursing Home Sunninghill Bracknell
*	FEB	20	Wed	Daytimers	Kennet Court Woosehill Wokingham at 2pm
	FEB	Feb 29 -Mar 2	Fri-Sun	Full chorus	Away Weekend Marsham Court Hotel Bournemouth
*	MAR	15	Sat	Small Chorus	Wedding Trunkwell House Beach Hill
	MAY	16/17	Fri-Sat	Full Chorus	2-days at Fawley Court Craft Experience Henley
	MAY	23-25	Fri-Sun	Full Chorus	BABS Annual Convention The Centaur Building Cheltenham Racecourse
*	DEC	3	Wed	Daytimers	Kennet Court Woosehill Wokingham at 2pm

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NEXT COPY DEADLINE:

11TH DECEMBER FOR 18TH DISTRIBUTION



CHAIRMAN'S SPOT

WOW! No doubt the fatigue will become a distant memory, but the other effects of our trip to Poland will stay with me as long as I live. I'm sure Tag Rag will be full of stories and impressions from those who took part, so I won't steal all their thunder. Highlights for me include: having collected Rhiannon from the airport, walking into the hotel lobby to find the chorus lined up to sing "You're as Welcome as the Flowers in May"; singing in the chorus and in quartet in the wonderful church in Krakow; singing in the fabulous St. Kinga's Chapel in the salt mine at Wieliczka; the sobering and nerve-racking visit to Auschwitz; the two church concerts in Warsaw; and of course the Varsovia Cantus Festival.

Many of us, I know, looked at the impressive résumés of the other choirs taking part in the festival in Warsaw, and suspected that we were included as the light novelty act. This view of Barbershop has now been firmly put in its place. By the quality of our singing, we won first place in the adult single voice category. Then, as the wits among us observed, we won the concert. Just two simple songs: the first ballad was not faultless, and Birth of the Blues is one of our more restrained choreographic routines. The reception was simply overwhelming, particularly from the younger members of the audience – a spontaneous standing ovation that nearly took the roof off.

All through the week, I had watched the spirit of this club at work: friendly, caring, supportive, generous, good-humoured. Here we passed some of it on to the other contestants in the festival. It was a pleasure and a privilege to sing on the stairs with the overall winners, the Fayha Choir from Tripoli, Lebanon.

All this could not have been possible without the meticulous planning by Graham Starkie, together with our charming host and guide for the visit, Maciej Przerwa, chairman of Choral Society Lira in Warsaw, to whom I express the thanks of the whole club. Thanks are also due to Rhiannon, who had to almost physically shake us out of our holiday mood to focus on the job of singing, and led us on to this wonderful result. And of course many others played a part in this success story: thank you all.

Words cannot adequately express how proud I am to be a member of this club.

JOHN PRICE

Chairman

EDITORIAL

After a very successful trip to Poland there is no shortage of coy with positive thoughts this month. Thank you to all the contributors. I hope that this issue will cope with all the reflections on Krakow and Warsaw. I've not had time to sort out some Poland photos - maybe an insert next month.

"Happy Birthday" to Historical Notes; twenty years this month. With a contributor like Haydn an editor's job is made very easy as I said last month "Long may you continue - Here's to the next twenty". I'm up for it if you are!

Please get your Christmas Greetings for Tag Rag to me in good time so that all the work doesn't happen before the publishing deadline. The idea is a very simple one that allows us to make a charitable donation to a worthy cause. If you have a favourite

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let me have the details and I will put it up to the Exec for consideration.

Put yourself together a couple of sentences (and a line drawing piece of artwork if you want) give or send it to me with a donation anytime before the 12th December copy deadline. I'll put all the messages together with some festive artwork. They will appear in a special insert in December's Tag Rag. Thank you in anticipation of a bumper crop!

GRAHAM STARKIE

Editor

NEW PERFORMANCE JACKET

After 15 years, the executive committee and performance team think the time has come to change our performance jacket. Yes, the green jackets were introduced in 1992. They have served us well, giving a distinctive look to the chorus. We shall probably retain them alongside the new jacket to give us alternative options for shows.

A group of our ladies was asked to help choose a colour. A tricky job, but their recommendation of "Special Rust" has been endorsed by the exec. However, before we make a final decision, we have decided to have a single jacket made up in this colour as a test piece. This will be shown to the performance team and the chorus just before the Desborough show. We shall assess how it works with pale and ruddy complexions, and different hair colours, under the Desborough stage lighting, before making a final commitment. If these checks prove satisfactory, it would be hoped that the chorus could be fitted with new jackets in time for Convention 2008.

JOHN PRICE

POLAND COORDINATOR'S PERSPECTIVE

You have no idea how relieved I am to be sitting here with few bruises after such a marvellous experience. I have deliberately left my Poland folder closed for three days now and thankfully I have not been requested to visit it. I can only assume that most people are satisfied with the trip.

Not everything went to plan as the travellers will vouch but there was enough hanging together to make the trip one that will tally with the rest for memories. I am pleased that most decisions that were made and some that we didn't will be a source of pleasure for many years to come.

I hadn't realised that we would have had so little time to ourselves in Krakow. The wall-to-wall tours kept

us going from morning 'til night. But there is one thing that you cannot deny and that is that the Poles have a big story to tell. Will you ever forget that altar piece in St Mary's (Mariacki) church? It's a pity that we weren't closer to it when we sang in the concert. It is the most elaborate back-drop that we'll ever have. I have looked at Rynek Glowny (City Square) on Google Earth and it is very easy to see the ring of trees planted along the old city walls. You can even see the challenge our driver had to get into the coach park at the rear of the Wyspianski Hotel.

The afternoon visit to Wawel Hill and the Castle was something we could have saved for another time on reflection. As fascinating it was to see the centuries of décor and the largest tapestry collection in Europe I felt very weary even at the start of it and the thought of visiting the Salt Mine was not looking too exciting. But, how wrong could I be? The sights and smell of that valuable green rock came alive with our guide. He was a cross between Manuel from Faulty Towers and the policeman from Allo Allo. What is more he came complete with scripts! He had a very attentive audience for the two hours and I can tell you there was never a dull moment in all that climbing of the 2km tourist route. The rendition of MORTAL FLESH and SOUND CELEBRATION in St Kinga's Chapel was a first for our guide who had been doing that job for the last sixteen years. This was an outstandingly beautiful place and made me forget my aches and pains of battling through those North-Sea squalls earlier that day.

One thing that helped to ease us into the spirit of the Salt mine was that lunch that I mistakenly understood from Maciej was a French restaurant. When I asked what was the French connection he said not "French" but a "Friend's" restaurant! Do I need to remind you of that loaf of soup, or the musicians that bust Maciej' budget? The restaurant was described in their brochure as a culinary voyage - I wouldn't argue with that. As Gabi said to me outside afterwards she wondered where we were being taken when we entered downstairs a very nondescript building that turned out to be our first of many gastronomic experiences.

What a delightful place Zakopane is. That coach ride was a joy especially when we reached the snowline. Those snow-capped conifers are what picture postcards are made of. This was our first day of finding our own meals and let's face it it's not very difficult is it? So many people speak English that I insisted on trying to place my order in the local tongue. I don't think I achieved anything that would have staved off hunger had the locals not been smarter than me. I would think it almost

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impossible to have an unsatisfactory meal. I tried all the game that was on offer except the fish (Perch) but that was only because we weren't there long enough. I was disappointed that we didn't have eastern bloc wines to choose from. I didn't find any - I find it difficult to believe that there are only the same wines in Poland that we can buy in Twyford. I must go back to do some more research. I liked the Pivoh especially Zywiec.

Another early start on the Thursday to match Wednesday's jaunt to Zakopane but this time we were heading up north to Warsaw via Auschwitz. What a reality-check Auschwitz was. This was even more poignant for me because it all happened around the time I was born. I don't think any amount of words can ever replace a visit to this dreadful place. It took us the best part of three hours to do what is a two-hour visit. That delay was further compounded by the traffic and road conditions to make us nearly three hours late in Warsaw. But, I have no regrets, as tiring as the day was we owe it to our fellow humans to understand more of their plight. Surely this situation can never arise again - can it?

What a welcome sight it was to see the Thursday travellers from Heathrow at the Novotel. Unfortunately the meal we had together had to be delayed because of the Krakow travellers late arrival but it was good to see many happy smiling faces.

The Warsaw City tour was a little more relaxed than previous days. Isn't it amazing how convincingly the Poles have rebuilt their city to get that authentic centuries old look and feel? If the guides weren't there to tell you of the devastation in 1945 you'd think it was all original. The one thing they clearly struggled to replace however were the contents of these fantastic buildings. But since the country has been plundered by everybody and his brother for the last thousand years you can't expect to see too much. Once again Maciej turned up trumps with the choice of restaurant after the tour.

Our first Warsaw concert was in the St Anna's Church in the grounds of Wilanow Palace. This was our first experience of trying to follow Mass with our concert. This church was nowhere near as ornate as St Mary's Krakow but with room to spread ourselves out in five rows in front of the alter we got off to a racing start and a most enjoyable experience. The traffic congestion was so bad that our supporters just arrived in time to hear us finish our last song WONDERFUL DAY MEDLEY.

On Saturday afternoon we sang in the competition. We have talked long about that lonely feeling in these big performance spaces and this venue didn't

disappoint. The difference here was that we used a dynamic range that TVC have never sung before. I must have been able to hear the others but the feeling was that I was on my own. Rhiannon looked very at ease with what we were doing.

The rest is history. First place with the Golden Lyre award and 2000 zloty prize money. I couldn't have dreamt of a better ending but then that came after we sang BIRTH OF THE BLUES in the finale concert. A standing ovation that rivals the one we had in Los Angeles after AT THE HOP.

The trip has been an emotional roller coaster. We couldn't have asked for better guides in Maciej and Kryzstof. Maciej' enthusiasm was boundless to provide us with the best Polish experience he could, and let's face it he did. His eye for detail is very commendable. My thanks must go to Maciej and his team for making it all happen and to all the TVC travellers for joining in the (sometimes tiring) fun.

I sent the following email to Maciej last Thursday (15th)

Hi Maciej,
I cannot thank you enough for the help you gave me to get the Thames Valley Chorus over to Poland. It was so successful that we will be talking about it for many years to come. You gave us a wonderful opportunity to appreciate your culture and share our love of a cappella music with you at the same time.

There is no doubt about it that your country has a big story to tell and we are grateful that you and your colleagues shared it with us. The hotels, the tours, the concerts, the Festival all exceeded our expectations and winning our category made the perfect ending.

On behalf of the Thames Valley Chorus thank you. and best wishes from Irene,

Regards

GRAHAM STARKIE

Poland Tour 2007 Coordinator.

TO THE EDITOR

Hello Graham!
I've just finished editing of recorded matherial, and must say that level of all choirs were quite good. That was 3th edition of this festival and it's going better and better. Your mini concert after main event was very interesting event, because it showed to people that music is not conected with any particular place - but can be performed anywere

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anytime. Thanks for learning me about guffer tape and good luck.

STASZEK BOKOWY

Editor's Note - Staszek was the freelance recording engineer that I made friends with at the Festival.

DEAR GRAHAM,

Just a brief note to say how much we enjoyed the Thames Valley Chorus trip to Poland and to thank you for all your hard work in making the arrangements and putting the program together so well. Though we seem to have crammed in many interesting and thought provoking visits in a fairly hectic week we wouldn't want to have missed any of it.

Special congratulations and thanks also to all the members of the Chorus for singing so splendidly and winning yet another coveted trophy and well deserved "1st".

With our grateful thanks and very best wishes for your continuing success,

JACKIE & BRIAN (EADY)

POLAND TRIP

Winning a Gold medal for our section was great, but for me the outstanding part was the standing ovation from other singers and their supporters. This said it all for me. It was fantastic and I would like to experience that again!

Can't thank Graham and Irene enough for all their efforts in the organization of such a mammoth week. (Are we planning Rimini yet?)

I thanked Rhi at the end of the show on Sunday, and she replied "it was you guys". I think she is wrong. Yes we sung our hearts out but she was the catalyst that made it happen, without her we could not have made the impression we did. Many many thanks Rhi.

ANDY PEARCE

BOB'S BULLETS

TVC TO WARSAW 2007

- The third International Warsaw Choir Festival. Twenty-three competing choirs from Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Sweden, Lebanon, Russia, Estonia and TVC as the sole representative of the UK.

- Warsaw overrun by Sweden in 1655. Partitions of Poland in 1772, 1793, and 1795. Its territory divided between Russia, Prussia and Austria until 1818. Quasi independence from Russia ceased after a failed uprising in 1863. Independence regained in 1918. And then 1939...

- 'Warsaw only' group. Several cars distributed to local houses and pickup drivers instructed following Graham and Irene's excellent planning.

- BA group book-in desk In Terminal 1 Heathrow worked smoothly.

- Kristof met and transferred group from Frederic Chopin airport to Novotel Hotel downtown.

- Hotel built in communist times, now completely renovated and run by the French. High-speed lift direct to the seventeenth floor much appreciated.

- The morning sightseeing tour gave an introduction to Warsaw's history. Difficult to believe that many of the impressive buildings had to be completely rebuilt after the war.

- The uprisings in 1943 and 1944 led to death of 550,000 and 650,000 civilians respectively. Difficult to comprehend such tragedy.

- Competitors took over the Warsaw Academy of Music. TVC's 37 singers and Rhiannon on stage in the excellent concert hall. And then off....

- On Sunday 9 am the wait to hear whether we were on the show. Nothing. Planned and dressed for more sight-seeing but in the lobby a smiling Irene appeared – we were on the show!!

- Assembled in greens up on the corner of the balcony ready for the prize-giving. Must not stamp feet. Ten choirs on stage. Our category prize-winners announced: third to a Polish choir, second to a Moscow choir school. Only TVC and a Polish choir left. Then TVC won the 'Golden Lyre'. Amazing!! Handshakes from other competitors. Invitations to compete in festivals in Moscow and Italy.

- TVC's two songs in the concert well received. Later informal sing on the entrance spiral staircase matched by a song from the choir from Tripoli, Lebanon (the overall winner).

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- Farewell to Maciej. Presentations. Informed by Maciej, their interpreter, that judges in our category were unanimous!!
- Again Graham's arrangements to get us home worked smoothly.
- Many thanks Graham and Irene for sorting out a complex visit and making it so successful for all of us.

BOB RIDLEY

WARSAW HIGHLIGHTS

Every barbershopper has his own personal high points, and I'm no exception. I'm fortunate enough to have survived nearly 27 years of TVC membership with my sanity more or less intact, and my memory still holding together reasonably well. I've had the good fortune to share the joy of the chorus at an unexpected, but well-deserved triumph on several occasions. The moment in St David's Hall in Cardiff when TVC were named as semi-finalists in the first-ever Sainsbury's Choir of the Year; our brilliant second place at Bournemouth (Birth of the Blues again!); and the gold award in Prague when we were all putting on our coats, ready to leave with nothing and wondering if the bar was still open. All, in their different ways, unforgettable.

But nothing compares to the feeling at the end of Bertha when the entire audience got to its feet for a standing ovation which was still going on after the last man left the stage. It was one of those occasions when I was able to say to myself: "That's what I joined for." Winning our class in the Warsaw competition -- by a unanimous decision, by the way, our guide and mentor, Magic, said ours was the one category in which there was no discussion, argument or voting -- was the highlight of the whole trip.

Between the announcement of the winners and that ovation, there was another, more personal highlight for me. Graham and Rhi had agreed to my suggestion that we all wear a poppy for Remembrance Sunday, so I scribbled a few words of explanation for the MC to pass on to the audience. This was felt necessary, as we'd been told that in Poland, the wearing of a poppy by a man indicates his preference for the company of his own gender, to put it delicately. So, just before we sang in the Winners Show, the MC duly made the announcement, in English and Polish, and followed it up by reminding everybody that the 11th November is Polish Independence Day, marking the anniversary of Poland's reappearance on the map of Europe after being non-existent for nearly 130

years. His remarks prompted a spontaneous and heart-warming round of applause both from the audience and the chorus. I felt that, at that moment, we established a unique bond with our audience. And the poppies showed up nicely against the green!

COLIN THATCHER

(Happy Bass Bunny)

POLAND

Thank the man who made the enterprise possible!

As near perfect as it possibly could be! The fantastic sights we saw? Of course. The singing? Of course. The lovely churches we sang in? Of course. The gold medal in our category? Of course. That explosion of applause after 'Bertha' in the final concert?

But we wouldn't have experienced any of that if it hadn't been for Graham's excellent organizing of the whole thing. The coach to Gatwick, the flights, the ticketing, the documentation that kept us totally informed from start to finish.

After every trip, we tell everyone that it's been "one of the highlights of our barbershopping experiences". Well, this one certainly was.

And, for that, we owe a HUGE vote of thanks to Graham.

Trouble is, he won't have time to read this in Tag Rag; he'll no doubt be too busy finding out about the flights, hotels, venues, etc. for Rimini!

And, of course, without Warsaw, Rimini wouldn't have popped into our sights. And, of course, without Graham, Warsaw wouldn't ... Well, you know, don't you!

DENIS SWIFT

POLAND 2007 (1)

What a great week it was with interesting sights and singing venues and then ending on a real high. I still cannot believe (and it's perhaps become even more amazing with the telling) the enthusiastic and excited acceptance of our two song show spot. About 30 years ago I was in a football stadium in Rio de Janeiro when, in the closing minutes, the home team scored the only goal of the match – and POW! the place exploded. It was almost the same in The Chopin Academy, Warsaw on Sunday 11 November 2007 at around 3.25 local time; a very

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memorable moment. Thanks to all those who made it possible, particularly Rhi and Graham.

PHILIP L WILSON

THANK YOU

It is hard to believe that a week has passed since the Choir was recognised as "the best"!

I want to thank you - sorry it's a little late - for all you did, and for having me along. Apart from the highlight and the purpose of the tour taking place on Sunday, the overall experience was one not to be missed - we saw such a lot. So, I repeat my sincere thanks, and wish you and your good lady well!

REG (CLIFTON)

POLAND 2007 (2)

Many of us had digital cameras various with us on our trip to Krakow and Warsaw, and I am sure some good shots were captured – how about sharing them ?. If you would care to burn *your* photographs onto a CD I am happy to edit the best of the bunch and compile them into a “Poland Trip slideshow” on one CD – or if you have taken video also I can make the snaps and the movies into a comprehensive DVD of our trip. Just let me have your photos and video (on CD not by Email) over the next week or so and I will put it together; although it is unlike to be completed and ready for circulation this side of New Year – too much happening in the pre Christmas period to squeeze in yet another task. But give me your photo CD a.s.a.p. so you don't forget and I can at least start the work. Thank you.

PHILIP L WILSON

BOTY AWARD

Many thanks to you all for awarding me the BOTY. The Club Admin Director is a thankless task at times. It's running around doing all sorts of tasks that others are not aware of or have overlooked, it's the backstop position on the Exec. Having done it for four and a half years I felt it was time that I stood down and let someone else have a go. I have been proud to serve the Club in that capacity and will carry on for a while as Mangler and Events Manager.

ANDY PEARCE

DEAR PETER

I was genuinely sorry when I heard that you would not be with us in Poland. However, I understand your reasons perfectly.

You have done more than any other person to try and persuade us to sing with feeling and have recently published your excellent 3 P's document “TVC Dream Came True” We must have eventually taken this to heart, with Rhi's excellent direction this is what happened:-

We did smile, the basses did sing like Rolls Royce's, the Leads did take advantage of it and add vitality and the Bari's and Tenors did add a blend of excitement. I just wish you could have heard them.

But the best bit was still to come. Having won The Gold Medal we sang again. Most of the audience were young enough to be either our children or grandchildren. By sheer good fortune they had all overdosed on sacred music and were blown away by “Once Upon a Time”. The rendition of “Birth of The Blues” had them springing to their feet to give us a standing ovation, it was a fantastic response by the young to the oldest competitors. We were quite blown away; you would have had tears in your eyes.

Graham's organisation was superb, the event was an unqualified success but much of the quality of our singing was due to your coaching. Unfortunately we seem to be very poor patients and in need of constant treatment. Now that we have proved that we can eventually respond to the right treatment, please give us some more soon.

Every best wish
PETER GROVES



BARBERSHOP BABES

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
NOVEMBER'S TRIO**

**MURRAY DOWNING
ALAN HILL
JIM DOWNING**

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SELECTED WEEKLY NOTICES

BABS QUARTET PRELIMS - TOP 16 (16th Oct)

1	Evolution	72.3
2	Monkey Magic	70.0
3	Qube	67.3
4	Rough Cut	65.9
5	dB4	64.9
6	The Questionables	63.4
7	Figaro	63.4
8	Doghouse	61.6
9	Cadence	61.5
10	Celebration	61.2
11	Four Blokes Singin'	60.4
12	Retro	59.5
13	Abacus	57.6
14	Sharp Practice	57.5
15	Catch 22	57.3
16	Vocal Icing	56.7

Well done FIGARO and CATCH 22. These quartets go on to compete in the semi's and finals at convention in Cheltenham next year.

RISER TROLLEY (16th Oct)

Scotty and I made a trolley to 'palletise' the risers so that we can make safe use of the tail-lift. Each trolley will hold two complete risers (6 pieces) so handling a complete set of nine risers will be reduced to five trolleys. A working version of a trolley is available to test run tonight. Other design features:

- Unloading/loading sequence allows Single handling of all pieces.
- Stable with only one riser fitted.
- Three trolleys fit snugly across width of van.

This prototype has four swivel castors. The final version is expected to have two fixed and two lockable that will make it easier to steer.

The trolleys are also designed to fit into the van with a minimum number of fixings. It is anticipated that the whole load can be secured with two telescopic Load-Lok poles that fit into the tracks down each side of the van. Plans are also in hand to fix safety fences either side of the tail lift platform.

I'm sure you'll be able to see enhancements that can be made to make it better I hope you'll let either Scotty or me know of them so they can be assessed with the plans that we already have.

BEST WISHES (23rd Oct)

Let's extend our best wishes to Phillip Ward's ladies chorus and the Barberettes at their Convention this coming weekend in Bournemouth. Phillip's Thameside Ladies from Hampton Middx sing Alexander's Ragtime Band and For All We Know. They are 26th in the running order at 4pm. Thirty-two choruses are competing. The Barberettes are singing How Deep Is The Ocean and Each Time I Fall in Love immediately after the Thameside Ladies.

TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME (30th Oct)

We welcome **Bill Harvey** the BABS Chairman. Bill promised the BABS Council that he would visit all Clubs in his term of office. I thought at the time that it would be a tall-order but to his credit he's well on his way to achieving it - well done Bill and welcome to Reading. This is the last Tuesday we're together before we depart for Poland. Rhiannon will be in attendance. Learning materials for the new song HOW DEEP IS THE OCEAN are available tonight. The teaching tracks are available on the web site as usual.

There's no time left now but to pack our bags for Poland. We'll put the finishing touches to the Warsaw competition package.

EMMA'S WEDDING (30th Oct)

This wedding had everything, it couldn't have been better! The weather was incredibly kind and the chorus' presence was much appreciated. Irene and I were guests at the Wedding breakfast and received the thanks on behalf of you all from Emma's husband Nigel. There must be few choruses that have sung with church bells in such close proximity. Thank you to all, Emma was a very happy 'bunny'. And, I know we all had difficulty believing it - but Emma's mum didn't know that we were singing. I can assure you that it was only when 'HAVE A LITTLE TALK' got out of the 'starting gate' early that she realised we were there. At that time she was talking to me in the porch thanking me for turning up in my uniform and I'd just told a 'porkie' that we weren't singing! Well done everyone for keeping 'mum'.

CONGRATULATIONS (30th Oct)

To Phillip Ward and his ladies for earning 300 more points than they have ever done in the past and moving off the bottom of the of the results table; also for winning the Most Improved Chorus Award at the LABBS Convention last weekend.

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QUARTET CAPERS - AT A HEN PARTY

Many quartet members, and indeed Chorus members will have sung at weddings in their singing career. Singing before, during, after the wedding and then perhaps at the reception, and even at the engagement party have all been done many times. But, what about singing at the prospective brides "hen party"

That was the situation facing "Take Four" on Saturday Oct 13th, following a conversation with the organizer of the event. The bride to be (the hen) had indicated some time in the past, that she "certainly didn't want a stripper at her hen party", but would quite like a Barbershop Quartet. That was a bit of a relief for us and we duly accepted the challenge.

We turned up at this bungalow in Reading, unsure of what sort of reception our musical style would receive from a dozen or so "twenty somethings", plus Mum and an Aunt. The "hen" was distracted into the kitchen upon our arrival, and we were hidden behind a blanket in the lounge area until we heard the key words, at which we appeared in the flesh singing "Barbershop Song". We followed up with a set of appropriate numbers about boy meets girl, love and marriage songs, etc, ranging from "Zing went the strings of my heart" to "Smoke", and a reasonable mix of upbeats and ballads. We managed to include the "hen's" name of Izzy into Mary Lou, as "Izzy who" and our final song incorporated the prospective bridegroom's name of Alex into Everybody Step /Alexander's Rag Time Band, to much acclaim.

The reaction to our forty five minute slot was tremendous, great reactions to the songs, much applause, and a standing ovation at the end. We were much relieved at the reaction, bearing in minds the age of most of the audience. We need not have been worried.

With Andy at Worcester, entertaining the judges with Catch 22, we had the very welcome services of Brian Milbank at the baritone end of the lineup. What he added to the quartet in terms of musical knowledge, he subtracted over the average height, being probably about a foot shorter than Andy.

The customers certainly enjoyed the session, as did we. Two of our number said that this was perhaps the most enjoyable sing out we have done in our time together. I received an e-mail on the Sunday from the organizer, saying how much they enjoyed our singing (highlight of their day), and wanting to buy our CD and put a comment on our website, (if only we had one!!)

So it's a first for us, singing for a "hen party, have any other of the Club quartets had this experience?"

MERVYN CLARK,

for Take Four.



ASSOCIATE MEMBER NEWS

By BOB RIDLEY Acting Assistant to the Associate Member Coordinator

I visited Ron Collis and Stella on 30 October. Ron was cheerful and we had a long chat with Stella about the start up of their mixed chorus. They now seem optimistic that their move could be near the end of November as there are no chains involved in Tilehurst or Thatcham.

Ron appreciated the nice letter from John Lane. John sang tenor in the chorus and was an RAF officer working on Air Traffic Control. On retirement he went to the USA some ten or more years ago.

Rod Clark visited Ron since my visit and his letter to Ron is more disciplined than his usual example of what this ex tax inspector can do to the Queen's English. His cover email to me began 'Whatho Young Bobalong, Yertisthen...' But he closes his welcome letter with the 'The Rubber Yacht of Hymie Cohen'! Spellchecker melt down!

Tag Rag is available on our website www.rbhc.org.uk thanks to the efforts of Graham Starkie and Chris Bradley.

Thank you to all the AMs for their continuing support of the RBHC.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS LETTERS

John and Frances Lane

Dear Ron

Bob has reminded me that "its that time again!" I swear that someone is speeding up the clocks in this country because it seems like no time ago since I was writing last year's annual update. Bob mentioned that you are on the mend slowly - which is wonderful news. Hang in there and show everyone what will-power and the power of harmony can do! Frances and I will be coming back for Christmas again this year so I'll try to pop

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in and see you for a short while if you feel up to it. We came back for a time in the Summer but, as often happens, the amount of things to do and family visits always leaves us scrabbling around for time to fit everything in.

I have enclosed my dues for another year so I'll be able to keep up to date with all of the news in the coming year. Lots of the names have changed and many people reading this won't have a clue who I am ☺; on the other hand, I still see lots of old friends who will remember a tenor who was always more than happy to make the fourth for yet another tag!

Life here in Georgia has been hectic this year for me; I've done lots of travelling: three visits to Beijing (that's nearly 15 hours non-stop from Chicago!), Hong Kong and Cairo, and a few domestic flights. I won't be sorry when it's all over now and I can see the end in sight. We have decided that when we retire in about another 18 months, we'll be coming home to spend our time closer to the children and grandchildren. We're not looking forward to the hassle of the repatriation but we're sure that it's what we want to do. Our son Andrew recently moved down to work at the new ATC Enroute Centre at Swanwick (between Portsmouth and Southampton) so we're aiming to move to that area to be close to him.

Frances is well and happy. She has been busy with her painting and just recently took up pottery so our house is now full of her endeavours! We're hoping that she will be able to continue with her hobbies after the move.

Do keep on getting better; and ask Bob to pass on my good wishes to all who still remember us.

Best Regards,

Rod Clark

Hello Ron and Stella

More from the Fens and the Wolds

I was so pleased to be able to pop in to see you both a few weeks ago. Clearly you are making progress, albeit at a rate rather slower than you would have wished. At least you are at home and Stella is a powerhouse with enough love and care to light up the whole of Reading. Moreover, I understand that you may be moving a little closer to your family: sounds like a good idea to me, but more of this anon. In the meanwhile I am sending a small cheque to cover AM subs for another year.

More than a few visitors have wended their way up to East Anglia over the past few weeks. Firstly, a welcome return visit from ACDC – Ashton Close Drunks Club. Needless to report, there was drink taken, and as usual the food prepared by Senior Management would have reduced Gordon Ramsey to no more than the odd 'gollygosh'. Another welcome return was that band of wandering minstrels – a chord of barbershoppers from the south. Again there was drink taken, but this time in some moderation. It is a blessing that our little council house contrives to find seats and beds for these most discerning of guests.

Despite the age gap – some eight years – our two German Shepherds are now of equal size. When faced with two such beasts standing up to six feet tall on their hind legs with the noise and the teeth to match, most itinerant Trick or Treaters and Carol Singers feel a burning desire to move next door – quickly! On a recent visit to the Northern Dales – the Land of the Prince Bishops no less – we took a small cottage way out in the 'boonies'. It was so quiet one could hear the spiders coughing. We were surrounded by sheeps which confused the dogs more than a little. 'Funny looking dogs these, init?' So Max just had to have a closer look – WRONG!. I have never seen a sheep try to leap over a dry stone wall, and such a sight aroused my curiosity. Our two heroes had decided to try their paw at sheep herding – well they are Shepherds when all is said and done. Had the farmer been there they would have been dead shepherds. These fine woolly jumpers scattered like wind blown chaff, but they were no match for Ben and Max. They corralled one poor bugger who must have thought he was about to be voted chop of the year! As it was, B and M simply said hello, had a quick sniff as only dogs can and then trotted back to the cottage. Wot larks eh?

So wot, I hear you cry, of sunny Bourne and its environs? If we are to believe the local papers, we are knee deep in Pikies, Eastern Europeans and Peterborough is awash with naughty ladies anxious to bring a blush to my boyish cheek! But I digress as the monkey said when he sat on the circular saw. Sheeps remain woolly (and long will it be so) and Coles Law is still a force to be reckoned with when the wind is in the port quarter. For the uninitiated, this cabbage based confection is made locally at the Coleslaw Are Us facility in downtown Bourne. But back to the story – (wot story is that John?)

This middle England shire continues to enthrall and enchant its yellowbellies* and incomers alike. Rolls Royce Merlins, be they a quartet or solo continue to set the pulses racing; their distant cousins announce

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the arrival /departure of the Typhoon hurling itself about at the speed of light. It is fascinating to contemplate that this aircraft would be totally unflyable were it not for the multiple onboard computers. The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight and the squadrons of Eurofighters – now operational - are based up the road at Coningsby. During a recent visit there, I was told that 29 Squadron was to have its squadron logo in Roman numerals stencilled on the fuselage thus XXIX. This puzzled the little erk who was given this task to complete. “It’s quite simple, son. Stencil XX and then one X” Which is why 29 Squadron aircraft have been designated XXX. Ain’t it wonderful? Another tale concerns the BOB Flight which had been asked to fly over the Mall and the Palace to celebrate some royal occasion. You will know that said flight comprises the Lancaster with a Spit and a Hurri as wingmen. In the event, no operational Hurricanes were available, so the flight flew south with two Spitfire as wingmen, Nobody spotted the difference! It just goes to show that bulls...t still baffles brains.

Well Children, once more me little pinkies is fair wore out. Time therefore to sit in the conservatoire with me little book of middle eastern poetry: ah here it is - ‘The Rubber Yacht of Hymie Cohen’
So it’s a Merry Christmas to one and all – especially Ron and Stella – and God’s benison be on you all.

Oh - I almost forgot - *Yellowbellies

LUCIANO PAVAROTTI

This is part 2 of 2 of an article from Yahoo! by Associate Press writer, Alessandra Rizzo here. It’s a mini-history of the extraordinary life of one of the greatest, if not the greatest singer of our time. Whether you are into opera or not, it’s worth reading.

ITALIAN TENOR PAVAROTTI DIES AT AGE 71 continued

As a boy, Pavarotti showed more interest in soccer than his studies, but he also was fond of listening to his father’s recordings of tenor greats like Beniamino Gigli, Tito Schipa, Jussi Bjoerling and Giuseppe Di Stefano, his favorite.

Among his close childhood friends was Mirella Freni, who would eventually become a soprano and an opera great herself. The two studied singing together and years later ended up making records and concerts together, according to Elvio Giudici, an Italian opera critic.

In his teens, Pavarotti joined his father, also a tenor, in the church choir and local opera chorus. He was influenced by the American movie actor-singer Mario Lanza. “In my teens I used to go to Mario Lanza movies and then come home and imitate him in the mirror,” Pavarotti said.

Singing was still nothing more than a passion while Pavarotti trained to become a teacher and began working in a school. But at 20, he travelled with his chorus to an international music competition in Wales. The Modena group won first place, and Pavarotti began to dedicate himself to singing.

With the encouragement of his then fiancée, Adua Veroni, he started lessons, selling insurance to pay for them. He studied with Arrigo Pola and later Ettore Campogalliani. In 1961, Pavarotti won a local voice competition and with it a debut as Rodolfo in Puccini’s “La Boheme.” He followed with a series of successes in small opera houses throughout Europe before his 1963 debut at Covent Garden in London, where he stood in for Di Stefano as Rodolfo.

Having impressed conductor Richard Bonyngé, Pavarotti was given a role opposite Bonyngé’s wife, soprano Joan Sutherland, in a Miami production of “Lucia di Lamermoor.” They subsequently signed him for a 14-week tour of Australia. It was the recognition Pavarotti needed to launch his career. He also credited Sutherland with teaching him how to breathe correctly.

In the following years, Pavarotti made a series of major debuts, appearing at La Scala in Milan in 1965, San Francisco in 1967 and New York’s Metropolitan Opera House in 1968. Other early venues included Vienna, Paris and Chicago.

Throughout his career, Pavarotti struggled with a much-publicized weight problem. His love of food caused him to balloon to a reported high of 396 pounds in 1978. “Maybe this time I’ll really do it and keep it up,” he said during one of his constant attempts at dieting.

Pavarotti, who had been trained as a lyric tenor, began taking on heavier dramatic tenor roles, such as Manrico in Verdi’s “Trovatore” and the title role in “Otello.”

Pavarotti often drew comparisons with Domingo, his most notable contemporary. Aficionados judged Domingo the more complete and consistent musician, but he never captured the public imagination like Pavarotti.

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Though there appeared to be professional jealousy between the great singers, Pavarotti claimed he preferred to judge himself only against his earlier performances.

In the mid-1970s, Pavarotti became a true media star. He appeared in television commercials and began appearing in hugely lucrative mega-concerts outdoors and in stadiums around the world. Soon came joint concerts with pop stars. A concert in New York's Central Park in 1993 drew 500,000 fans. Pavarotti's recording of "Volare" went platinum in 1988.

In 1990, he appeared with Domingo and Carreras in a concert at the Baths of Caracalla in Rome for the end of soccer's World Cup. The concert was a huge success, and the record known as "The Three Tenors" was a best-seller and was nominated for two Grammy awards. The video sold over 750,000 copies.

The three-tenor extravaganza became a mini-industry. With a follow-up album recorded at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles in 1994, the three have outsold every other performer of classical music. A 1996 tour earned each tenor an estimated \$10 million.

Pavarotti liked to mingle with pop stars in his series of charity concerts, "Pavarotti & Friends," held annually in Modena. He performed with artists as varied as Ricky Martin, James Brown and the Spice Girls. The performances raised some eyebrows but he always shrugged off the criticism.

Some say the "word pop is a derogatory word to say 'not important'—I do not accept that," Pavarotti said in a 2004 interview with the AP. "If the word classic is the word to say 'boring,' I do not accept. There is good and bad music."

It was not just his annual extravaganza that saw Pavarotti involved in humanitarian work. During the 1992-95 Bosnia war, he collected humanitarian aid along with U2 lead singer Bono, and after the war he financed and established the Pavarotti Music Center in the southern city of Mostar to offer Bosnia's artists the opportunity to develop their skills.

He performed at benefit concerts to raise money for victims of tragedies such as an earthquake in December 1988 that killed 25,000 people in northern Armenia.

Pavarotti was also dogged by accusations of tax evasion, and in 2000 he agreed to pay nearly \$12 million to the Italian state after he had

unsuccessfully claimed that the tax haven of Monte Carlo rather than Italy was his official residence. He had been accused in 1996 of filing false tax returns for 1989-91.

Pavarotti always denied wrongdoing, saying he paid taxes wherever he performed. But, upon agreeing to the settlement, he said: "I cannot live being thought not a good person."

Pavarotti was preparing to leave New York in July 2006 to resume a farewell tour when doctors discovered a malignant pancreatic mass, his manager Robson said at the time. He underwent surgery in a New York hospital, and all his remaining 2006 concerts were cancelled. Pancreatic cancer is one of the most dangerous forms of the disease, though doctors said the surgery offered improved hopes for survival. "I was a fortunate and happy man," Pavarotti told Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* in an interview published about a month after the surgery. "After that, this blow arrived." "And now I am paying the penalty for this fortune and happiness," he told the newspaper.

Fans were still waiting for a public appearance a year after his surgery. In the summer, Pavarotti taught a group of selected students and worked on a recording of sacred songs, a work expected to be released in early 2008, according to his manager. He mostly divided his time between his home town, Modena, and his villa in the Adriatic seaside resort of Pesaro.

Just this week, the Italian government honored him with an award for "excellence in Italian culture," and La Scala and Modena's theater announced a joint Luciano Pavarotti award.

In his final statement, Pavarotti said the awards gave him "the opportunity to continue to celebrate the magic of a life dedicated to the arts and it fills me with pride and joy to have been able to promote my magnificent country abroad."

Faced with speculation that the tenor was near death, Mantovani, his second wife, told Italian newspaper *La Stampa* in July 2007: "He's fighting like a lion and he has never lost his heart." Pavarotti had three daughters with his first wife, Lorenza, Cristina and Giuliana; and one, Alice, with his second wife.

At his side when he died were his wife, Nicoletta; his four daughters; his sister, Gabriela; his nephews and close relatives and friends, Robson said.

ALESSANDRA RISSO, Associated Press Write

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HISTORICAL NOTES

5 Years Ago November 2002

1/4th DABS Convention, Zaandam, The Netherlands. There was a party of 76 people travelling from RBHC of which 45 were in the Thames Valley Chorus. As guest chorus the TVC acted as mic-warmers for the chorus contest. They had their own spot on the Saturday Champions show, topped the bill in the Sunday afternoon show, and also found time to share a few tags and pole-cat songs with the numerous new friends made during the week-end. Among the many highlights was the roar of applause as the curtains opened, and the audience realised that Rhiannon was directing the first mic-warming song. Later that evening, a repeat of the uplifting and emotional experience provided by the combined voices of the Thames Valley Chorus and the Whale City Sound, 120 voices, singing 'Softly As I Leave You' C/D Phillip Ward as a final tribute to Steve Hall.

Rockaholix (Roger Wilkinson, Alan Hill, Chris Oliver, Brian Callaghan) were mic-warmers in the quartet contest.

16th A large quartet provided the foyer entertainment at the Hexagon for the 25th anniversary of the Theatre.

20th Daytimers at Vintage Club, Woolhampton.

25th Daytimers at Theale Green School.

29th Daytimers at Wintergrove Court, Bracknell.

30th Southern Prelims at Hatfield College, Hatfield, Herts.

Chorus results:

1st Great Western Chorus

2nd The Royal Harmonics

3rd Thames Valley Chorus singing 'Zing Went The Strings Of My Heart' (C/D Peter Kennedy)

& 'A Bundle Of Old Love Letters' (C/D Rhiannon Hall).

In the combined chorus results for the country TVC were in 5th place.

10 Years Ago November 1997

5th Side By Side (Roger Wilkinson, Ken Smyth, Chris Oliver, Rod Adams) were at 'The Bull' at Risley

8th Small Chorus at Pangbourne College for South Chilterns Lions Club concert. Side By Side also appeared.

14th Daytimers at the Gemini Club.

15th Side By Side competed at BABS Southern Area prelims at Bream Sands and came last.

22nd Side By Side were at Maidenhead Boyn Hill School's Christmas Fayre.

29th Side By Side were at Maidenhead Boyne School for a private party.

15 Years Ago November 1992

28th BABS Southern Prelims held at the Dome Theatre, Brighton

Chorus results:

1st Great Western Chorus

2nd Thames Valley Chorus with 80 on the risers singing 'Smile Medley' & 'Somebody Stole My Gal Medley' C/D Derek Smith.

15 choruses competed.

Senior Quartet results:

1st Vocal Gentry

2nd Senility (John Harvey, Bob Tatt, Ron Collis, Philip Wilson)

There were only two competitors.

20 Years Ago November 1987

15th Full Chorus at the Wilde Theatre, Bracknell

21st At the BABS Southern Prelims, Croydon the chorus travelled in style in new walking-out uniforms, minus the tie, full marks to John Harvey and his team. The coach was provided by John Clark.

The chorus competition was won by the Great Western Chorus with the Thames Valley Chorus in 6th place with 32 on the risers singing, 'If I Had My Way' & 'Meet Me In Rosetime Rosie' C/D Derek Smith. 18 choruses competed.

The quartet contest was won by Quartz Precision with RBHC interests:

4th Grand Slam (with Graham Sutton)

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6th Rogues Gallery (Dick Coles, Nick Carter, Ian Douglas, Dave Heighway)
14 quartets competed.

Kennet Valley Chord Company (John Harvey, Pete Powell, Bruce Beer, Peter Wickham) competed in the Northern Prelims and were in 12th position.

This is the month that 'Historical Notes' first appeared in Tag Rag

25 Years Ago November 1982

13th Full Chorus at Julian's Showrooms, Reading

27th BABS Southern Prelims, Cetreham School, Chesham

Chorus results:

1st Great Western Chorus

2nd Crawley Chordmen

3rd Pilgrimaires

4th Thames Valley Chorus singing 'You Made Me Forget How To Cry' & 'Mississippi Medley'

With 40 on the risers. C/D Graham Lawrence

13 choruses competed.

Quartet results:

1st Downtown Strollers (with Dick Knight)

2nd Partners In Time (Dick Coles, Pete Powell, Ian Douglas, Dave Heighway)

3rd Yesterdays Dreamers (with Tony Searle & Gerry Holland)

10 quartets competed.

During the month Partners In Time were at Kenton Theatre, Henley for two nights in aid of Leukaemia Research Fund, and at an Old Tyme Music Hall in Cox Green. They also performed a couple of times in the Wantage area, Harrow and Emmer Green.

30 Years Ago November 1977

1st Four No Trumps (Ken Hopper, Ron Beale, Ron Collis, Pete Powell) sang at the Café Royal, Regent Street, London.

7th Royal Albert Hall, London

The Chorus were in cabaret with the Barron Knights at the L'Oreal finals of the 1977 Hair Colour Group.

11th Full Chorus at Phyllis Court, Henley.

19th Four No Trumps and the Barberettes were in a Poppy Day fund raising concert at Wargrave.

23rd Four No Trumps were at Westwood School.

25th Full Chorus at Guildford.

During the month the club's Gold Medal quartet the Barrytones (Barry Nowell, Nick Carter, Colin Carter, Bob Watkin) recorded six songs for the LP 'Love Is A Song'.

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Alan, Brian, Chris, Roger
Rockaholix

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Thank you to all of you who expressed concern when I wasn't well. It was good to catch up with everyone and to have time to chat and relax together. I know just how much effort Graham put into the organisation and also Ken in handling the money side of things. So from me to them both - a big thank you for what was an unforgettable trip.

Luv 'n' hugs as always,

IRENE

SUPPORTERS

The Chorus did Emma and Nigel proud at their wedding last month and there is an appreciation on this page.

Emma of course looked stunning in her beautiful bridal gown. All their meticulous planning paid off and it was a fantastic occasion.

Now, I was going to write some notes on the Club's recent visit to Poland. However, my article is always the last to be typed, and having read through the rest of Tag Rag I find that most of my thoughts have already been penned. So I will just add a few more. I thoroughly enjoyed the visit. It was a little hectic on the first two days but the experience of all we saw and were told by our various guides was very special and thought provoking.

I was pleased I had packed for the cold weather as we certainly needed the layers. There were some lovely touches which Maciej introduced, particularly the bottle of vodka he gave to each of us on our trip to Zakopane to keep us warm and the sample cheeses! I won't mention the hat he gave to Graham, albeit traditional! Or the wooden spoon he gave to Rhi to keep the chorus in order! Will she have it with her when she comes to the next rehearsal? Despite Maciej's assurances that you can't get a hangover from vodka I have it on pretty good authority that you can!

I was asked yesterday what was my most enjoyable experience other than the obvious success of winning 1st place and the golden lyre and the wonderful standing ovation from the young people! I find that difficult to answer. There were so many new joyful experiences as well as some desperate memories. There were some beautiful old buildings in Krakow as well as stark reminders of the sorrow and terrible injustices. So I cannot define something specific.



BOYS!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts... you made our day extra special and we can't thank you enough. We are blessed to know you and proud that you were part of our day! All our love forever.

EMMA & NIGEL

xxx

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READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

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Advertisement lineage will be accepted and printed free of charge in TAG RAG (subject to editorial discretion). Display advertising is available in exchange for a donation to club funds as agreed between the sponsor and the editor before the publication date. Please note that advertisements will be carried for two months only and then will be dropped (at the editor's discretion) unless requested otherwise.

Objectives of the RBHC - To encourage the singing and enjoyment of Barbershop Harmony in both Chorus and Quartet form. It is a non profit making organisation and shall support such worthy charitable causes as the Executive Committee think fit. (paraphrase of Club rule number 2)

Contacts - The Club's Thames Valley Chorus rehearse on every Tuesday (with few exceptions) at the Piggott School Wargrave near Twyford Reading from 7.45pm until 10.30pm. All visitors are welcome. See website www.rbhc.org.uk for directions.

SECURITY NOTICE *The best place to park your car at the Piggott School is in the main car park at the side of the school; this area is under constant surveillance by four CCTV cameras. The camera over the front door only looks at the main entrance to record movements coming off the road.*

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Barbershop Recordings Resource Library

Save yourself the cost (and trouble) of getting your own recordings by borrowing other members through Andy Wheeler's Lending Library Service. Look for the Library List on the notice board for current titles.

Borrowing requests should be made either by email or a personal note that should include name of item required and a reply address. Speak to Andy on Rehearsal night or at andy.wheeler@sportscentre.org.uk. Andy will coordinate the loan and put the lender in touch with the borrower to complete the deal.

A charge of £1 per item loaned per week is payable to Andy. The money will go into Club funds and Andy will review the need to purchase recorded material on behalf of the library.

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THE REMAINING DAYS OF

NOVEMBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18	19	20 Rehearsal TAG RAG DISTRIBUTION	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Rehearsal	28 Daytimers Saville Gardens	29 Daytimers Woosehill Wokingham	30	November 2007

December 2007 calendar is on page 2

A LOOK AHEAD TO

JANUARY 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
January 2008		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Rehearsal	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Rehearsal TAG RAG COPY DEADLINE	16	17 Daytimers Lynwood Nursing Home	18	19
20	21	22 Rehearsal TAG RAG DISTRIBUTION	23	24	25	26
27	27	29 Rehearsal	30	31	January 2008	

READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB



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Get the festive season off to a good start with entertainment from some of the nation's top singers - plus a little magic from the conjuring compere!

Featuring the Gold Award Winning
THAMES VALLEY CHORUS

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on **SUNDAY, 2nd December 2007**

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5pm - 7pm

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