



# THE RAG AND NEWSLETTER

FOUNDED 1974

[www.tvchorus.co.uk](http://www.tvchorus.co.uk)

Registered Charity number 1125742

SEPTEMBER 2008



## 'AWESOME' (PETER) DAWSON

19th October 1946 - 7th SEPTEMBER 2008

Peter will be missed greatly by the Club. His loyalty, his tenacious teaching style and his section leadership have been much admired.

# READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

A LOOK AHEAD TO

## OCTOBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>October 2008</b>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 <b>Rehearsal MIH wk2</b>	8	9	10	11 Singout Med Chorus Wokingham
12	13	14 <b>Rehearsal MIH wk3</b> TAG RAG COPY DEADLINE	15	15	17	18 Med Chorus Middy Wedding at St John's Woodley
19	20	21 <b>Rehearsal MIH wk4</b> TAG RAG DISTRIBUTION	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 <b>Rehearsal MIH wk5 RBHC AGM</b>	29	30	31	<b>October 2008</b>

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

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

*	SEP	29	Mon	Daytimers	Datchet Monday Club 1pm for 2pm in WI Hall
*	SEP	30	Tue	RBHC	Week 1 of 6 week MIH Course & Club EGM
	OCT	11	Sat	Med Chorus	All Saints Church Wokingham Harvest Supper Cornerstone Hall at 8.30pm for 30 mins
*	OCT	18	Sat	Med Chorus	Wedding at St John's Church Woodley 12.30 for 1pm
	OCT	28	Tue		RBHC AGM
	DEC	3	Wed	Daytimers	Kennet Court Woosehill Wokingham at 2pm
*	DEC	6	Sat	Full Chorus	Christmas Show Desborough Suite Maidenhead Evening Performances (now only one performance)
	DEC	10	Wed	Daytimers	Thamesfield House Henley sing at 2.45
	DEC	17	Wed	Daytimers	Chequers Hotel Newbury
	DEC	18	Thu	Med Chorus	Bearwood Lakes Golf Club Christmas dinner. 9.15pm sing for 30-40 mins
2009	JAN	14	Wed	Med Chorus	Goring Fine Arts Club. Goring Village Hall 45 minutes for medium sized chorus
	JAN	20	Tue	Daytimers	WAMSDAD Maidenhead for the Maidenhead Blind Club. 1.30 for 2.30 sing.
	MAR	5	Thu	Daytimers	Twyford Townswomens Guild
	MAR	7-8	Sat-Sun		Away Weekend 2009 Bournemouth
	JUN	28	Sat	Full Chorus	Sonning Mill Show
*	JUL	6-8	MonWed	Host/Show	With the Westminster Chorus
*	SEP	14-20	Mon/Sun	BABS	National Barbershop Week
*	SEP	20	Sun	BABS	Provisional booking of London Palladium

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NEXT COPY DEADLINE:

**14TH OCTOBER FOR 21ST DISTRIBUTION**



#### **CHAIRMAN'S SPOT**

This is an edition of Tag Rag that I hoped I would never see. The death of Peter Dawson is a tragedy which has affected us all. His fine voice and good humour have been a feature of the club for as long as I can remember. Our thoughts are with Pat and the family.

The BABS autumn council meeting was held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September, at a new venue: the NEC at Birmingham. As each committee member presented his report, once again I was impressed by the amount of work these men do for the hobby in this country, and all that they have achieved during the year. As Bill Harvey's term as Chairman draws to an end, he reported that he had almost reached his target of visiting every club in the association: only six to go, out of 59! He will be succeeded in January by Alan Goldsmith. At lunchtime, the

assembly was royally entertained by songs from Monkey Magic, our reigning quartet champions.

We are just one of fourteen clubs currently running "learn to sing" courses! BABS is also running the first learn-to-sing course for Making Music, at Egham Choral Society. 165 students have registered so far, and the total is expected to be over 200. The quality of barbershop training is at last receiving its due recognition in the wider singing community. If this first trial course is a success, more will be commissioned.

There are a number of rule changes being made to the quartet competitions to encourage success. The winners of the youth category will go on to compete in the collegiate competition in America, and as the age limit for the latter is 26, this sets a correspondingly lower limit for the British competition. A new trophy for the youth category is to be created in memory of Steve Hall. Winners of the youth and seniors quartet competitions will in future be allowed to compete again after missing a year.

The European Convention is to be held in the Netherlands next March, organised by the Dutch ladies' association, Holland Harmony. Britain will be represented by choruses from Windsor, Bolton and Cambridge; quartets Monkey Magic and Evolution; and the Youth Chorus. It looks like being an exciting event, so why not make the trip as an individual? Registration deadline is 15<sup>th</sup> October, and you can find all the other details via the link from the BABS website.

It is worth noting that we can advertise our shows free in the Making Music magazine, Highnotes. BABS and their charitable arm, Harmony Foundation, are already using this facility to bring their services to the attention of a wider audience. Some clubs are taking the initiative to involve young people in our hobby. For example, Milton Keynes is running a half-day workshop for schools in their area, and Coventry is running a learn-to-sing course aimed at students at Warwick University. Preparation for the Lincoln Harmony Camp next year is well advanced. BABS wishes to pool the experiences of these and other youth activities to provide a resource for all clubs.

Events planned for 2009 include an arrangers' workshop, and a "Barbershop awareness week" in co-operation with MacMillan Nurses. The London Palladium theatre has been provisionally booked for a show on 20<sup>th</sup> September. The Convention at Llandudno will be a full weekend affair from lunchtime on Friday to lunchtime on the bank holiday Monday, so plan accordingly. Ideas for

## READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

Monday morning include a masterclass. Registration forms will be issued end September/early October, and a plea was made to get these returned early, with full delegate information, as late registrations and incomplete forms caused many problems this year.

380 people attended Harmony College at the new Nottingham University venue this year, which was generally agreed to be a great success.

The annual fee for full BABS membership is to remain at £37 for the next year, and associate membership will rise from £19 to £21. The meeting voted to accept the budget proposals presented by Paul Williams.

The most exciting news for our club is that Westminster Chorus from California, the 2007 International Champions, will be visiting Britain next July, and we will be hosting them and putting on a show. They bring with them OC Times, this year's champion quartet. The plan is to collect them from the airport on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July, do the show on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July, and then see them on their way to Manchester, where they will do a second show, on Wednesday. From there they will go on to compete in the Eisteddfod at Llangollen. We will therefore need to arrange accommodation for them for two nights. This is a great opportunity for the club, an experience not to be missed, and I know you will all give it your full support. Put it in your diaries now.

### JOHN PRICE

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### EDITORIAL

There is sadness upon sadness to think that we will no longer enjoy the company of Peter Dawson on the risers. Peter will be missed greatly by the Club. His loyalty, his tenacious teaching style and his section leadership have been much admired. But our loss is nothing compared with that of Peter's family of whom we have thought so much at this time. We also share the sorrow with Aidan, Richard and Andy for the loss of a much-loved friend in their quartet Figaro.

We thought that Peter had been successful in cheating the odds because he has looked so well for much of the last nine months. We are most grateful to Peter for sharing so much with us; may he rest in peace.

Many thanks go to all the Tag Rag contributors this month.

The Charity Commissioners' application has been successful and we now have that magic number that gives us a worthwhile number of benefits; mainly tax for the cost of filling in the right paperwork. I might be corrected but this is the third time we've tried this endeavour; the previous two unsuccessfully. As Bob Ridley pointed out to me recently I should think of making the Christmas greeting donations more tax efficient by getting you to complete a grant aid form. This would have the effect of adding a further 28% to the value of the collection for the chosen charity.

Irene and I attended the wedding of Neil Watkins and Kay Griggs-Wright on Saturday 30th August. After twenty years of courtship the couple decided to tie-the-knot at a church ceremony in Dorking before an afternoon reception at Box Hill. Unfortunately we had another engagement on the day and only made the reception which was full of Barbershop singers. Cambridge Blues made a guest appearance with Stuart Owen singing bass. The couple had a wonderful and memorable day.

BABS Harmony College moved to its new venue at Nottingham University. We were well represented there by Peter Cookson, Mike Ayres, Chris Bradley, Chris Schrier, James Porter, Peter Groves and Martin Ford. Andrew Pearce didn't make it. My Pick 'n' Mix presentation on our van and riser trolleys was an outstanding failure in that it attracted no punters. I spent my time talking off-line to a member of the East Midlands chorus about fatigue cracks in the Wenger riser sub-frames. Well at least I was occupied! Notwithstanding that little issue the College was up to its usual standard with the highest number of students ever recorded - three hundred and eighty. The most notable change was in the standard of residential accommodation where all the rooms had en-suite toilet/shower rooms.

John Price and Bob Ridley were the Club's representatives at the recent BABS Annual General meeting held at the National Exhibition Centre Birmingham. I went along as an observer. As always there was a lot of routine business but much of great interest. There was a Contest Rule change to allow Quartet Gold Medallists to rejoin in the national competition after their stand-down year. We learned that there'll be a European Convention in Holland in March next year and BABS is to run a Learn to Sing course for Making Music in Egham (Surrey) to be run by Jon Conway starting 22 September. There was the good news that BABS finances are in good shape and that subscription rates will be kept at the current level.

The Alexander Devine charity furniture moving task went off okay and Stevie Horten wrote to me

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thanking us for the support. At our request the charity has agreed to have a link on their website to ours when Lawrence can get round to organising it.

### GRAHAM STARKIE

Editor

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### NEW MEN IN HARMONY COURSE

Sept. 30th 2008 sees the start of a new Men In Harmony Course which it is hoped will net us some new (preferable young!) men to swell numbers on our Risers. The local media have reproduced the following press release for us.

#### ONLY MEN ALLOWED ON

#### FREE COURSE OF SINGING LESSONS

After the exciting climax to BBC's "Last Choir Standing" an opportunity is being given to learn to sing with one of Europe's top male-voice harmony choirs. The 63-man Reading Barbershop Harmony Club (a.k.a. Thames Valley Chorus) is offering a free six-week singing course starting on 30th September 2008 at the Piggott School in Twyford.

Only men will be allowed to attend the course which will run on six consecutive Tuesdays, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. Top singing coaches from this gold-award winning choir will teach men who can already hold a note the basic techniques of singing, voice projection, and four-part close harmony. Singers will be taught two songs in voice-parts that most suit their personal vocal range, and the course will culminate in the men giving a private show to their family and friends, plus performances from the full Reading choir.

This will be the third year in succession that this exciting course has been run and will especially appeal to men who have been stirred by the BBC TV series. "There is nothing to match the amazing feel-good factor and sense of achievement that comes from singing close harmony songs with other men," says Club member Lawrence McNulty. "The Club was formed in 1974 and has since won major awards at the highest level, a feat made all the more remarkable by the fact that members of the choir come from all walks of life such as plumbers, financial advisors, project managers, lawyers, CEOs and the self employed."

Full details of the course can be found on the web site [www.meninharmony.co.uk](http://www.meninharmony.co.uk) or by phoning Denis (daytime) on 01628 622178 or James (evenings & weekends) on 0118 944 8521

The songs to be used for the new recruits will be Can You Feel the Love Tonight, and Heart of My Heart. At the time of writing 12 information packs

have been sent to men who have responded to the press release or who found the Men In Harmony web site by searching with Google. Richard Leathem has issued hundreds of A4 Posters and A5 handbills to RBHC members for placing in golf clubs, libraries, office noticeboards, village noticeboards, newsagents windows, charity shops, sports & leisure clubs, community centres, telegraph poles, trees and anywhere else that will take a staple! We look forward to a bumper crop of quality voices.

### LAWRENCE MCNULTY

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### PETER DAWSON

Well, Peter, it's time to say goodbye old friend; we'll miss you more than you'll ever know. That big smile of yours and the dry sense of humour and the way you could always get that little bit extra from the chorus especially the Leads. You had such a good voice and the way you helped us with new songs was wonderful. The gap you have left on the risers is just too big to fill.

Thanks Peter for all you have done for TVC; sleep well old friend.

A very sad

### PHIL STEWART

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### THANK YOU PETER

No doubt that I am one of the many leads who appreciated the patience and encouragement offered by Peter Dawson over many years. He leaves a gap in our Club that will be very hard to fill.

### DON JEFFERY

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### FOR SALE

Reluctantly retiring from MGs! MGF 1.8 Freestyle 2002 in British racing green plus matching hardtop. 4400 miles only - as new £5250.00  
Don Jefferey 0118 969 0834

## READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB



### BARBERSHOP BABES

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO  
SEPTEMBER'S QUARTET**

**CHRIS BRADLEY  
LAWRENCE MCNULTY  
CHRIS OLIVER  
GRAHAM SWATRIDGE**

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### JOHN GRANT'S VISIT

For those of you who were unable to come to the master class at club on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> you missed a treat! John was at once excellent, firm and gentle. For me one of the best educators we have ever had. He put over all the things that we should really already know and a few more brilliantly. Singing from the head and not the chest where there are no resonant cavities and generally lifting the voice backwards and forwards to bring the required colour was a technique we should all be aware of using and bring that skill to all the music we sing. Generally there is no such thing as 'just a rehearsal'; we should bring all of our teachings and skill to everything we do, whether it is on the risers, at section break-outs or sing-outs. One of his aims was 'transference' that is using our techniques in every song. Think of the words and what they mean, say the words to yourself and see the different stress you put on them when you speak them compared with how the music often leads you to stress the 'wrong' words. John to me was superb and if I remember half of his teachings I will be well pleased. Executive please ensure that we have him again and soon!

**CHRIS BRADLEY**

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### TAKE FOUR TAKE TO THE RIVER

Andy Wheeler, our baritone, has long held a desire for us to get an engagement for a week end as part of the entertainment on a cruise ship. That's some

objective! However on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August we achieved the first step in that direction in that we sang to a group on the "Queen Elizabeth".

The "Queen Elizabeth" in this case was a cruise boat on the River Thames, plying its trade from Richmond, where it picked up a wedding party, and took them to Hampton Court for the reception. We were booked by one of the guests and were essentially a wedding present to the happy couple. That must be a first for a quartet.

On a fine sunny afternoon, perhaps the only one of the 2008 summer, we got underway and sang our way around the two lounges and the fore and aft open deck space plus the bar area. The layout gave us plenty of opportunity to perform as a "wandering minstrel" group.

All the guests to whom we sang seemed to be appreciative, no one wanted to throw us overboard, and indeed the applause was quite generous. One guest even bought us a beer!. We sang two songs to the bridal couple, "If You Were The Only Girl In The World", and Paul McCartney's "When I'm 64". Plus, of course, "Sweet and Lovely" to the bridesmaids.

We sang to the guests as they boarded the boat and also as they left at Hampton. Some kind words were exchanged and our "buyer" seemed pleased with the outcome. In the few moments we had whilst the boat prepared for the return journey on which we had managed to obtain a lift back, we serenaded the travellers on an open deck boat moored alongside the Q.E.

On the return journey we enjoyed another beer and the sunshine. Our rest was interrupted on a number of occasions when Graham our bass, decided that we should sing to any passing boats of any size. Whilst going through the locks at Teddington we sang to a group of people watching the boats at the lock entrance, and to another group in the tea garden whilst passing through. Again at Graham's behest who seemed to be well into the singing groove by now. Great fun!!

A very different sort of day and very enjoyable. The cruise liners are perhaps still some way off Andy, but as Chairman Mao said "the journey of a thousand miles starts with a single step". So we may well be on the way!!

**MERVYN CLARK**

for Take Four.

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### ASSOCIATE MEMBER NEWS

By BOB RIDLEY Acting Assistant to the Associate Member Coordinator

Ron and Stella Collis are always interested in the latest news from the chorus.

It was good to hear from Séamus McDonald. Irené Rowe attended the Wisley Music evening and says it sounded great. Unfortunately, she was not able to speak to anyone as she was with other people and could not risk losing them in the crowds. Irené tells me that she is downsizing and that her new address from 16 September is 15 Hawkesworth Drive, Bagshot, Surrey, GU19 5QY. We wish her well in her new home. I have Irené's new telephone numbers on file.

TagRag is available on our website [www.rbhc.org.uk](http://www.rbhc.org.uk) thanks to the efforts of Graham Starkie and Chris Bradley.

Thank you to all the Associate Members for their continuing support.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBER LETTERS

Séamus & Gail

Greetings Ron,

It the time of year to "render on to Ron" or pay my subs where does time go? Anyway cheque is attached.

We've not been over to club as much as we would like but when we've showed up we always get the usual great welcome. We are planning on coming to the Maidenhead Christmas show and maybe the club Christmas party all going well.

We were really sad to hear the news about Sylvia Wills and Peter Dawson - two wonderful people and our thoughts are with their families and with the club.

I'm still doing a bit of singing just to keep my hand in but nothing too challenging other than that we are just busy with life etc. This week we are off to Ireland to be with my folks for the 50th wedding anniversary - such milestones have to be marked.

Anyway all the best to you and Stella and hope to catch you at club sometime.

All the best

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### SELECTED WEEKLY NOTICES

#### **EMMA (2nd Sep)**

Irene and I met up with Emma in Henley this afternoon. With only one more week to her baby's due date it's not easy to miss her! In a quick exchange we can verify that she is keeping very well and looking forward to the water-birth at the Royal Berks that the midwife reckons could be in the next few days. We wished her well.

#### **ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE (2nd Sep)**

Paul Gordon writes - "Those of you with long memories might remember Tony Palmer's 17 part 1975 TV series, All You Need Is Love, The Story of Popular Music. It's a brilliant series covering the history of music from ragtime to glam rock and it's just been released on DVD as well as being broadcast on More 4 late Friday night/early Saturday morning. I've caught the latest 2 episodes to be broadcast (I missed the first 2 or 3) which were on Vaudeville and Tin Pan Alley respectively.

The programme includes very rare archive film of a whole range of performers and interviews, including performances of some of the songs familiar to us today in barbershop. The Tin Pan Alley programme featured George Gershwin playing I Got Rhythm, Al Jolson singing Mammy and Irving Berlin performing Alexander's Ragtime Band. There were also some fascinating nuggets of information, such as Irving Berlin only being able to write in the key of C and play piano with 2 fingers in his early days. He had a special key shifting piano with a moveable keyboard if C was an awkward key to sing in. The lyricist for Swanee (can't remember his name) was interviewed and he said he was inspired to write the song by listening to Way Down Upon The Swanee River: the composers of both songs had never visited the river, but when they did eventually visit, they saw that the river was little more than a muddy stream so were extremely grateful to have written the songs before visiting. The programme finished with an interview with Hoagy Carmichael going through his collection of sheet music to some of his most popular songs. He ended by pulling out a massive

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leather folder which his wife had lovingly embossed with the title "It's Not Commercial" containing copies of all his songs that ended up as flops.

It's a fascinating programme and well worth recording, or better still, buy the DVD."

### MUSIC MAN @ CHICHESTER (2nd Sep)

I took Colin Thatcher's advice and went to see Brian Conley in this fabulous musical and I can confirm that Colin's enthusiasm was well founded; it was a great uplifting and enjoyable experience. Every twist and turn of this great plot was there for us all to savour. I was particularly impressed by the quartet and although they were four individual voices for most of the time they carried the part very well.

Last Saturday's was the final performance in the Festival theatre but we learned that Cameron Mackintosh was there only a few nights before looking at the possibility of putting it on tour - or could it be in the West End? Let's hope that it goes on tour so that we can organise a party of members to see this extravaganza. Thanks for the heads-up Colin.

### CHARITY REGISTRATION (9th Sep)

Bob Ridley writes - The Charity Commission has written to confirm that Reading Barbershop Harmony Club has been entered in the Central Register of Charities with effect from 8 September 2008. Our Registered Number is 1125742.

As a charity our main benefit will be the ability to treat individual subscriptions to RBHC as donations under the charity gift aid scheme. The Club can then reclaim tax (currently 28p in the pound) as long as the individual pays sufficient tax to cover this claim. A form is being devised for this purpose and will be issued shortly.

My thanks to all those who helped us to achieve Charity Registration for RBHC.

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### HISTORICAL NOTES

#### 5 Years Ago September 2003

4<sup>th</sup> Daytimers at Kennet Court Complex, Wokingham.

20<sup>th</sup> "Sound Celebration" show at the Desborough Suite, Maidenhead Town Hall. Thames Valley Chorus (two 20 minute spots) Rockaholix (Roger Wilkinson, Alan Hill, Brian Callaghan, Chris Oliver) Figaro (Aidan Brand, Peter Dawson, Richard Leathem, Andrew Rzytko) Cox Green School Jazz Orchestra The finale was a sing-along between the band and TVC of 'Can't Buy Me Love'.

25<sup>th</sup> Daytimers at Oracle Centre, Reading for Air Ambulance fund raising.

#### 10 Years Ago September 1998

11-13<sup>th</sup> A small but enthusiastic group of members returned to Düsseldorf to renew friendships made six years earlier.

26<sup>th</sup> Side By Side (Roger Wilkinson, Ken Smyth, Rod Adams, Chris Oliver) sang at a reception at "The Naval & Military Club" Piccadilly, London

#### 15 Years Ago September 1993

Current song repertoire was:

- If My Friends Could See Me Now
- Somebody Stole My Gal Medley
- Smile Darn Ya Smile Medley
- Sloop John B
- The Lord's Prayer
- You're The One I Care For
- Those Magnificent Men'.... Flying Machines
- Mistakes
- Dangerous Dan McGrew
- Carolina In The Morning
- My Old Dutch
- Toot Toot Tootsie Goodbye
- We'll Meet Again

# READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

Battle Hymn Of the Republic

## 20Years Ago September 1988

17<sup>th</sup> Full Chorus at St.Michael's Church, Basingstoke

28<sup>th</sup> Full Chorus at Riverside Leisure Centre, Reading for the show 'Riverside Rhapsody' presented by the Barberettes in aid of the Helen House Hospice for Children, the Norcross Group sponsored the show.

Appearing was: Reading Barberettes, Thames Valley Chorus, Staff Band of the REME Arborfield, Princes Marina College Band, Pipes and Drums, Stephen Beville (12 year old pianist), Pete Westlake (Magician), Colin Thatcher M/C. £4200 was raised for the Hospice.

## 25Years Ago September 1983

16/18<sup>th</sup> At the LABBS Convention held at Exeter University the Barberettes were in third place behind the White Rosettes (Leeds) and Avonbelles (Bristol) even though Daph Powell was Chairwoman of LABBS and Pete Powell was Chairman of Judges. A number of TVC members were present.

24<sup>th</sup> Full Chorus at Our Lady of Peace Community Centre, Earley

## 30Years Ago September 1978

2<sup>nd</sup> Southern Quartet Prelims at Brighton. Nine quartets competed with the first seven qualifying for the semi-finals.

1<sup>st</sup> Class Distinction (Brighton)

2<sup>nd</sup> Fourth Amendment (Bristol)

3<sup>rd</sup> Ripchords (Chesham) with Tony Searle singing Lead.

4<sup>th</sup> Harmony Heritage (Pete Forrest, Nick Carter, Peter Bugden, Ron Collis)

15<sup>th</sup> Full Chorus at the Masonic Hall, Wokingham

30<sup>th</sup> Full Chorus at the John Stride Theatre, Winchester.

It is with great sorrow that I heard of the death of Peter Dawson. He was a great lead and a gentleman; that's why he was and always will be a Barbershopper. I send my condolences to his family and to the other three members of Figaro, not forgetting the loss to RBHC.

## HAYDN ADAMS

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## SUPPORTERS

What can I say that hasn't been said already. How very sad we both were to hear about Peter. Neither of us slept for two nights trying to get our heads round it and still we can't! I feel so very sorry for Peter's family. Aidan, Andy and Richard must be walking round in a daze having lost such a great friend. There's so much I want to say about Peter - he was such a great personality who gave so much and encouraged Chorus members both old and new. But you all know that. What I will say is that he will be greatly missed.

Well, as the majority of you witnessed last week, Emma is still with us. The baby is overdue and she is impatient. Heather asked her if she was expecting twins and she said that if she produced 2 she was only coming out with 1!!! She will certainly have produced the baby by next edition.

It is good to hear that Dave Colver has been able to make short visits to Club nights and is making good progress.

Graham and I visited Derek Hird in the Royal Berks last week and he was looking really good. He had had several Chorus members visit which had cheered him up. At the time we saw him he was expecting a visit from the doc the next day. Scotty visited on the Monday and told Graham that they would be transferring Derek to St Mary's at Paddington.

Graham and I will have been to Berlin by the time you read this with local friends returning next Monday. I am really looking forward to it although having looked at the temperatures on the web it is colder than here.

Luv 'n' hugs as always,

## IRENE

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## READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

Thanks to Haydn Adams, Chris Bradley, Mervyn Clark, Don Jeffery, John Price, Lawrence McNulty, Bob Ridley, Phil Stewart and Irene for supplying copy.

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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](http://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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Lawrence McNulty 0118 978 7161  
Marketing & PRO [lawrence.mculty@ntlworld.com](mailto:lawrence.mculty@ntlworld.com)  
Alex Russell 01635 40855  
Finance 6 Bartlemy Road, Newbury  
RG14 6JX

### OTHER ROLES:

Rhiannon Owens-Hall 01978 358815  
Chorus Director [Rhiannonhall@babs-education.info](mailto:Rhiannonhall@babs-education.info)  
Rod Adams 0118 934 4515  
TVC Bookings [rod.adams@wham-bam.net](mailto:rod.adams@wham-bam.net)  
Ken Mills 0118 978 0031  
Treasurer [heatherken@talktalk.net](mailto:heatherken@talktalk.net)

### FATHER OF THE CHORUS and

Associate Member Coordinator  
Ron Collis, 83, Blackdown Way, Thatcham,  
Berkshire RG19 3FY Tel. 01635 861481.

### Acting Assistant to the Associate Member Coordinator:

Bob Ridley, Langton Lodge, Icknield Road,  
Goring RG8 0DG Tel: 01491 872989  
[bob.ridley@btinternet.com](mailto:bob.ridley@btinternet.com)

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Tel 01344 489445 (Bracknell) Evenings.

## READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

RBHC's

# 50 CLUB

### Are you part of the action?

Why not join in the Club's monthly draws to win you some pocket money and provide a regular income to Club funds.

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References available.

Regular listening to recorded material improves your awareness of the barbershop style and will help you to work-smarter with your singing.

## 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](mailto: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.

## READING BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB

THE REMAINING DAYS OF

### SEPTEMBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
21	22	23 <b>Rehearsal</b> TAG RAG DISTRIBUTION	24	25	26	27	
28	29 Daytimers Datchet Monday Club	30 <b>Rehearsal</b> <b>MIH wk1</b> <b>RBHC EGM</b>	September 2008				

October 2008 calendar is on page 2

A LOOK AHEAD TO

### NOVEMBER 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	November 2008					1
2	3	4 <b>Rehearsal</b> <b>MIH wk6</b>	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 <b>Rehearsal</b> TAG RAG COPY DEADLINE	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 <b>Rehearsal</b> TAG RAG DISTRIBUTION	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 <b>Rehearsal</b>	26	27	28	29