

DECEMBER 2016 - ISSUE 331

# HEX

The official publication of The British Association of Barbershop Singers

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HARMONY EXPRESS



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Bournemouth**

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PRESENTS



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The British Association of Barbershop Singers is affiliated to the Barbershop Harmony Society in America. Members of Making Music and the Association of British Choral Directors in the UK.

## The Chairman Signs In

**Ian James**



## SO WE REACH THE TAG

This is the moment many of you have been fearing for a while. Tears will, no doubt, be shed throughout the land. Why? This is my final HEX missive as BABS Chairman. On December 31st I shall be handing the chain of office and gavel over to the eminently capable Peter Cookson for the next two years. Well actually the chain (and for that matter the gavel) are already on Peter's sideboard but you get the idea.

I reflect upon, what has been, a genuinely eye opening experience. Many of you will never know the effort and work ethic emanating from the officers of this Association - take it from one who knows, these people are truly exceptional - next time you meet one of the Directors or one of their team you should shake them by the hand and simply thank them.

The BABS Autumn Members Meeting (AMM) took place in September, when two new Directors were elected. Our new Vice Chairmen will be Martin Baglow from the Great Western Chorus of Bristol and our new Music Services Director (following the retirement of Alan Goldsmith) will be Alan Hughes - he of 'Monkey Magic' fame. Their roles start on January 1st 2017. Gentlemen, the very best of luck to you both - you have tough acts to follow.

The AMM is the second of two occasions in the year, where our membership get to see behind the scenes at what the BABS board is doing. The next meeting is the AGM on the 19th March, please encourage your club to participate. It's interesting, informative and far from boring!

The fabulous Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM) in Manchester was the venue for our Quartet Prelims. The event took place at the beginning of November and was once again a tremendous success. The Youth and Seniors competitions were held on the Saturday at the end of which we had our new Youth and Seniors champs "4 on Demand" and "Three 'n' Easy" respectively - well done chaps.

The qualifier for convention next year, held on the Sunday, led to my own quartet "Portobello Road" leading the field with an average of 78.8% on the day. I need to thank the other three guys in Portobello Road - Brian, Steve and Stuart - for letting me achieve something I could not do without them, mind you, without me they'd have to compete as a trio and even our judges might notice that there was something missing.

The season finished up in sunny (well nearly) Harrogate where our lady friends in LABBS celebrated their own 40th anniversary with a convention to remember. A huge amount of effort was put in by the organisers and it paid dividends. OCTimes were on hand to add that extra special golden touch to a wonderful weekend. ToneAcity were worthy Quartet winners, while Amersham Acappella made winning the Chorus Gold look easy with a mighty impressive 83.7% overall - well done ladies all. The Barbershop in Harmony (BinH) Mixed Quartet contest was won by 'Myxd Up' - a young and energetic quartet from Plymouth. We've got our Convention to look forward to in May, starring the King's Singers and Lemon Squeezy. Start planning now for the "Big One", it's going to be too good to miss!

I wish Peter the greatest of success in his role as your new Chairman, although he doesn't need it, a more gifted chairman would be tough to find. He will, I have no doubt, lead the board and this wonderful Association of ours in a wholly professional manner. I look forward to watching it all from the wings.

Now I'm off to reintroduce myself to Nickie. As I shuffle off the barberpole, I hope you have a Merry and Harmonious Christmas.

See you all around.

**Ian James**

BABS Chairman - 2015/16



## HARMONY EXPRESS

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### Editorial

Please send all articles and photographs to:  
harmonyexpress@singbarbershop.com

### Moving House? Change of Email?

email: membershipsecretary@singbarbershop.com

The editor reserves the right to edit any material in the interest of clarity, accuracy or suitability to fit the space available, and the decision of the editor as to the publication of any material is final.

## Advertising in Harmony Express

See costs on the Harmony Express  
page of the BABS web site  
or contact:  
harmonyexpress@singbarbershop.com

## Diary Dates

### - 2017 -

14th January	BABS Board & Charity Trustees Meeting	Coventry
17th - 22nd January	BHS Mid-Winter Convention	San Antonio, TX
28th - 29th January	BABS Directors Academy	Nottingham
18th February	Great Western Chorus Show (see advert p2)	Bristol
18th March	BABS Board & Charity Trustees Meeting	Birmingham
19th March	BABS Annual General Meeting	Birmingham
6th - 9th April	Spanish Association Annual Convention	Benalmadena
26th - 29th May	BABS 43rd Annual Convention	Bournemouth
17th June	BABS Board & Charity Trustees Meeting	Coventry
2nd - 9th July	BHS International Convention	Las Vegas
22nd July	BABS Board & Charity Trustees Meeting	Coventry
23rd - 30th July	BHS Harmony University	Nashville
25th - 27th August	BABS 39th Annual Harmony College	Nottingham
16th September	BABS Board & Charity Trustees Meeting	Birmingham
17th September	BABS Autumn Members Meeting	Birmingham
26th - 29th October	European & LABBS Convention	Bournemouth
11th & 12th November	BABS Quartet Prelims	Manchester
11th November	Barbershop in Harmony Mixed Quartet Contest	Manchester

### - 2018 -

16th - 21st January	BHS Mid-Winter Convention	Orange County, CA
25th - 28th May	BABS 44th Annual Convention	Harrogate
1st - 8th July	BHS International Convention	Orlando

### - 2019 -

30th June - 7th July	BHS International Convention	Salt Lake City
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## Next Issue: February 2017 - Copy Date: 30th January

# Ocean Harmony Barbershop Chorus



This well-established, Southampton based Barbershop Chorus wishes to recruit a **Chorus Director**.

Founded in 2003, Ocean Harmony sing a wide repertoire of barbershop and popular songs at concerts, charitable and corporate events throughout Hampshire, and regularly compete at the BABS Convention. A new recruitment campaign aims to grow the Chorus to 50 members, and we wish to build on this by appointing a new, charismatic and inspirational **Chorus Director** to further enhance our repertoire and performance.

To request further details or to apply with a CV please contact Mike Jones  
email: [vicechairman@oceanharmony.co.uk](mailto:vicechairman@oceanharmony.co.uk)



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

# Growing Skills

## BABS Music Directors Academy

### Encouraging Leadership, Promoting Quality and Developing Skills

The person in front of any chorus is so important in improving the chorus, and in making rehearsals enjoyable and rewarding evenings for the singers. The purpose of the Academy is to provide opportunities to enhance and develop the Director's skills, irrespective of whether they are an experienced director or relatively new to the role.

Whether they've come to barbershop from another form of music or are an experienced barbershop singer, but new to directing, they will have time over the weekend to talk with fellow directors and share the experiences and the challenges that are part and parcel of standing in front of a chorus!

The BABS Board of Directors is committed to providing opportunities for our chorus directors to develop their skills, with Directors Academy being the main vehicle to achieve this. The Academy is free to all Front Line Directors, as part of the Growing Skills Strategy

Assistants and music team members can also attend the weekend at a cost of just £150, exceptional value, for a two-day event that will inspire them to develop their directing

skills, leadership qualities and a greater understanding of a chorus performance.

The event will be held at Eastwood Hall in Nottingham on the 28th & 29th January and will be concentrating on the Performance Category and we have two guest educators with great expertise in this area. Our guest educators are Steven Armstrong and David McEachern.

### Invitations have been sent to all Club Front Line Directors



## Growing Reputation

### Club Chairmen Meeting

### Enhancing Engagement and Communication

At the Autumn Members Meeting, some new initiatives were outlined, which evolved from the BABS Board's strategy meeting in June.

A constant theme which arose from that meeting was enhancing engagement with Clubs. To begin with, we thought it important to increase the dialogue with the management in Clubs and especially the Chairman.

To embark on this theme, we are holding a one day meeting for all Club Chairmen on the Directors Academy weekend of Saturday January 28th 2017. Attendance is free.

The purpose of this meeting is twofold; firstly it is an opportunity for the Club Chairmen to witness what their front line directors are being taught by our guest educators, and secondly it is an opportunity to explain to the Board any issues you may be encountering within your Club.

The BABS Board believe it will help a Club's progress if the Club's Executive has an understanding of the intent of the Director and music team when developing their chorus. A good example this year is understanding the changes being made to the Presentation Category rules.



The guest educators at the Academy, Steve Armstrong and Dave McEachern of gold medal chorus Toronto Northern Lights, will be explaining (among other things) what performance judges are now looking for.

The second part of the day will be a closed session devoted to exploring any issues clubs are facing. This will be a two way dialogue so the Board can understand the problems and can identify where help may be available. A third benefit from attending this meeting will be the opportunity to network with other clubs to encourage mutual support.

Invitations have been sent out to all club Chairmen. There has been a positive response, but there are still a few clubs who have not yet responded. Please ensure your club doesn't miss out on making a contribution.

# A Brilliant Barbershop Weekend

**Reserve the date in your diary and get ready to book your 2017 place!**

**An outstanding event that will leave you with a lasting impression**



**39th Harmony College  
25 - 27 August 2017  
Jubilee Campus  
Nottingham University**



**HARMONY  
COLLEGE**

**Prospectus Published  
Spring 2017**

**Enhancing Knowledge • Encouraging Improvement**

# A Big Thank You to Alan Goldsmith

## Retiring after 10 Years on the BABS Board

Alan joined the BABS Board back in 2007 as Vice-Chairman, a post which he held for two years. He then progressed to the role of Chairman until December 2010. At which point you could expect him to move off the Board, having done his four year stint, but instead he decided to offer himself for election as BABS Music Services Director.

During the six years in this position, he has made a massive difference to this area of the Association's activities. He has been the main driver behind the Board's Growing Skills Strategy, placing great emphasis on Chorus, Quartet and Personal development.

He has overseen the introduction of Directors Academy, Quartet Exploration Days, Quartet Top Gun Weekends, Chorus Directors Training and the successful evolution and updating of Harmony College. During his tenure, he has improved the investment in the Guild of Judges training

programme, been an integral part of our discussions with the Barbershop Harmony Society and played an important role the development of Barbershop in Harmony.

As a Board member, all of whom are volunteers, he has been one of the leaders in the management of the Association and has played an active part in the continuing development of professional standards. For those members who have attended either the BABS AGM or Autumn Members Meetings, will testify to how much work he does and what he has achieved during his time on the Board.

Harmony Express asked a few people who have worked with Alan for their thoughts, these are shown below.



It's been a real pleasure working with Alan: he has always been a supportive and guiding influence, both personally for me and for BABS as a whole. Whether handling challenging situations, managing the detailed planning of an event, or simply dotting an 'i' or crossing a 't', Alan has always remained the consummate professional, maintaining a calm, considered and rational approach in all he undertakes.

Thank you Alan - The Board will miss you.

**Derek Parmenter**

Past BABS Chairman and current BABS Special Events Director

In simple terms as Music Services Director, Alan Goldsmith has been the supreme bridge between the BABS Board and the Guild of Judges. Both groups have always had their interests centred in harmony, but it doesn't automatically mean that we both are working from the same arrangement. Alan has always demonstrated that both groups considerations for how we believe we can best benefit the membership are equally important. Alan has been able to sit impartially between both and bring all points of view to discussion and work to ensure that the BABS members are the most important consideration in managing any change. We are all going to miss his presence in our meetings and we wish him a very happy retirement although we're sure he won't be far away from supporting the music we all love.

**Mike Warner**

BABS Guild of Judges Chairman

After Convention, Harmony College is the largest annual event organised by BABS. This requires a lot of planning and organising, which starts as soon as the previous College finishes. Since Alan was elected as Music Services Director, he has taken a very active part in the planning of each College. However after the untimely demise of Ken Hulme, Alan has taken a more active role in the 'nuts and bolts' of the College. He has provided strong leadership and direction for the stream leaders and faculty, and carried out many of the detailed tasks needed to make the College a success. It has been a pleasure working with him. He will be a hard act to follow.

**Stuart Lines**

BABS Membership Secretary and Harmony College Management Team Member

Alan has always supported me in the drive to raise the reputation and professional standing of the Association, and my approach to marketing and branding of BABS and it's many high profile events. I will miss his contribution to the marketing efforts, his advice, his friendship and his participation in Board meetings.

**Laurie Whittle**

BABS Marketing Director

## BABS Growing Skills Strategy

The four key areas of Growing Skills are:

- \* **Chorus Development**
- \* **Quartet Development**
- \* **Individual Development**
- \* **Resource Development**

Each of these are broken down in to specific headings, that relate to the various activities within that segment of the strategy. All drawn together with a common string of improving the knowledge and performance of barbershop harmony in the UK.





## QUARTET COMPETITION

Following the success of Prelims at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester last year, it was an easy decision to return this time round. Having only one suitable hall available, and an excellent field of entries, we again split the event by holding the Seniors' and Youth contests on the Saturday evening, with the remaining competitors singing the following day.

### Youth Contest

There were 7 entries in the Youth Contest on the Saturday evening, compared to 6 last year. Congratulations go to '4 On Demand', who won with a score of 71.3%, compared to last year's winners who scored slightly higher with 72.8%. In second place were 'Sound Hypothesis' with 70.6% and last year's silver medallists, 'Harmonopoly', slipping a place to third whilst scoring 69.9%. All three, together with fourth placed 'Northern Quarter', qualified for the semi-final round at Bournemouth next May.

### Seniors Contest

This year there were also 7 entries in the Seniors' contest (4 in 2015), with last year's silver medallists 'Three 'n' Easy' winning gold this time out, with a score of 66.9%. In second place, for the third time in four years, and only 4 points (out of a possible 1800) behind were 'QM' with 66.7%, with 'Cemetery Junction' coming third with a score of 65.2%.

### Prelims

Over the two days we heard 38 quartets, all vying to win a place in the top 16 and thereby securing a place in the semi-finals in Bournemouth next May. This was a pleasing increase on last year's total of 29, although that figure was probably affected by the unavoidable change of date and venue.

Leading the field, with a score of 78.8%, were 'Portobello Road' our current silver medallists, with 'The Locksmiths' scoring next highest with 77.8%. It's worth noting that this year there were 9 quartets who scored in the B+ category (over 71%), the highest number on record.

At Bournemouth the sixteen qualifiers will be joined in the semi-finals by 'Finest Hour', 'Reckless', 'The Emerald Guard' and 'Tagline', who will all be singing for a qualification score for International in 2018.

## Prelims 2016 Another Great Barbershop Weekend



So, using the Manchester venue again worked exceptionally well and Prelims will be held there next year, on 11th and 12th November, and will incorporate the UK Mixed Quartet Contest.

Huge thanks must go to Derek Parmenter, our Special Events Director, who managed the event as efficiently and un-flustered as usual, to the judges for a monumental task exceptionally well carried out, to the stage crew and technical teams, to all the spectators who were enthusiastic throughout, and, most importantly, to each and every singer who participated - a truly great job!

**Alan Goldsmith**

BABS Music Services Director.

**9 quartets scored in  
the B+ category  
(over 71%), the highest  
number on record**

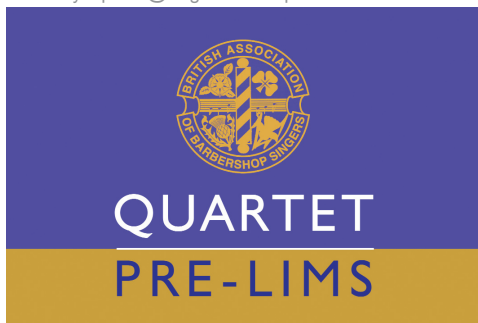


## QUARTET PRELIMS

## Advanced Notice

**2017 Prelims  
11th & 12th November  
Royal Northern College of Music  
Manchester**





**November 2016**



**Portobello Road - 78.8%**



**The Locksmiths - 77.8%**



**HeadQuarters - 75.6%**



**The Brit Pack - 75.6%**



**Hustle - 75.1%**



**Mic Drop - 72.6%**



**Tonic - 72.2%**



**Blueprint - 71.5%**



**4 On Demand - 71.3%**



**Sound Hypothesis - 70.6%**



**Harmonopoly - 69.9%**



**Nova - 69.9%**



**South Parade - 68.8%**



**Northern Quarter - 68.6%**



**Three 'n' Easy - 66.9%**



**Half Eight - 66.8%**



**QM - 66.7%**



**Incline - 65.9%**



**Platform I - 65.7%**



**The Quadranaughts - 65.3%**



**Cemetery Junction - 65.2%**



**The Amazing Greys - 63.9%**



**Wrekin Havoc - 63.1%**



**Wavelength - 62.6%**



**Timeless - 62.3%**



**Borderline - 62.2%**



**Thumbs Up - 61.7%**



**Oakie Dokie - 61.4%**



**Diminished Fifth - 61.2%**



**The Four Posters - 60.1%**



**Diversion - 59.8%**



**Waikikamukau - 58.8%**



**Shoreline - 58.5%**



**Open Road - 57.9%**



**Intersection - 57.8%**



**Cheers - 55.6%**



**Benner, Benner, Bari & Tenor - 55.5%**



**The Codebreakers - 52.1%**

## Quartet Prelims Scores

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF BARBERSHOP SINGERS

OFFICIAL CONTEST RESULT

NATIONAL QUARTET PRELIMS (NATIONAL STREAM) - RICHM MANCHESTER: 2016/2017

Scores from semi-finals are normalised to take account of any panel size differences. Decimal fractions may therefore exist. Category rankings are calculated on the category totals including previous scores where these exist. Category scores reflect any score reductions. Reductions are shown in brackets under column headers MR, PR and SR.

Contestant	Songs	Men	MR	Perf	PR	Sing	Ch.Pen	Totals	%
1: Fortliberto Road (Ian James, Brian Schofield, Steve Emery, Stuart Owens)	There've Said It Again Istanbul (Be-Lovely)	234 242		233 236		235 238		1418	78.8
	Category rankings:	1		1		2			
2: The Locksmiths (Richard Fisher, Simon Lubkowski, Zac Bookin, Andrew Walker)	I Won't Sell Roses I Have Dreamed	234 231		231 229		236 240		1401	77.8
	Category rankings:	2		2		1			
3: Headquarters (Peter Kennedy, Michael Potts, Ryan Jensen, John Williams)	Over The Rainbow You Took Advantage Of Me	231 223		229 206		227 205		1361	75.6
	Category rankings:	3		3		5			
4: The Bird Pack (Simon Hunt, Kenneth Allison, Peter Haigret, Jon Dawson)	How Deep Is The Ocean You're Nobody 'Til Somebody Loves You	227 225		222 226		228 232		1360	75.6
	Category rankings:	4		5		4			
5: Hebble (Bill Firth, Giovanni Arciswals, Scott Tatton, Dale Thompson)	Friend Good Love Me And The World Is Mine	219 217		230 225		232 229		1352	75.1
	Category rankings:	5		3		3			
6: Mic Drop (Lawrence Hession, Brian Fink, James Whitlock, Sean Egan)	Come Fly With Me You Belong To Me	219 214		214 216		222 220		1307	72.6
	Category rankings:	6		6		6			
7: Tonic (Craig Robson, Paul Hargrett, Alex de Bratin, Ian Mastin)	There's No New Tunes On The Old Time From The First Hello To The Last Goodbye	213 208		219 218		221 220		1299	72.2
	Category rankings:	9		6		7			
8: Blueprint (Alan Edwards, Dave Brown, Tim Brookes, Tamen Barkworth)	Five Foot Two All Dressed Up With A Broken Heart	217 210		220 217		213 210		1287	71.5
	Category rankings:	7		6		11			
9: 4 On Demand (James Braham, Peter Bryant, Nick Bryant, Celine Lawrence)	The Way You Look Tonight Show Me Where The Good Times Are	217 208		210 211		231 216		1283	71.3
	Category rankings:	8		10		8			

Full scoresheets, including songs sung by each quartet, scores for each song and the performers names, for Prelims, Seniors and Youth contests can be found on the BABS Guild of Judges web site.

[www.babsguildofjudges.com](http://www.babsguildofjudges.com)

# Quartet Photographs

**VIEW & BUY ONLINE**

Choose from a great selection

[www.event-photos.co.uk](http://www.event-photos.co.uk)



# QUARTET COMPETITION

## Youth Quartet Contest

Royal Northern College of Music  
Saturday 5th November 2016

### BABS Youth Quartet Winners 4 On Demand - 71.8%

Jamie Braham, Peter Bryant, Nick Bryant, Calvin Laverick



Sound Hypothesis - 70.6%



Harmonopoly - 69.9%



Northern Quarter - 68.6%



Student Unison - 63.2%



Wavelength - 62.6%



Diminished Fifth- 61.2%

## Sing for the Judges!

*Do you sing in a BABS/LABBS or Mixed Voice quartet? Is your quartet free to come and sing at the judges Spring seminar in February 2017?*

We are looking for a few quartets to come along to Walsall on Saturday 18th February 2017 and take part in a small contest to be scored by the judges at the seminar as part of our ongoing training. We will need you for the whole day on the Saturday, and to sing two contest songs for us in the afternoon contest. You will then be given a live coached evaluation with the three scoring categories for the two songs that you performed.

Lunch will be provided and reasonable travel expenses reimbursed.

If you are interested in helping us out at our seminar, then please drop me an email for an application form

**Barry Clinton**  
BABS Guild of Judges  
[barry.clinton43@gmail.com](mailto:barry.clinton43@gmail.com)



GUILD OF  
JUDGES



# QUARTET COMPETITION

## Seniors Quartet Contest

Royal Northern College of Music  
Saturday 5th November 2016

### BABS Seniors Gold Medal Quartet Three 'n' Easy - 66.9%

Gary Roussak, Paul Gidney, Paul Tatton, John Clarke



QM - 66.7%



Cemetery Junction - 65.2%



The Amazing Greys - 63.9%



Timeless - 62.3%



Waikikamukau - 58.8%



Intersection - 57.8%



## HARMONY COLLEGE

Save the Date  
25-27 August 2017

### A Unique Barbershop Experience! Join the Audition Chorus

Not for the new singer, but for those who've been singing for some years, even if not barbershop. Work at a high level stream under the leadership of a guest director. Requires the completion of an audition recording.

**Prospectus Due Out in the Spring!**

BABS 39th Harmony College, Jubilee Campus - Nottingham

## MIXED VOICE BARBERSHOP CHORAL CONTEST



**2nd Year**  
**29th May 2017**  
**Bournemouth**

[www.singbarbershop.com](http://www.singbarbershop.com)

British Association of Barbershop Singers

# GET IN THE MIX FOR 2017

If you like the idea of mixing it up in harmony, then start thinking about who you can get together with to form a mixed barbershop chorus



2016 Winners

### Strictly Barbershop from Hertfordshire

BABS is inviting mixed voice Acappella groups to enter the second UK Mixed Voice Barbershop Choral Contest.

The open contest will be held at the BABS 43rd Annual Convention in Bournemouth on Monday 29th May 2017.

Entries are welcome from choruses and choirs of between 18 and 80 mixed voice singers (min age 14). The winner will receive a £500 Bursary.

The contest will be judged under normal barbershop judging rules and categories.

### Send for Details Today!

For full details and conditions of entry please email:  
[mixedchoralcontest@singbarbershop.com](mailto:mixedchoralcontest@singbarbershop.com)

## Advertise in the Convention Programme

**Reach over 2,300 people  
with your message**

### Advertise Your Club

Get your club featured in 40th Anniversary year.  
Advertise a club event or club show.

### Advertise Your Quartet

Promote your quartet for singouts and club shows.

### Advertise Your Business

Get your business, product or service in front of over 2300 barbershoppers.

**£90.00 - Full Page**

**£50.00 - Half Page**

**£35.00 - Quarter Page**

For further information email:  
[marketingdirector@singbarbershop.com](mailto:marketingdirector@singbarbershop.com)



**43rd Anniversary Convention  
Bournemouth 2017**

# 43rd Annual Convention

# SING 2017

Featuring  
**THE KING'S SINGERS**



# THE BIG ONE

**BIG STAR GUESTS**

**BIG VENUE**

**BIG SHOWS**

**BIG CONTESTS**

**BIG WEEKEND**

**BIC, Bournemouth**  
**26th - 29th May 2017**

**Biggest Barbershop Event**  
**Outside North America**



and **LEMON SQUEEZY**



**An Unmissable BABS Event**  
**Box Office Open**

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Register Now at  
[www.sing2017.com](http://www.sing2017.com)

# The Big Singing Event of 2017 -

## **BIG SEASIDE RESORT**

Bournemouth offers all the facilities for a family visit, the beach and pier is two minutes from the Convention Centre. There is a wide choice of restaurants and shops within easy walking distance, for those who like to add something extra to their weekend away.

## **BIG VENUE**

The BIC is a purpose built convention centre, located close to the beautiful beach and pier, with plenty of room for everyone. The large auditorium is cool and airy with floor and tiered seating giving good views of the stage. There are ample bars and plenty of food options.

## **BIG CHOICE OF HOTELS**

There is a good selection of accommodation from 4-star to friendly B&B's, the choice is yours. We would recommend that you book early as Bournemouth is popular a seaside town. BABS does not offer a hotel booking service or a preferred booking agent for convention.

## **BIG STAR GUESTS**

The headline guest for the Saturday evening show will be The King's Singers. Acclaimed for their virtuosity and irresistible charm, The King's Singers are in global demand. Show tickets will be on sale to the general public as well as the barbershop community.

## **BIG INTERNATIONAL SILVER MEDAL QUARTET**

Lemon Squeezy, from Sweden, will be our headline barbershop guest for the weekend. Placed 2nd in the recent Barbershop Harmony Society's International contest in Nashville, this outstanding quartet will make a big impression throughout their visit. We can't wait to see them.

## **BIG BARBERSHOP CONVENTION**

Sign up for what will be a very special 2017 BABS Convention. The full weekend registration takes you from Friday right through to Monday, including the Mixed Chorus Contest.

# The **BIG** International Saturday Night Show

Featuring



**The King's Singers**  
Internationally Acclaimed  
Vocal Ensemble



**Lemon Squeezy**  
2016 International  
Silver Medal Quartet

**9.00pm Saturday 27th May 2017 - Tickets £30**



# Up to 60 hours of Singing, Socialising & Fun!

## Maximum Enjoyment!

Convention is more than competitions. From Friday right through to Monday, there is so much to do, so much to see and so much to enjoy. Registration gives you access to all events except for the three shows. The biggest barbershop event outside North America brings you a full weekend of Singing, Fun & Entertainment!

## Exciting Contests

Starting with the Quartet Semi-Finals on Friday followed by the Quartet Finals on Sunday. The Chorus Finals on Saturday sees clubs from all over the UK compete, plus the added bonus of the Mixed Barbershop Chorus contest on Monday morning.

## Singing Time

There will be plenty of opportunities to sing over the weekend, including Sing-a-Tag sessions with Lemon Squeezy, and in the three afterglows and other Fringe Events.

## Great Company

Conventions are a great time to socialise, meet up with old friends and more importantly make new ones. Barbershop singers are renowned for being friendly, so if you've not been to convention before, you will soon be amongst the action.

## Superb Entertainment!

Choose from three great shows, each one offering real value entertainment. The Saturday night show is unmissable with both the King's Singers and Lemon Squeezy headlining. You can purchase a show ticket without a registration, but it only gives limited access for a period of 30 minutes prior to and immediately following that show.

## Convention Party

A Beach Boys Tribute Band has been booked. A nice alternative to barbershop on the Sunday evening. This event just gets bigger, and we look forward to the unique Californian sounds of the Beach Boys.

Keep up to date by visiting the **BABS Convention Web Site.**

## It's Showtime!

**FRIDAY SHOW**  
8.30pm

Featuring a great line up of high quality Barbershop quartets and choruses. Guests to be confirmed.

**Tickets: £18**  
£21.00 if bought at Convention

**SUNDAY SHOW**  
8.30pm

Celebrating champions. A mix of award winning quartets and choruses. Acts to be confirmed.

**Tickets: £18**  
£21.00 if bought at Convention

## BOX OFFICE OPEN

The BABS Box Office is operated by Venue Cymru in Llandudno.

Book online or by telephone.

Visit the BABS Convention Web Site

**www.sing2017.com**

## Prices Held for Third Year

Everyone attending, or wanting to enter the convention centre, must either register and pay a registration fee or purchase a separate show ticket as appropriate.

Buy your registration and show tickets before 7th May to save against buying at Convention.

### BOUGHT BEFORE 7th MAY

#### Registration Prices

	1 Day Registration	2 Day Registration	Full Registration
Adult	£30.00	£55.00	£60.00
Under 26	£20.00	£40.00	£45.00
Junior (5-16 yrs)	£10.00	£15.00	£20.00
Under 5's	Free	Free	Free

#### Show Ticket Prices

	Friday Evening	Saturday Evening	Sunday Evening
Adult	£18.00	£30.00	£18.00
Under 26	£12.00	£18.00	£12.00
Junior (5-16 yrs)	£ 5.00	£ 5.00	£ 5.00

### BUYING AT CONVENTION

#### Registration Prices

	1 Day Saturday	2 Day Sat/Sun	Full Registration
Adult	£35.00	£60.00	£70.00
Under 26	£25.00	£45.00	£55.00
Junior (5-16 yrs)	£10.00	£15.00	£20.00
Under 5's	Free	Free	Free

#### Show Ticket Prices

	Friday Evening	Saturday Evening	Sunday Evening
Adult	£21.00	£30.00	£21.00
Under 26	£15.00	£21.00	£15.00
Junior (5-16 yrs)	£ 5.00	£ 5.00	£ 5.00

You can purchase a show ticket without a registration, but it only gives access for a period of 30 minutes prior to and immediately following a show for the selected show only. Entry to any other Convention event(s) or activity is not permitted.



# THE BIG ONE

**Bournemouth**  
**26th - 29th**  
**May 2017**

# SING 2017

## 43rd Annual Barbershop Convention

### CHORUS CONTEST DRAW

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1 Southern Union Chorus    | 21 Hallmark of Harmony                 |
| 2 Meantime                 | 22 Essex Chordsmen                     |
| 3 Harmony Lincs            | 23 East Kent Chorus                    |
| 4 The ViPs                 | 24 Mantunian Way                       |
| 5 Sussex Harmonisers       | 25 Fine City Chorus                    |
| 6 Major Oak Chorus         | 26 Derby A Cappella                    |
| 7 Knights of Harmony       | 27 Three Spires Harmony                |
| 8 MK Acapella              | 28 Tuxedo Junction                     |
| 9 Ocean City Sound         | 29 The Great Western Chorus of Bristol |
| 10 Ocean Harmony           | 30 Kings of Herts                      |
| 11 Anvil Chorus            | 31 Harmony Revival                     |
| 12 Wight Harmony           | 32 The Kingsmen                        |
| 13 Ouse Valley Chorus      | 33 Magna Carta Chorus                  |
| 14 The Royal Harmonics     | 34 Grand Central Chorus                |
| 15 Cambridge Chord Company | 35 Solent City                         |
| 16 Capital Chorus          | 36 Shannon Express                     |
| 17 Oxford Harmony          | 37 Heart of England Chorus             |
| 18 Thames Valley Chorus    | 38 The Downsmen                        |
| 19 Vocal Fusion            | 39 The Kentones                        |
| 20 Spirit of Harmony       |  |

### QUARTET SEMI-FINAL DRAW

- |                    |                            |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 The Brit Pack    | 11 Nova                    |
| 2 Sound Hypothesis | 12 Blueprint               |
| 3 South Parade     | 13 The Locksmiths          |
| 4 Harmonopoly      | 14 Reckless (Int)          |
| 5 Northern Quarter | 15 HeadQuarters            |
| 6 Tonic            | 16 Finest Hour (Int)       |
| 7 4 On Demand      | 17 The Emerald Guard (Int) |
| 8 Portobello Road  | 18 Half Eight              |
| 9 Mic Drop         | 19 Tagline (Int)           |
| 10 Three 'n' Easy  | 20 Hustle                  |

**Mike Warmer 1: QM    Mike Warmer 2: Incline**

*Reckless, Finest Hour, The Emerald Guard and Tagline are competing to achieve a qualifying score for the 2018 Barbershop Harmony Society's International Quartet Contest in the USA.*

# Grants

## COMMUNITY FUND

To take barbershop to parts of the community that would not normally be exposed to it

**Grants  
Available**

For details contact  
[hfmanager@singbarbershop.com](mailto:hfmanager@singbarbershop.com)

Grants awarded by the  
British Association of Barbershop Singers  
Registered Charity Number 1080930



**HARMONY  
FOUNDATION**

# Our Finest Hour...So Far!

Here we are...half way through our Championship year...our Finest Hour so far...and crikey have we been busy. Shortly after the BABS contest in May we recorded our first album "This Is Us", which is now available on CD and itunes, and is something we are immensely proud of.

In August we attended Harmony College and throughout the course of the weekend we joined in various activities including; presenting a workshop; singing to the Extreme Quartet stream; and performing on the main Saturday night show. We also had the privilege of being coached under-glass by the brilliant Joe Cerutti. But our highlight of the weekend was the afterglow on the Saturday night!

Over the course of about four hours at the bar, we sang song after song with as many people as we could find willing to sing with us. We had an awesome evening and sang well into the early hours, on many occasions joined by relative newcomers to quartet singing who gladly stepped in to take on their part. For us, this is what quartet singing is all about inspiring others to sing in quartet.

Shortly after Harmony College we were invited to attend a BABS quartet "Top Gun" initiative where we were coached by some of the greats; Sally McLean, Paul Davies, Doug Harrington, and the legendary Gas House Gang Lead singer Rich Knight.

In October we were honoured to be invited over to Ireland as guests to IABS. Shortly after landing at Cork City Airport we were ushered onto a small stage where we sang to the gathered travellers there. Then we were whisked away to Cork City Hall where we were greeted



warmly by the fantastic and tireless IABS Convention Team. We mic warmed and mic cooled throughout the weekend and had several show spots which we thoroughly enjoyed. We even got to sing on the breakfast show of Cork's Red FM on the Saturday morning.

We were also invited to sing at the LABBS Convention in Harrogate in late October and then in November we popped along to the Quartet Prelims at the RNCM in Manchester where we mic warmed and cooled the Sunday contest.

Since Prelims we've appeared on various shows including the Harmony Lincs show, and more recently Simon Lubkowski's labour of love, the "Vocal Explosion" in Leicester. We have also just finished our first Christmas Show with Ignite UK in Belper. Up next our Christmas show with the Grand Central Chorus on Sunday 18th December at

Trent College, Long Eaton.

When summing up what we've achieved this year, it's hard to believe that we've done all this in 6 months! The support we have had from friends, family, from BABS and the wider barbershop community has been phenomenal and we don't plan to stop just yet.



Along with our friends Emerald Guard and RECKLESS, we will be representing BABS at the International quartet contest in Vegas 2017!

We have exciting things planned for next year, so keep an eye on our facebook page (Finest Hour Quartet) for updates - and bye for now

**Finest Hour**  
BABS 2016 Quartet Champions



# Grand Central wins IABS International Chorus Contest



45 Grand Central members travelled to Cork over the weekend of 7/9 October for the 27th Annual Convention of the Irish Association of Barbershop Singers (IABS).

In the main IABS International Chorus Competition on Saturday 8th October, we competed against choruses from Scotland, Spain, Ireland and the England, and performed our 2016 UK silver medal-winning competition package (If I Only Had A Brain and Over the Rainbow/Goodbye Yellow Brick Road). The standing ovation we received from the audience at a packed Cork Town Hall will be remembered by us all for a long time.

When the results were announced, we were declared as the 2016 IABS International Chorus Competition winners! This success was reinforced by the excellent silver medal won by the young British Quartet "4 on Demand" (which includes our Baritone Nick Bryant) in the International Quartet Competition.



We then performed on the Saturday evening Winners Gala Show and without the pressure of competition and a judges' panel, reprised both our winning songs and closed with our

first ever performance in a show of "Tomorrow" (yet another wonderful arrangement from our "in-house" team of Zac Booles, Richard Curtis and Mark Burnip).

Special Guest Quartet for this IABS Convention were our own "Finest Hour" - the current BABS Quartet Champions - and who did a superb job all weekend, singing so many times and always delivering world-class quality performances of which they are now capable. Eddie, James, Nick and Phil once more made all very proud that they are part of Grand Central Chorus!

Overall, an extremely successful and enjoyable trip for the chorus and all those who participated. The success is down in particular our Asst. MD Kevan Liebling who led the chorus so well and the weekend wouldn't have happened without all the "behind the scenes" work of our Treasurer, George McKie, who coped so well with the challenges of fluctuating £/euro exchange rates and finally Peter Tatham, who worked tirelessly to ensure our travel and accommodation as well as the detailed timings for the three days were planned in detail, clearly communicated and delivered.

This is the link to a video of our winning performance <http://www.iabsconvention.com/2016-international-chorus.html>

**Nelson Blackley**  
PRO - Grand Central Chorus

# The Kingsmen Celebrate their 25th Anniversary

The Kingsmen were formed in 1991 by their founder and Hon. Life President Roy Hann who has also been the Musical Director since its inception.

They have embarked on two tours of the USA (1994 and 1997) performing in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Atlanta and Savannah in Georgia and New Berne, Charlotte, Raleigh and Rocky Mount in North Carolina. They have also performed in Friesland, Holland (2005 and 2015) and hosted barbershop choruses visiting Kingsbridge from the USA, Holland and New Zealand.

The chorus has over 52 singers from all parts of the South Devon area and performs regularly throughout the year in many locations. They have raised almost £100,000 for national and local charities since 1991.



*The Kingsmen in 1991*

## Early Days

In the autumn of 1991, Roy Hann placed an advert in the Kingsbridge Gazette appealing for would-be singers to attend a meeting at the Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge so that he could gauge the level of local interest in forming a new Barbershop chorus. Eleven men turned up and the Kingsmen Chorus was born.

Within 12 months the group had grown to over 20 and then realised they would need a name. Many suggestions were made including, Harbour Lights, The Quaysiders, The Crabshell Chorus but they decided on The Kingsmen.

## USA, here we come!

In 1994, through his contacts in the USA, Roy received an invite to take the Kingsmen to Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Phoenix on what proved to be a very successful tour. The chorus continued to thrive and perform locally and soon they were preparing for their next USA tour. Towards the end of November 1997 they flew to the Dixie Land district of USA where they performed at venues in North Carolina, Savannah and Atlanta in Georgia.

## Holland Tours

Two trips to Holland were enjoyed in 2005 and 2015 when the chorus linked up with the Friesian Harmonizers and on two occasions have hosted them in Kingsbridge. They have also hosted Barbershop groups from New Zealand and the USA.



*2015 Holland Tour with Friesian Harmonizers*

## Roy Hann - The Driving Force

Roy Hann has been the single-minded driving force behind the group for the past 25 years supported by hard-working committee members and music team leaders. Roy must be proud when he sees how his seed of an idea all those years ago has grown into the vigorous and flourishing chorus that it is today.

## Anniversary Concert

To round off this 25th Anniversary year a concert was held at the Kingsbridge

**Raised over £100,000  
for charity  
since 1991**

Community College with special guests 'Panache', a ladies chorus founded in 2009 by Roy Hann, who is also their music director. The show format was inspired by Roy Hann and was deemed a huge success by the very enthusiastic and capacity audience.

The story from the early beginnings of the chorus in the Crabshell Inn, back in 1991 to the current day was excellently narrated by Martin Hallam who is an Honorary Life Member of the Kingsmen. He did a fantastic job of also entertaining the audience between acts with his witty comments and anecdotes.

The concert was followed by an afterglow for all the singers and their family and friends at the Crabshell Inn where it all started 25 years ago. We are pleased and grateful to the Crabshell Inn for supporting us all these years and for their continued support and sponsorship.

## John Morris

The Kingsmen - Marketing Manager



*The Kingsmen performing at their 25th Anniversary Show 2016*



*The Kingsmen with Masters of Harmony, Los Angeles 1994*

## 20 Students Sing in Perfect Harmony

### *Ocean Harmony run another successful Learn to Sing Course*



Ocean Harmony, Southampton's own four part barbershop harmony chorus has just completed a very successful six week Learn To Sing course for 20 enthusiastic students who had either not sung before or had not sung for a while, but were keen to learn the skills and techniques of four part harmony.

The course was directed by Dave Poucher, an experienced barbershop singer and assisted by other members of the Ocean Harmony chorus.

Over the six weeks, the practical teaching methods of the course enabled

the twenty students to discover their voice as a Lead, Tenor, Baritone or Bass and to confidently sing together in four part harmony in the friendly and relaxed atmosphere created by Dave and his team.

Our picture (above) shows the students receiving their certificates from Dave Poucher and Ocean Harmony chairman John Yapp on Wednesday 23rd November, the final evening of the course.

The students then entertained an invited audience of family and friends at a very

enjoyable concert in the Colbury Hall, Ashurst, singing the repertoire of songs learned during the six week course.

In 2017, the successful students will be invited to graduate to the full Ocean Harmony chorus and to become involved in singing at the many charity fund-raising and corporate events regularly undertaken by the chorus.

**Joe Hayward**  
Ocean Harmony PRO

## An Eventful Year for the Kentones

2016 has been an eventful year for the Kentones (Bromley Barbershop Harmony Club). In March at a competition run by the Rotary Club of Canterbury, in the face of stiff opposition from differing musical genres including gospel, classical choral and school choirs, we were voted 'Top Choir Kent'. The competition was recorded by BBC Radio Kent and transmitted on Easter Monday.

Following this success the Kentones topped the bill at the Canterbury Big Sing at the Marlowe Theatre in April. In May, at Convention in Harrogate, we achieved our highest score.

July saw us open for The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the prestigious open air classical concert at Leeds Castle in front of an audience of over 10,000 (twice the capacity of The Royal Albert Hall). Our second CD



was recorded in the same month, and mastered at Abbey Road Studios. To cap it all, we celebrated our 40th anniversary with a concert at Langley Park Arts Centre, which also featured the NHS Lewisham Choir who had last

year's number 1 Christmas single and amongst whose members is Mike Corr, our former MD. Roll on next year!!

**Brian Showell**  
PRO - the Kentones

# Lincoln - A Fertile Ground for Learn to Sing

## Harmony Lincs Success Leads to New Rehearsal Venue

We have completed the move to our new rehearsal venue at the Priory City of Lincoln Academy. This move followed another successful Learn To Sing In Harmony Course which saw eight new members join our chorus.

Our previous rehearsal facility at the Lexus Centre has served us well over the past few years and we are grateful to Manager James Boughton-Thomas and his staff for their support. With our membership now having risen to fifty four, the time has come to move on and to take advantage of the potential the extra facilities our new venue has to offer.

In November, we presented our 'Voices in Harmony' Show to a full house at the Terry O'Toole Theatre, North Hykeham. Our guests were two prize winning quartets "Finest Hour" and "The Emerald Guard". They both stayed on to join us for the 'afterglow' party at the Memorial Hall, with spontaneous singing going on 'til late. As Christmas approaches we have a seasonal performance package ready to present to support the St Barnabas Trust at their "Carols on the Green" event and we go to Grimsthorpe Castle to take part in a Christmas Service in aid of St John Ambulance.

New members from the Learn to Sing in Harmony Course will be ready to join in the performances.

All our members are also looking forward to the last rehearsal night of the year, which is traditionally a social night at a local pub. This year however promises to be a special night as we are holding our first 'Quartet Competition'.

Following the death last year of John Mould, a long standing member and previous Chairman of the Chorus, it was decided to establish the John Mould Trophy in his memory. Members of the Chorus are invited to form quartets and will be competing for the trophy on the night.

Extra points are awarded to members of a quartet who are singing in a different

voice range to that which they would normally sing. We have seven quartets taking part, consisting of tenors now singing bass, and baritones singing the lead, with various permutations in between. We have invited Richard Curtis, a former Musical Director of the Chorus to judge what promises to be an interesting competition (and believe me, it will be very competitive!) May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing many of you in 2017.

**Steve Bradley**  
Harmony Lincs



# Time to Sing to help Recruitment in 2017

## Funding and free leaflets available

Time to Sing is designed to provide support to clubs with their recruitment campaigns. You can choose the title and length of your course, be it one day, two weeks or six weeks. Financial support from BABS is available along with 1,000 free A5 double-sided leaflets.

Extra copies of the leaflets are on offer at very substantial discounts. There's room on the new-design for a local company's logo, so why not consider, say, a 20,000 leaflet drop and invite one of them to include their logo in return for sponsorship, to further help with your costs.

Learn to Sing remains the most effective approach, but this will be just one of the options available. The wider choice of course headings are designed to provide flexibility and course emphasis, which is more relevant to your club. Some of the leaflet options are shown below.



## Choice of Course Titles

- Learn to Sing
- Learn to Sing in Harmony
- Learn to Sing Barbershop
- Come and Sing
- Come and Sing Barbershop Harmony

For more details contact Colin Roper  
BABS Membership Services Director  
[membershipservicesdirector@singbarbershop.com](mailto:membershipservicesdirector@singbarbershop.com)

**Learn to Sing**  
6 week singing course for Men

The course starts in conjunction with Harmony Foundation, part of a national award scheme, to encourage new members.

Annual at both recruitment and those who may not have sung for a while. Just an eight minute course to ensure you are up to speed. Benefits are available to help you get singing on the first rehearsal night!

Course Starts  
Date & Time  
Venue  
Location and Postcode

Reserve your FREE place Now!  
Tel: 0000 000000  
or Email: [learn2sing@singbarbershop.com](mailto:learn2sing@singbarbershop.com)

**Learn to Sing in Harmony**  
6 week singing course for Men

The course starts in conjunction with Harmony Foundation, part of a national award scheme, to encourage new members.

Annual at both recruitment and those who may not have sung for a while. Just an eight minute course to ensure you are up to speed. Benefits are available to help you get singing on the first rehearsal night!

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Course Starts  
Date & Time  
Venue  
Location and Postcode

Reserve your FREE place Now!  
Tel: 0000 000000  
or Email: [learn2sing@singbarbershop.com](mailto:learn2sing@singbarbershop.com)

**Come and Sing Barbershop Harmony**  
6 week singing course for Men

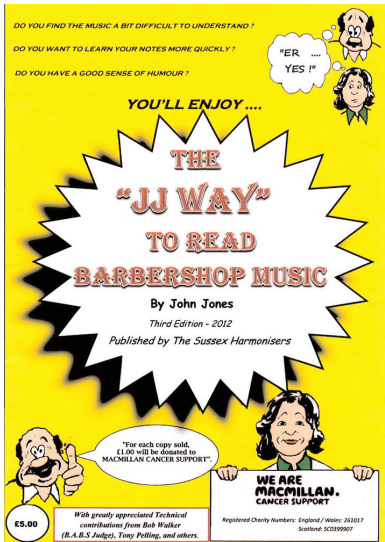
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Location and Postcode

Reserve your FREE place Now!  
Tel: 0000 000000  
or Email: [learn2sing@singbarbershop.com](mailto:learn2sing@singbarbershop.com)

# The JJ Way



Many of you will be familiar with this booklet. Especially as many clubs have and still are providing this to members who have joined following their very successful "Learn to Sing" courses.

Well I am sorry to say that Sussex Harmonisers will no longer be selling hard copies of this very informative textbook. But all is not lost, as you will see below, first some background as to how this book came into existence.

At a Crawley Club committee meeting in 1983, it was decided that some

notes on understanding barbershop music being issued to the club members should be updated, put into book form and given to new members. John Jones, a leading member of the club, offered to do this. In January 1984 he completed the "JJ-Way to Read Music".

Over the years I copied it many times and gave it out to all the club's new members and all found it of immense value as an introduction to a major element of our hobby.

John moved to Scotland but I still kept in touch with him. In 2009, meeting him at a convention, I asked if he would like to update the booklet. This he agreed to do.

The totally new colourful booklet, with all new drawings and now for men and women, was finally published in April 2010. This, to quote John, was intended to be a light hearted (some might say irreverent) look at music reading etc. which is packed with comments and descriptions of over 30 related topics.

It was financed by the Sussex Harmonisers on the understanding that £1 of the selling price was to go Macmillan Cancer Support.

The first print run was successfully sold

out, therefore following some upgrading by John, a further print run was carried out which again have now all been sold. This has not only helped introduce elements of our hobby to all but also generated hundreds of pounds for Macmillan Cancer Support. But now due to the cost of postage and printing increasing over the years it is no longer financially viable to do another print run. As I felt that this was a shame for it to now be the end of this unique booklet's life and of course a good way for The Sussex Harmonisers to raise money for a charity, I asked the Club if it could be included in our new web site, and this they readily agreed to, so now you will find it featured there at:

<http://www.sussexharmonisers.org.uk>

It is there for any barbershopper or club to download it as many times as they want on the understanding that they send a £1 to their local or national Macmillan Cancer Support for each copy made.

So please do copy it.

**Robin Pond**

Sussex Harmonisers

Founder member of BABS

## A Marvellous Experience at Prelims - Cheers!

I am writing to thank everyone from BABS and the Guild of Judges for a marvellous experience at prelims.

For a newbie and first time out quartet the experience was made easier by what proved to be a professionally fine tuned process. Everything from the reception, changing rooms, couriers, warm up rooms and stage time had been evidently detailed to ensure the best and smoothest user experience for the singers.

The support throughout the process and incredible warmth from all the team helped ebb the nerves of our fledgling quartet.

Technically, the way in which the video was instantly made available on a USB stick following stage time is a touch of class and really impressive. Technically that's a triumph!



I'm a big fan of the Royal Northern College of Music as a venue and it's facilities enabled simply the best barbershop atmosphere!

I have to so say a particular thanks to Boo de Bruin for a wonderfully positive and informative evaluation. The precision and delivery of her evaluation in the given time was remarkable. Not to mention Boo highlighted aspects of our performance that even our coaching team did not focus on. Overall Boo was a highlight of the day, clearly an expert in our art and the Guild should be proud of her professional yet informative delivery.

Once again thank you for providing a brilliant and professional platform for us to try and improve our love of our hobby.

Warmest Regards  
and Cheers!

**David Kitchenham**

Cheers Quartet





# Chorus Medals Now Available from BABS Harmony Store

Harrogate Convention in 2006 saw the first awards of medals to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed choruses, and the BABS board made it possible at the time for members of choruses so placed prior to 2006 to purchase the appropriate medal(s) for £5 each.



Now, in response to a number of requests from members who didn't take up the offer back in 2006, we're about to repeat the exercise, and at the same price per medal, £5 including postage and packaging from Harmony Store with all proceeds going to the Harmony Foundation Community Fund to support requests for grants to take Barbershop Harmony to new places in local communities.

If you're still with the chorus that was placed and there are others there who also who want to take up the offer, perhaps one of you would place a blanket order and save BABS a bit on postage.

If you've since moved to a different chorus then you're welcome to place an individual order.

The medals will be sent on trust that they have all been 'earned', so all we need on the order is your name, address, BABS membership number, the name of your chorus, it's placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd and the year of competition.

And of course you can purchase a medal for each year you sang in a chorus that was placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd at BABS Convention prior to 2006.



Please note medals, as illustrated, are not engraved or personalised in any way.

Payment can be by cheque, BACS or credit or debit card. Please include full address and card details when placing the order.



For further details and to place orders please contact Mike Lofthouse by email:

[harmonyexpress@singbarbershop.com](mailto:harmonyexpress@singbarbershop.com)

or by calling

**01305 265374**



## Chorus Divisions 2017

### Division 1: (71%+)

Cambridge Chord Company  
Cottontown Chorus  
Grand Central Chorus  
Great Western Chorus of Bristol  
Hallmark of Harmony  
Mantuanian Way  
Spirit of Harmony  
Thames Valley Chorus  
Windsor A Cappella

### Division 2: (61% - 70.9%)

5 Ways  
Anvil Chorus  
Capital Chorus  
Clwyd Clippers  
Granite City Chorus  
Kentones  
Knights of Harmony  
Major Oak Chorus  
Rolling Hills Chorus  
Shannon Express  
Sound Company  
Southern Union  
The Kingsmen  
The Telfordaires  
The ViPs  
Tuxedo Junction

### Division 3: (55% - 60.9%)

Close Shave  
Essex Chordsmen  
Fine City Chorus  
Harmony Lincs  
Kings of Herts  
MK Acappella  
Ouse Valley Chorus  
Oxford Harmony  
Red Rose Chorus  
Solent City Chorus  
Sussex Harmonisers  
The Rivertones  
Three Spires Harmony  
Vale Harmony  
Vocal Fusion  
The White Rose Chorus  
Wight Harmony

### Division 4: (<55%)

Derby Acappella  
East Kent Chorus  
Friends in Harmony  
Harmony Revival  
Heart of England Chorus  
Hereward Harmony  
Magna Carta Chorus  
Northern Acchord  
Ocean Harmony  
Rainy City Chorus  
Surrey Fringe  
The Downsmen  
The Grand National Chorus  
The Piertown Chorus  
The Pilgrimages  
The Wayfarers Chorus  
Wye Valley Chorus

# LABBS Newly Crowned 2016 Champions



LABBS held their 40th Anniversary Convention in Harrogate at the end of October. Congratulations to the winners.



### Chorus Contest

**Champions: Amersham Acappella**  
**Silver: Cheshire Chord Company**  
**Bronze: Crystal Chords**

### Quartet Contest

**Gold: ToneAcity**  
**Silver: Royal Effect**  
**Bronze: Road Trip**

## FOR SALE

**Yellow/Gold Jackets**

Harmony Revival Chorus from Stockport have 38 Yellow/Gold jackets for sale available in various sizes.

Any reasonable offer considered.

Contact: Alan Whitehead

Tel: 0161 427 7990

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for further details contact

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