

lyther-nowodhow : newsletter



Dynergh - Welcome ^{30th November 2009 Issue 10}

to the Lev Krev Kernow lyther-nowodhow:newsletter!

Here’s where we keep you updated on the latest sessions, future sessions and upcoming events.

“Lev Krev Kernow” is Cornish for “Vocal Force Cornwall” - a project managed by Cumpas (Cornish Music Projects) as part of the nationwide “Sing Up “ program. Aims of the project include developing a network of vocal leaders for primary age children, provide appropriate training & support to enable the network to share their skills & repertoire in both leading singing and working with primary age children.

Focus Session - Sat 21st November

18 participants, including 2 from the Cornish Male Voice Choir community met at the Columba Centre for the fifth Lev Krev Kernow focus session on “Boys in Singing” with Chris Gray & Angela Renshaw, plus a repertoire refresh of “Nine Brave Boys” with Hilary Coleman & Frances Bennett of Cumpas.

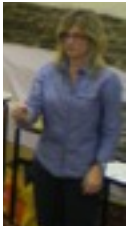
Chris Gray: Leading a boys’ choir

Chris shared the daily consonant/vowel warm-ups” ssss/zzzz/pppp/bbbb/ffff/vvvv hhh-pst! hhh-pst! mmmüüüiiieeeeeaaau, used to train the diaphragm, help with breathing & articulation. Chris taught the group two songs: “Tomorrow’s Children” from Cantata: “Kids from Outer Space” and “We are the Young”.



Angela Renshaw: how to get young boys to sing & conducting a choir

Angela began with a stamp-clap concert opener “kari-kario, ooooooyeeâ, ka-ri-yo-ka”, with a look at why fewer boys sign up to join choirs of singing groups, & the song “What shall we do with the drunken sailor?”. Angela followed with tips on conducting, teaching “Danny Boy”, a 4 beat tune (down, left, right, up) to get children singing in parts quickly, & a gospel medley - “I’m gonna sing”, “Oh when the saints” & “Swing low”, giving the hardest to the strongest singers.



Tips to get young boys to sing ...
keep them interested with ‘boy-orientated’ topics & repertoire: they like rhythm & minor keys * teach exciting warm-ups (use body) & separately from girls * maintain mischief (jokes, nurture team spirit...) * be wary of your own emotional state before rehearsal/concert: mind your body language * make them sing parts * correct mistakes to avoid repeating or being engraved in memories * set very high expectations: it’ll command respect from peers

Tips pre-concert ...
avoid stressful situations * delegate logistics details to someone else * make sure the choir know the concert place (if possible, test the acoustic of the room) * avoid partitions in favor of memorized tunes * talk very low: it will calm the boys down, free the left part of their brain & increase their focus and attention * always rehearse a tune before a concert

Why do fewer boys sing in choirs or singing groups, even though it’s more of a male activity ...?
influence of society which cast boys away from arts in general * fear of ridicule * peer pressure (especially in secondary schools) * school system (schedule must be reviewed to allow boys to go to sports AND choir) * physical obstacles (voice transition, see papers by Cooksy regarding the 5 Levels) * other role models

Conducting tips ...
root your feet in the ground, stand tall & proud & smile (mind your body language) * your hand should be supple, while the wrist remains robust * give the start: take the breath with them & drop the hand on the 1st beat * quiet parts: keep the movement really small and close to the body * louder parts: open the arms and put energy into the movement * hold the sound: extend the palm of your hand in front of you with energy * end the tune: close the hand briefly * remember: your hand should express the emotion * rehearse in front of a mirror to correct mistakes

Contact: info@cumpas.co.uk / 01209 313 233 / 07748 920 393 / Facebook (Lev Krev Kernow)

PROJECT UPDATES

- October
- November
- December
- January
- February
- March
- Y2

- 1 PERRANPORTH & PADSTOW:** Lynne, Lyn, Marion, Nikki, Linda, Sally T
Lynne, Lyn & Nikki visited Perraners - request for Perranporth School Choir to sing with ladies choir in Christmas concert
- 2 ST AUSTELL AREA:** Anita, Jo, Pema, Frances, Sheila, Fiona
Kescana to Treverbyn & Mevagissy Schools (Cornish songs & stories into classroom - performance & learning); introduced Camborne Hill to class, with 3 new verses using rhythm/noise of engines with engines made by children
- 3 FOWEY / PAR:** Kay, Gary, Penny, Liz
Community Choir visit to Fowey Primary, Staff Singing Group, Staff singing support / skill share, digitizing resources by children through Garage Band
- 4 NEWQUAY:** Jude, Emma
Newquay MVC link (Rob Spowart), aiming to promote boys singing - perform, ask boys to join boys' choir (with other Newquay schools), with finale BIG SING
- 5 Redruth:** Jon, Hilary
Sense of Place, with Cornish language & Cornish songs at Rosemellion School
- 6 TRURO:** Sally H, Kerensa, Averil, Mo, Mary-Ann
Pre-School & Youth Groups
- 6 FALMOUTH:** Kate
Celtic project (Irish/Cornish) with St Mary's Catholic School ... outreach
- 7 PENWITH:** Pip, Jenny, Kath
Singing Festival/ Singing for Dancing - w/c March 15th



MVC Links
Rob Spowart from Newquay Male Voice Choir has offered to help link schools with their local Male Voice Choir. Contact Rob on rob.spowart@newquaymalevoicechoir.co.uk

Cumpas Newbie!
Please join us in welcoming Marion Monnier to the Cumpas team as our new p/t Administrator.

Singing Books displayed at the Focus Session

Easy Gospels - The Novello Primary Chorals arranged by Rick Hein;
Easy Movies - The Novello Primary Chorals arranged by Rick Hein;
Juggling with Gerbils - Songs for upervoices; Michael Jackson Smash hits vol. 1; Sing for Pleasure - Junior Song Book, Keen Lee & James Wild;
Singing Sherlock - The Complete Singing Resource for Primary Schools, Book 2, Val Whitlock & Shirley Court;
Singing Sherlock - The Complete Singing Resource for Primary Schools, Book 4, Val Whitlock & Shirley Court;
The Joy of Singing - 20 Inspirational Songs for Schools and Communities, Brenda Rattray; The Prayer - With One Voice Choral Series orchestrated by Michael Laurence; Voice Works - A Handbook for Singing, Peter Hunt; Young Voice Works - 32 Songs for Young Singers, Jo McNally

Training Dates

| Date | Time | Venue | Detail |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Mon 30th Nov | 17:00-19:00 | Fowey Primary | Twilight Session |
| Thu 3rd Dec | 09:30-15:30 | Launceston CP School | Singing Playgrounds with Sue Nicholls (free Sing Up training day - book via jemima.taylor@keap.org.uk) |
| Fri 4th Dec | 09:30-15:30 | The Tolmen Centre, Constantine | |
| Wed 9th Dec | 17:00-19:00 | Trenance Infants, Newquay | Twilight Session |
| Thu 17th Dec | 20:00-23:00 | The King's Arms, Luxulyan | Christmas Carols with Lanlivery Singers |
| Sat 20th Dec | 18:00-22:30 | Eden Project | Perraners Choir |
| December | 18:00-22:30 | Eden Project | A time of Gifts with Dalla, Radjel & the Eden Choir ... |

Community Choirs & Children's Choirs

St Ives, Truro, Penzance, Helston, St Austell (afternoons): Neil Shepherd www.cornwallcommunitychoir.co.uk / 01736 759944
Redruth: Monday eves - Sophie 07773 330393 Thurs eves - Jill 07974 689595
Fowey: Thurs eves - Kay 0780 5486 606
Penryn: Thurs morns - Claire Ingleheart 07791945770

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