

CHOIR NEWS – AUGUST 2018



We sang at the funeral of Lord Carrington, held at St Mary's in Princes Risborough, on 19th July. Lord Carrington had always supported the choir with kind words and generous donations, and so it was an honour for us to be there to say good bye.

Otherwise with so little going on to write about, I am sharing the following story sent to the choir by Stephen Bartlett-Jones, a choir member, church organist and barrister.

Dear all,

I'm not normally particularly soppy about my work, but I had a lovely case today that I think would put a smile on your faces. It was a Court of Protection case involving a young lady with Downs Syndrome/severe learning difficulties who had been living in a residential unit since she reached 18. She was in her early 30s, and for the past 10 years she had been depressed and barely uttered a word to anyone. At a musical activity organised in her residential unit, the organiser heard her singing an Abba song to herself, and invited her to try singing in an amateur choir he organised. None of the rest of the choir had learning difficulties and were a range of ages, but singing was something that brought her out of her shell and she became the choir's darling. Eventually she struck up an unlikely friendship with a teenage girl in the choir, and when the girl moved away to university her parents agreed that she could move in with them and they would care for her. We were at court today to confirm them as her deputies. She was at court in a bright yellow dress which looked more like she was going to a garden party more than court, and hardly stopped chatting and smiling. In her meeting with the judge, she even sang him a bit of Abba! (Which is much braver in court than I'd ever be!) Dancing Queen's never made me well up before!

Best wishes,

Stephen'

No comment from me necessary.

The Bledlow 100 Club

At the end of 2018 I will have been the promoter of the 100 Club for five years and it is time for a change. So I am very grateful to Rob Hill, one of our basses, who has agreed to take over the reins from me. We are in the process of getting Rob onto the bank mandate - keep your fingers crossed please - and he should be in place for 2019. I never tire of thanking those who are members of the 100 Club for their support. Without you we could not hope to aspire to music making at the level we do. Please give your support to Rob when he takes over.

Until next time

Mike Beattie

Tenor, scribe and promoter of the 100 Club
bigmike.beattie@gmail.com