



# Warwick A Singing Town

January 2024 | Issue 12

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*“Happiness and Health in Harmony”*

## About Warwick – A Singing Town

Warwick – A Singing Town, is a unique, philanthropically-funded project to promote singing as part of the artistic and cultural post-pandemic renewal in Warwick.

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

## Dear Friends and Supporters

I am thrilled to be part of the *Warwick – A Singing Town* team and I am really enjoying singing with the children at Aylesford Primary, Heathcote Primary and St. Mary Immaculate Catholic Primary schools.



I see the enormous benefits of singing every day and would urge you all to make the most of the amazing opportunities in Warwick – and particularly our *Warwick – A Singing Town* events in the New Year.

Singing really is for everyone and one of the very few things that can be truly shared across the generations. Please join me and my colleagues Cerys, Ben and Jeremy for our very first Family Singing workshop on Sunday 21 January at Warwick Hall.

The Big Local Night Out is now well established and the next show will take place at The Bridge House Theatre on Friday 9 February. We look forward to supporting young singers from Evergreen and Westgate Primary Schools alongside professional compere and magician Tom Elliot and our headline act Gareth John with his band.

**Sierra Farquhar-Wulff**  
*Choral Entrepreneur*  
*Warwick – A Singing Town*

# Make a Memory – Family Singing Workshop

Sunday 21 January 2024 | Warwick Hall

Our next **FREE** singing day is very special as we invite you to bring the family – young and old – to celebrate the joy of intergenerational singing.

We are delighted to invite parents, grandparents and their children to sing together at our very special workshop that is all about families singing together.

We are keen to welcome all ages but would suggest that this event is most suitable for children from the age of 6/7 – those in year 2 and up.

Our workshops are always free but there will be a retiring collection for the local and very wonderful charity *Kissing it Better*.

**REGISTER NOW**

## The Programme

- 10.00am – Arrival and welcome
- 10.30am – Session one delivered by WaST Choral Entrepreneurs
- 11.15am – Break with refreshments to include tea, coffee, squash and biscuits!
- 11.45am – Session two
- 12.30pm – Home time



# The Big Local Night Out

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**Friday 9 February 2024 – The Bridge House Theatre**

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The Big Local Night Out is a unique partnership and it is exciting to see a new audience enjoying the shows at The Bridge House Theatre, provided free of charge by the Warwick Schools Foundation.

The Big Local Night Out is wonderfully supported by Churches Together in Warwick. The churches not only cover the costs of our professional entertainers but also help to bring a brand new audience to the shows.

Tom Elliot is our host and Tom is a magician and the inspiration behind The Big Local Night Out.

We are delighted to welcome back our headline act Gareth John who delighted the audience back in February 2023. Gareth enjoyed his evening so much that he is returning with his very own band.

**Tickets:** [www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/show/the-big-local-night-out/](http://www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/show/the-big-local-night-out/)



*Big Local Night Out – Aylesford secondary school choir*



*Big Local Night Out – Myton School choir*



*Big Local Night Out – Village Voices*



*Big Local Night Out – Singing for Pleasure and Warwickshire Youth Choirs Junior Girls*

# Singing is SO good for you

**Warwick – A Singing Town** is supporting community health through singing in all sorts of ways.

We now have wellbeing singing groups in three of our partner schools: Coten End Primary, Woodloes Primary and Westgate Primary and the young singers were very busy before Christmas singing across the town at Warwick Hospital, for the Christmas Tree festival at the Collegiate Church of St. Mary and at local care homes.

Congratulations to all the children who have been out and about bringing Christmas Cheer to so many local residents.



*Westgate Primary School wellbeing choir*



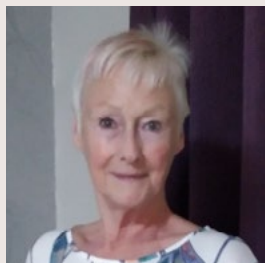
*Woodloes Primary School wellbeing choir*

We were delighted to see the very first Singing Care session at Warwick Hospital delivered by Choral Entrepreneur Cerys Purser with fantastic support from Caty Oates from Kissing it Better. Cerys sang with patients on the respiratory and frailty wards and you can see Cerys in action in this lovely video below or at this link [here](#).

The image shows two logos on a green background. On the left is the 'Warwick A Singing Town' logo, which features a stylized treble clef and a heart shape. On the right is the 'Kissing it Better' logo, which consists of the text 'Kissing it Better' in a blue, sans-serif font.

*Coten End Primary School wellbeing choir*

# The extraordinary health benefits of singing



“I have been finding Sing for Joy exactly what it says on the can. It’s a joy to be involved in such a friendly, happy group. The obvious health benefits are better control of breathing, increased lung capacity and learning that you don’t have to push yourself too hard to gain these benefits, which for someone like myself with COPD is fantastic, unlike a lot of professional choirs where you feel obliged to try extra hard to fit in and ultimately feeling like you’re letting them down. This group is just what we need. Non judgemental, all inclusive, easy going and joyful.

Apart from the physical aspect there also comes the mental benefit of being part of a social group who are all in the same boat. This for some people may be their only social gathering and the act of meeting people with similar situations would be highly advantageous.

The mix of warm up exercises and actual songs is perfect, made all the more fun by Cerys who has a very professional and caring attitude. I always leave a meeting feeling enthused, relaxed and happy, singing all the way home. In fact I could easily have sung for another hour!! Long may it continue!!”

## **Jackie Watkins**

*Singer with Sing for Joy*

Here is Cerys with the Front Room Attic Band leading the singing with Sing for Joy at their Christmas celebration at Chase Meadow community centre where they meet every Thursday in term time.



# News from our Community Partners

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## Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society

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Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society welcomes new conductor Laura Bailie who has already directed their concert before Christmas. Look out for their 70 birthday celebration concert in the Spring.

The choir rehearse on Monday evenings from 7.30pm during term time at Coten End Primary school.

[www.warwicksingtown.co.uk/get-involved/](http://www.warwicksingtown.co.uk/get-involved/)



Laura Bailie

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## Armonico Consort

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Armonico Consort will brighten the darkest January evening with their performance of Handel's Dixit Dominus and Scarlatti's Daniele on 27 January at St. Mary's Church from 7.30pm.

[www.warwicksingtown.co.uk/get-involved/](http://www.warwicksingtown.co.uk/get-involved/)



Armonico Scholars at The Court House

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## Leamington Music

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Leamington Music continue their wonderful concerts promoting the very best of young British ensembles with a welcome return of Early Music ensemble Stile Antico as part of their St. Mary's season on 30 January.

[www.leamingtonmusic.org/event/stile-antico-tuesday-30-january/](http://www.leamingtonmusic.org/event/stile-antico-tuesday-30-january/)

[www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk/get-involved/](http://www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk/get-involved/)



*Stile Antico*

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## Singing for Pleasure community choir

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Singing for Pleasure community choir were out and about before Christmas with community singing at Evergreen School, St. Paul's Church in Warwick and Cherry Tree residential home in Whitnash.

The choir rehearse on Wednesday mornings from 10.00-11.30am during term time at the Unitarian Chapel in Warwick.

[www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk/get-involved/](http://www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk/get-involved/)



*Singing for Pleasure at Cherry Tree residential home*

## Warwickshire Youth Choirs

Warwickshire Youth Choirs are continuing their very successful weekend singing workshops in addition to their weekly rehearsals and this term are promoting a great opportunity for solo, duet and ensemble singing.

[www.warwicksingtown.co.uk/get-involved/](http://www.warwicksingtown.co.uk/get-involved/)



Warwickshire Youth Choirs at Warwick Castle



# 2024 YOU CAN SING COMPETITION

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED UNDER 25

|              |            |               |
|--------------|------------|---------------|
| Closing date | Live round | Final Concert |
| 9th Feb      | 10th March | 29th June     |

SOLO DUET: UNDER 12, UNDER 18, UNDER 25  
ENSEMBLE/CHOIR UNDER 18

For Info / To Apply  
[www.bit.ly/SingComp](http://www.bit.ly/SingComp)



[WWW.CHORISTERS.ORG](http://WWW.CHORISTERS.ORG) REGISTERED CHARITY 1150219

## Calendar of events

### January

Sunday 21 January – 10.00am-12.30pm

- **Family Singing Workshop: Warwick – A Singing Town** – Warwick Hall, Warwick

Saturday 27 January – 7.30pm

- **Handel and Scarlatti – Armonico Consort** – The Collegiate Church of St. Mary, Warwick

Tuesday 30 January – 7.30pm

- **Stile Antico – presented by Leamington Music** – The Collegiate Church of St. Mary, Warwick

### February

Friday 9 February – 7.00pm

- **The Big Local Night Out** – The Bridge House Theatre, Warwick

### March

Saturday 23 March – 7.30pm

- **70th birthday celebration concert – Mendelssohn: Elijah** – Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society – St Nicholas' Church, Warwick



For any further details, please contact [singingtown@warwickschools.co.uk](mailto:singingtown@warwickschools.co.uk)

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

- Facebook: Warwick-A-Singing-Town
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