



The VE Day Performance for Choppington Parish Council

The Choir was founded originally in October 1916 by Mr. W. H. Batey as Ashington Male Voice Choir.

He laid the foundations of successful choral singing of a high standard winning many contests and earning a fine reputation for the Choir.

After surviving the 1926 General Strike and the Second World War, the Choir amalgamated in 1956 with the depleted Morpeth and Newbiggin Male Voice Choirs to form Ashington & District Male Voice Choir.

The Choir has entertained audiences across the region and overseas and performs a varied selection of songs. It is appropriate that several numbers are about coal mining as Ashington was once famous as 'the largest coal mining village in the world'.

Surviving the Covid pandemic, which impacted on many community choirs, this traditional male voice choir from Ashington continues to flourish and attract new members.

This information sheet reviews 'The Choppington Support Project for 2025-2026'.

Strong and Appreciated Support from the Parish Council

Ashington & District Male Voice Choir has been developing its links with the key stakeholders in Southeast Northumberland as the Choir looks to maintain the proud tradition of male voice singing.

Choppington Parish Council

The Choir has been strengthening its links with the Parish Council to support communities in the region.

Ashington & District Male Voice Choir was delighted when they were awarded a grant of £360 from the Council.

The grant will support the Choir during 2025 -2026 to:

- Purchase new sound equipment for The Ashtones
- Help to raise the profile of the Choir in the region
- Enhance community engagement in the region
- Help the Choir in its recruitment drive for new members

Raising the Profile of Ashington & District MVC

Ashington & District Male Voice Choir was committed during 2024-2025 to raise the profile of the Choir in local communities and with stakeholders to try and attract new members to the Choir.

New digital platforms have been created. The grant from Choppington Parish Council has assisted the Choir to raise its profile and further engage with the local community.



The National Big Sing on 08.05.2025