

# Ashington Vocal Winter 2025 Edition

Welcome to the sixth edition of Ashington Vocal, the newsletter of Ashington & District Male Voice Choir.

The newsletter, which will normally be produced quarterly, is aimed at keeping the community, patrons and stakeholders better informed about what is going on or will be happening in the Choir. You will automatically receive future editions, unless you opt out.

Each newsletter will also be posted in a sub-section under 'News' on the Choir website, <https://www.ashingtonmalevoicechoir.org.uk>.



**Logo** This is now our official registered Trade Mark which means no one else can use material or content appertaining to ADMVC without express permission from the management of the choir.

**Uniform Update** the new uniform Jackets are now expected early February, the Management Committee have also agreed and ordered new ties and these are expected to arrive around the same time.

**New Songs** we last reported on four songs **Glossy Black Diamonds**, **Flow**, and **Heroes of Our Team** which, tells the story of some of Ashington's Sporting Heroes, with song four **Family**, additional rehearsals have assisted the learning of these and indeed song five **Turn to the Future** completes our **"Echoes of the Wansbeck and Beyond" The Ashington Heritage Music Suite** especially commissioned by the choir to celebrate 110 years of the choir.

**Heritage Concert 2026** Graeme Danby our guest artist is very excited to be performing alongside the choir and bringing his own musical talent to what promises to be a very memorable occasion.

Patrons you should have all by now had a personal invite to the event, additional tickets are available but anticipated demand is high so please do not leave it too late.

The Heritage Concert on 21 March 2026 will be a high-profile event and several honoured guests have been invited from stakeholders to our supporters. We are delighted that Derek Hobbs is to join us as a long-standing supporter of the choir and we hope he will enjoy the section from **Fell em Doon** in the program.

Tickets are available now so get them before they disappear, our media campaign has just started and already we have online requests for tickets.

Sue is continuing to promote the choir via social media and soon press releases about the Heritage Concert will be issued.

**Ashtones** have suspended operations till after the Heritage Concert, the situation will be evaluated and a more structure approach employed.



**Blyth Celebrates** got off to a great start and the choir enjoyed a full auditorium, several concerts down the line and our commitments in Blyth are almost at an end. Open rehearsals were well supported by the choir but sadly we have recruited no new members, however we have gained some new audience members who travelled to our Christmas Concerts St Mary at Morpeth and Bedlington St Cuthberts which was a total sell out once again.

**Christmas 2025** was certainly a busy period with Lights switch on events, performances in the Portland Hotel, the Fox Cover Public House, St Marys Morpeth who raised a wonderful £1300 towards their Lamplight project, the successful partnership with St Cuthberts continued with a sellout Concert to round the season off.

**Heritage Concert Series** dates are now firmly in the diary and it promises to be an interesting year, check the schedule or website for dates and venues.

**Neil Morton** the Management Committee wishes to place on record its appreciation and thanks for all the hard work; Neil has put into the project completing not only the writing and publishing of the music scores but also the learning tracks and audio teaching aids. Great job Neil!

**Making Music** the Choir is now a member of Making Music an organisation which offers advice guidance and the benefit of cheaper insurance and assistance towards achieving charitable status should the management committee decide to apply.

**Annual General Meeting** set for 6<sup>th</sup> March at 6.00pm and open to all choir members.

**What's Next** no time for standing still, the Management Committee is looking at various recruitment opportunities but if you have an idea, please let us know. Christmas music planning is in progress and repertoire for 2027 is being discussed at an upcoming Music and Repertoire meeting.