

Baltonsborough - 18 December 2023

Report David Hislop, Photographs Jackie Gingell, Annette White, Jennifer Hislop

After the disappointment of the last minute cancellation of the St. Benedict's concert the choir decided to substitute with a free performance in Baltonsborough Village Hall. The word must have got around because we had a capacity audience eventually with standing room only.

With a dash of the Christmas spirit and the promise of a free beer at the end, the Choir gave an enthusiastic performance which went down well with the audience.

Martin Flanagan occasionally top-hatted acted as MC for the evening and guided the programme with professionalism and humour. Jennifer Westcott led the choir and Hilde Senior accompanied.

Some of our old songs recently brought back into the repertoire, "O Sally My Dear" and "Sweet Lass of Richmond Hill" were re-aired. Audience favourites, "The Wild Rover" and Zulu song "Senzenina" with David Marshall's superb solo lead voice brought loud applause.

In order to maximise audience participation in "This Old Man", David Hislop attempted to organise them into one part to two parts to four parts, the result was hilarious.

New numbers performed for the first time were: "I Dreamed a Dream" with soloist David Chambers, "The Wellerman" sea shanty with Charlie Bishop's first solo with the choir in the roistering shanty man role.

Solo spots were provided by: Paul Webster accompanied by Hilde Senior in some seasonal and amusing songs; David Hislop gave an alternative angle on the Christmas story with Chris De Burgh's "A Spaceman Came Travelling" followed by a medley of "Blue/White Xmas" which had the audience sing along; The Brue Notes a new acapella sextet comprising, Geoff Gingell, David Marshal, Paul Webster, David Chambers, John Longman, Tubby Peto, presented Arthur Sullivan's "The Lost Chord" followed by a medley of Al Jolson songs.

The Choir enjoyed it, the audience enjoyed it. A fitting end to 2023.

The Choir's Programme:

The Brue Boys Song

Where Corals Lie

Some Enchanted Evening

This Old Man

O Sally My Dear

Senzenina

Portrait of My Love

Sailing

My Way

The Wild Rover

Sweet Lass of Richmond Hill

Rhythm of Life

Sunset Poem

I Dreamed a Dream

The Wellerman

The Pride of London









