

## A message from Catherine & Annie

Welcome to the summer issue of the 'Cantata Newsletter'



Well the summer is upon us once again—how time flies when you're having fun singing. After a super spring term, we topped off our singing year with three excellent summer concerts in various locations across Cheshire! Look out for news of the slightly unusual concert from the lovely *CounterPoynt* ladies and also the sound of wedding bells down the years... Have a lovely summer (what's left of it!) and we'll see you in September.



*MAPSingers* entertained an audience of almost 100 with a super concert at Poynton Methodist Church on Sunday 24th July.

MAPS was established in March 2009 and is the largest of Cantata's choirs, with over 70 singers on the books. They meet on Monday afternoons at St George's church hall and are now tackling some fairly complex music. Onwards and upwards MAPS! Keep up the good work.



## An afternoon with.....

It all seems a very long time ago now, but over 90 ladies had a fantastic afternoon with 'the lovely Matt Baker' way back in June. Matt was greeted by a veritable sea of purple and pink-clad ladies, and he soon had everyone singing a wide variety of song styles from a tongue-twister Scottish song about Mary Mac and her impending marriage to a trio of love songs which Matt had cunningly fitted together. Standing at the side listening was a brilliant experience for the two of us who are usually 'up front' - it meant we could fully appreciate the fantastic sound which all you lovely ladies made. Stunning. We're hoping that he can come again next year, so if you missed out this time, be sure to book early!

## ...Matt Baker





## Something Different

Well it did indeed turn out to be *something different* but not in the way we'd planned! It was certainly the first (and hopefully the last) time that the police were called to a Cantata Concert!! We managed to bring Higher Poynton to a standstill by blocking the bus route. The cause was an audience twice the size of the anticipated crowd... which was a lovely situation to be in, but needs to be addressed next time round. St Martin's proved to be an ideal summer concert venue but we'll probably have to say 'no tickets on the door' next year as our resources were seriously stretched on the night. Cathy did a sterling job with the catering, and remained totally un-flummoxed throughout the deluge of concert attendees! Unfortunately, we don't have any photos of this fantastic concert but check out the 'weddings section' for other *CounterPoynt* photos...

**The new term for all Cantata Choirs starts in the week beginning 5th September.**



### Two anniversaries...

Congratulations to two splendid couples who have recently celebrated special wedding anniversaries: in Macclesfield, Mildred and Ted Cook notched up 64 years together. Mildred is a founder member of *M.A.C.C.* and we have to keep a close eye on her in the front row of the sopranos as she has a tendency to be led astray by Sylvia!!! Remarkably, over in Knutsford, George & Teresa Sanderson also clocked up 64 years in the same week. It must have been a good year to get married. Teresa and George both sing with *WAKS Lyrical* and have the honour of being Cantata's oldest singing married couple! And they have 8 children so our audience numbers are often substantially boosted by the Sanderson family!



George & Teresa



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### ... and a wedding

*CounterPoynt* ladies had their first 'wedding gig' on Saturday 23rd July when Lizzie Thompson (a founder member of *CounterPoynt* and one of Catherine's ex-pupils) married David Miller at St Christopher's Church, Pott Shrigley. It was a lovely day and we were so privileged to be part of it. Lizzie looked gorgeous and the sun shone on the happy couple after a week of murk. As we were singing from a rather small balcony, numbers were limited to 14 but I think we made a pretty decent sound!



Getting up to the balcony was quite interesting as we had to use the bell tower route which is a very narrow, very steep, spiral stone staircase—which would not normally be a problem, but Mel and Gill were both still on crutches and Annie had a broken toe, so progress up the stairs was rather slow!



The ladies assembled on the balcony—but where was Romeo when we needed him?!

**DIARY DATES:** \*exact times to be confirmed

### **Christmas concerts:**

**Fri 2nd Dec:** *CounterPoynt* 7.30pm at Poynton Community Centre, Park Lane

**Wed 7th Dec:** *WAKS Lyrical* 3pm\* at St Cross Church, Mobberley Road, Knutsford

**Thurs 8th Dec:** *MACC* 3pm\* at St Paul's Parish Centre, Glegg Street, Macclesfield

**Sat 10th Dec:** *MAPSingers* 3pm at Poynton Methodist Church, with special guests: Heaton Dawn Chorus

**Sun 11th & Sat 17th Dec:** Combined Cantata Choirs are singing after lunch at Tatton Hall Home Farm



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