

## CHOIR REPORT 2019

Report on St Sampson's Choir for the Parish Council AGM on 28th May, 2019

The choir is going from strength to strength with 19 members, 14 of those being villagers.

We meet primarily to lead the singing in church. We sing on the 2nd and 4th Sunday each month, except in August, taking in the important Church Festival days such as Christmas, Easter, Remembrance Sunday, Harvest, etc.

We rehearse every Thursday evening for 1 1/4 hrs, enjoying much merriment and laughter, mostly generated from the back row of the choir!

Singing always lifts our spirits and leaves us with a feel -good factor.

We feel part of a team and have got to know each other so well over the years.

We have increased our repertoire considerably, drawing from a broad range of traditional church music through to music composed by modern -day composers, suitable for today's choirs of mixed voices.

Not everyone in the choir is a fully committed Church-goer. They join us because they enjoy singing.

We welcome new members, although there are so many of us now that there is not much room left at the back of the church where we normally sit.

Unlike most church choirs we sit in the back pews and sing over the heads of congregation members. Thus we mitigate any stage nerves over facing an audience. Only the vicar sees what we really get up to during his services!

About half the choir members do not read music. They learn everything by rote, picking up little tips on how to sight- read on the way.

The one qualification I look for in prospective choir members is that they should have a good ear for music, and should sing in tune.

We loved singing excerpts from the Broadway Musicals in the village hall last October. We would be very happy to stage something similar sometime.

I feel that we could do more to involve anyone from the village who enjoys singing. I would be happy to consider any suggestions.

After all, We are your village choir !