

BECKY OAKLAND AND
BEESTON VOICES
PRESENT...

BEESTON BIG SING!

Come and join us for a day of
community singing and varied
workshops - all welcome!

SATURDAY 1ST MARCH

09.30 - 16.30

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
(and other venues around Beeston)



EARLY BIRD RATE

For 1 week only!...

£20 by 1.2.25 or £22.50

BEESTON BIG SING!

WORKSHOP & BOOKING INFO...

Workshop ratings....to give you an idea what to expect!

- 1** = Suitable for anyone - no need to read music. No experience of singing in groups necessary.
2 = No need to read music, but it may help. Some experience of singing in harmony/parts preferable.
3 = Ability to read music would be helpful. Experience singing in parts also preferable.

Workshop 1 - 'Singing for the Soul' - Earthy Folk with Ursa Major

Blurb - Come and sing with local band Ursa Major as we share our love of earthy tones, harmonies and singing for well-being. Enjoy learning a new skill, a new song or simply just the joy of making a beautiful sound together in a safe and welcoming space. For Beeston's 'Big Sing' you will be joined by Naomi, Roma & Steph from the band. Naomi is a singing teacher by day, while Roma & Steph share their love of music with the smaller members of our community in local pre-schools and nurseries!

Rating - 1

Bio - Ursa Major are a local band made up of five professional singers & musicians who come together to sing in harmony & share their passion of singing for well-being. They perform at local events and festivals with sets that include covers of well know songs and arrangements of more obscure folk and Earth mother songs.

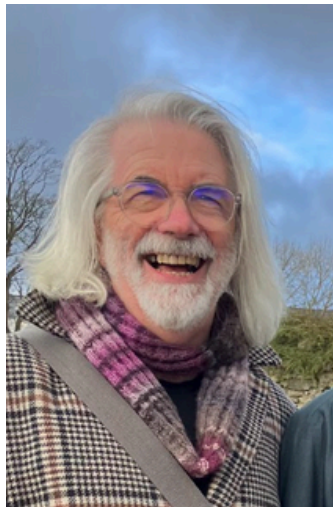


Workshop 2 - 'Celebrating Togetherness in Song' - Steve Barton

Blurb - This workshop explores folk influences from North America and Northumbria and its aims are summed up in the last line of the song's chorus "This time we have together will live on in songs we sing". We'll look at the song - "Dear Companions" written by Becky Unthank & Ainslie Henderson to a traditional American folk tune "Nettleton" (also used for the hymn - Come Thou Font of every Blessing) Though conceived as a parting song it is filled with hope and evokes the lasting power of singing together. Aptly written in 3 parts which are easily picked up and help deliver the message of lasting togetherness.

Rating - 1

Bio - Steve is an amateur, self-taught, musician, who enjoys performing with guitar, voice, percussion and harmony. He's been with Beeston Voices for 10 years where he's occasionally worked with small groups. Steve also sang for a brief spell with Nottingham Bach Choir where he began to grasp musical notation (but is still far away from sight reading capability!). Steve arranges songs from the 50s to noughties in 4 part harmony for 'Unreliable Voices' - the vocal octet he set up and has led for the last five years. 'Unreliable Voices' and 'Unreliable Steve' are regular participants in Oxjam Beeston Music Festival.



Workshop 3 - 'A Little Respect' - Bernie Bracha

Blurb - Join Bernie for a lively singing workshop focused on a 3-part harmony version of the iconic song A Little Respect by Erasure. Perfect for anyone looking to improve their part singing while enjoying learning a popular, anthemic tune.

Rating - 2

Bio - Bernie is an experienced music educator with a passion for helping individuals unlock their full vocal potential. With years of professional experience in both performance and teaching, Bernie has worked with singers across a variety of genres, from classical to contemporary and is the leader of four choirs: two community choirs and two Tuneless Choirs for those who love singing but lack the confidence or skills to join a regular choir.



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Workshop 4 - 'Go Mad With a Madrigal...' - Martin Brasier

Blurb - We will learn a complete madrigal, and blend it seamlessly with a coda derived from the work of the great and highly influential psychedelic folk-rock group, the Incredible String Band. **Rating - 2/3**

Bio - As a teenager, he ran a church choir, had a number of choir conducting opportunities at school, and also did a little arranging and writing.

He sang with a chamber choir and with Reading Choral while at university, learning a few things from observing Harry Diack Johnstone and Andrew Parrot. But unless you count turning a couple of practice lessons whilst doing his Maths PGCE into singing classes, that was it.

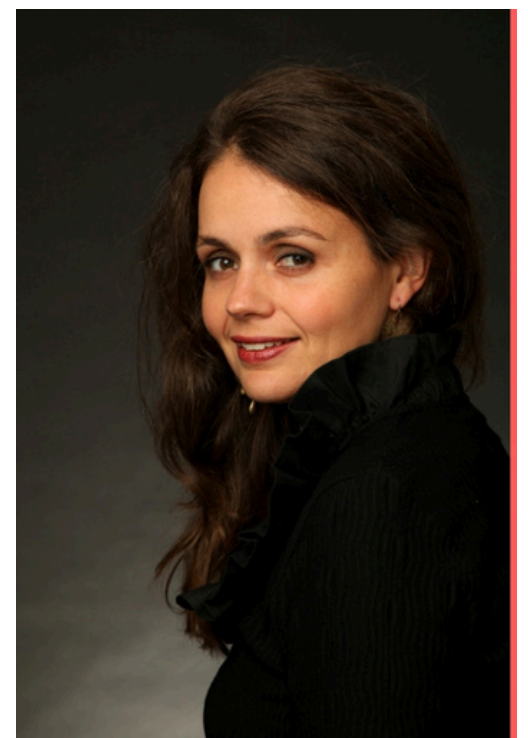
Fast forward three and a bit decades: he saw a notice advertising an open evening for a local choir keen to recruit some more men, so he went along - and joined. That choir became Beeston Voices. Pleased to be asked to cover Becky's maternity leave, he also started writing vocal arrangements again. Since then, he's had numerous opportunities to conduct, often his own arrangements.

Workshop 5 - 'Free Your Voice' - Deborah Norman

Blurb - Vocal Health MOT Workshop:

Come along to a workshop on general vocal health. Pick up tips and exercises on how to improve your vocal function. Learn about better breathing and how to sing using your whole body. This is a relaxed, interactive session for all ages and abilities. No experience is required. No need to read music. Wear comfy clothes! Some movement will be required during the workshop but it can all be adapted for those with health/mobility challenges. **Rating - 1**

Bio - Deborah Norman is a singer and voice teacher. She has worked as a professional operatic soprano for over 25 years, performing on international stages and in the UK. Deborah runs a very successful teaching studio in Beeston where she works with all ages and abilities. She is passionate about helping people find their voice whether they are beginners or more advanced students. Deborah offers individual lessons and runs bespoke workshops on vocal health and learning more about the awesome human voice. Since training as a vocal health first aider Deborah has become increasingly interested in helping people understand more about their own voice, how to spot vocal issues and how to keep the voice in tip top condition!



**BOOK
HERE!**



**REFRESHMENTS
PROVIDED**
Tea/Coffee and Cake included in
ticket price!

**Bring your own packed lunch to eat in one of our venues,
or get something from one of the great places to eat in
Beeston - recommendations available on the day!**