

Cappella Nova Outreach Newsletter, Christmas 2025

Plenty of seasonal singing opportunities to share with you, and more!...

Sing for your Life!

Running monthly for over a year now, *Sing for your Life!* will be Christmas-themed on **Thursday 11 December 2.15-3.15pm** (doors open 2.00pm), when Rebecca Tavener I will lead another hour of fun singing together with positivity, healthy singing tips, and a jolly good laugh. There is no admission charge, and refreshments will be served at the end. All are invited to participate, and hopefully everyone will find some of their favourite Christmas songs to be on the menu.

This is part of our new, occasional series of group-singing activities for all at [St Bride's Church](#) in Glasgow's West End, there is no admission charge, and refreshments are served at the end.

Cappella Nova Outreach in association with Alzheimer Scotland...

A warm welcome is extended to all participants from our various group-singing activities and their friends who would like to support and join in with these fun singalong sessions, *We Sing Together Café*, led by Bill & Hilary Jones at Alzheimer Scotland's Resource Centre at 81-91 Oxford Street Glasgow G5 9EP (handy for buses and Bridge Street Station Subway, and a 10-minute walk across the Clyde from Glasgow Central Station).



Generally taking place on the third Friday of each month, the final Session of the year will also be Christmas-themed and will take place on **Friday 12 December 2.00-3.00pm** (doors open 1.30pm). If you would like to come along to this Session or to any in the New Year and are not already on the specific circulation list, simply indicate this on [Contact Form](#).

The Morning Choir

To round off the present Term's sessions, I shall lead *The Morning Choir* (see below under Centre for Lifelong Learning) in some Seasonal songs and Audience carols at the University Carol Service on **Tuesday 16 December 11.30am-12.30pm**, followed by seasonal refreshments. A joyous celebration is promised, and all are welcome to attend. It is also a rare opportunity to

see inside the historic Ramshorn (former Kirk), which sits at the top of Candleriggs on Ingram Street.

Cappella Nova Outreach in association with Musica Sacra Scotland...

Once again, all are invited to participate in Cappella Nova Outreach's 'community liturgical choir' *St Columbkille's Schola Cantorum* on Christmas Eve! We continue to meet approximately once a month, generally to sing at the 4.00pm Sunday Mass in the magnificently beautiful, neo-Romanesque [St Columbkille's Church](#) in Rutherglen, G73 2SL. We shall also be back there for our favourite, annual fixture: the **First Mass of the Nativity on Wednesday 24 December**.

Anyone who loves singing (it's ecumenical in every way – you don't have to be religious, just respectful of the context) is welcome to join in: simply indicate that on Cappella Nova's [Contact Form](#), and we shall gladly add you to the Schola circulation list with no obligation. As part of the pre-Mass rehearsal there are always tips on healthy singing. There's no charge/subscription.

...and, moving into the New Year...

Cappella Nova Outreach in association with Strathclyde University's Centre for Lifelong Learning...

[Bookings](#) (search "Music and Singing") are already for a wide range of group-singing opportunities in the New Year Term:-

SHOWTIME! – Musical Theatre Performance Workshop – led by Carole Irvine:

10.30am-12.30pm on Mondays 26 January to 30 March 2026

Love The Musicals, old and new? Join us for a dip into the three disciplines of musical theatre – singing, movement and acting. In this Workshop you will explore the fundamentals of these skills through some of the best known golden oldies to the more contemporary classics. Find your inner stage animal and sing out some glorious tunes. No previous performance experience necessary, just a love of singing and an enthusiasm for lots of fun and creative interaction!

The Morning Choir– led by Bill Jones:

10.30am-12.30pm on Tuesdays 27 January to 31 March 2026

A rare opportunity to participate in a daytime choir in Glasgow: "open access" (no auditions) although it is suggested that those with no experience of singing in a choir take one of the *Health and Wellbeing through Song* classes first.

Health and Well-being through Song for Beginners – led by Paul Keohone:

10.30am-12.30pm on Thursdays 29 January to 2 April 2026

A singing class for the beginner, the less experienced singer and those wishing to return to singing after an extended break. Each two-hour session will emphasise the health and well-being aspects of regular singing with attention to breathing and posture. In an informal environment we will look at well-known as well as unfamiliar material from a

variety of sources providing some degree of challenge in addition to the enjoyment of making music together. Suitable for new and returning participants.

Health and Well-being through Song for Improvers – led by Paul Keohone:

1.30-3.30pm on Thursdays 30 January to 2 April 2026

Are you looking for an opportunity to have the experience of group-singing again after an extended period away from a choir? Or do you currently sing in a choir, but would like help to get more from your singing? If so, then this class is for you. In an informal environment, we will provide some degree of challenge whilst emphasising the enjoyment of singing together in well-known as well as less familiar material from a variety of sources. Special attention will be given to relaxing breathing and posture. This class is also suitable for those who have taken *Health and Wellbeing through Song for Beginners* in previous years.

Sing medieval Plainsong...

Calling all those who would love the opportunity to participate in singing plainsong together, once again we are gathering a community choir to work on the medieval chant for St Patrick on **Saturday 7 March 2026 at 1.00pm** in **St Bride's Church**. You will also have the opportunity to participate in the concert of 15th century Irish music performed by Canty directed by Rebecca Tavener with Bill Taylor (on medieval clarsach) and the Schola Cantorum of St Bride's. Beginning at 5.00pm, the concert will end by 6.15pm with a wee reception. There is no charge to participate and, if you would like to register, simply email me at the address below.

With every good wish for a musical and healthy Christmas and New Year.

Alan Tavener

Conductor: Cappella Nova, and Director: Cappella Nova Outreach, alan.cappella-nova@strath.ac.uk

**Cappella Nova is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, number SC005380,
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<https://cappella-nova.com/>