

# 28/01/2008 ABC Notices

## Class of 2008

Week 3 of the course.

### Name badges

Well, only 8 of you wandered off home with name badge still attached - please make sure you bring your badge with you this week!

### Feedback

Bethan invites you to let her know either at the coffee session or by email if there is something that you particularly enjoyed doing, something you found particularly helpful, or difficult, or any comments about the pace of the course etc.

### Downloading free learning aids

Those with internet access: do visit the following site and explore – you can download practice sheets for yourself:

<http://www.sheetmusic1.com/music.rack.html>

### The 'Hard Yards'

If at any time you feel that there is just too much to take in, take a deep breath, and let it out slowly. Hissing, if you like. That way, you'll feel better AND have done a breathing exercise for free.

Always remember: this course is to help you get to grips with the *rudiments* of written music – that is all we can aim for in 10 weeks.

You may be given additional, more detailed information in the lesson handouts; you are not expected to digest it all immediately; nor will it be absolutely necessary for you to know it all in order to sing in a chorus. It is there for you to dip into and work through as you choose, according to your interest.

You will find that, as you sing more and more and gaze fondly on the score in your hand, you will build your confidence and the pennies will slowly drop. But don't cheat! Singing a familiar tune from memory without reading the score won't get you anywhere.

Working over the 'sticky' bits in peace at home is always a good idea; once you've unpicked a difficult bar's rhythm or melody, you'll get it right ever after.

You might find it interesting to watch 'The Choir – Boys Don't Sing' BBC2, 9pm, Friday evening. It's a further experiment by Gareth Malone to get schoolkids singing. Last time, he did it with a mixed choir, taking the kids to a world competition in China. How they did in the competition was not the issue; what they got out of the experience was wonderful to see.

### And finally...

To dangle a carrot in front of you.... Ian has prepared some extracts from our Summer Concert programme; very soon we will start using these in class. Verdi, here we come! You'll be Hebrew slaves before you know it...

Julia, Secretary