



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

AUTUMN 2013



Diary Dates

2013

15th-17th November
FSC Weekend

2014

2nd-5th May
National Singing
Circle Meet

6th-8th June
FSC Weekend

14th-16th November
FSC Weekend

CONTACT US

Who would you like
to see leading future
weekends?

Do you have
suggestions or
comments?

Please email us at
foxleasesingingcircle@gmail.com

or pass your thoughts
to any committee
member.

Welcome to the 2013 Autumn edition of the FSC Newsletter!

I hope you all have recovered from a fabulous 30th Birthday Party. Kudos to the Committee who did a splendid job for us. Even the weather cooperated.

Our celebration continues with guest writer, Pat Hobden, who reminds us in "Recollections of the First FSC" that the first FSC weekend was in October so we are approaching our actual birth date.

Also this issue:

Secretary's Report

Thoughts of a Newcomer

News from around the Singing Circles



Photos of the weekend are courtesy of Nicola Carruthers.





FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

AUTUMN 2013

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Rachel Clare

List of Top Songs: As per June evaluations, we are compiling a list of songs that "mean FSC to me". It is really interesting to see people's favourites so if anyone wants to email their own top 3, email them to foxleasesingingcircle@gmail.com

Position Opening: With Mo Clark's term ending in November, we will need nominees for the position to be elected at the AGM.

Missing Piano Stool. Our piano stool has gone missing! We would really appreciate any information leading to the apprehension of our errant stool.



MEMBERS' CORNER

Recollections of the First FSC Weekend

Pat Hobden

In June, Founder member Pat Hobden led us in a list of songs that "meant Foxlease Singing Circle" to her. We asked her to tell us a little of what she remembers from that first weekend:

" Aah – The first meeting of Foxlease took place on 11-13 October 1983. We sang, ate & slept in the Barn – but as there were only around 20 of us then. We sang facing the fireplace. Some came a long way for the weekend: Hilary Stokes and Anne McGregor from Scotland. Eryl Evans came from Wales. There was also a great Jazz guitarist from Hampshire called April who used to do "April's Chants" a sort of rhythm game with different themes.

Our songs mainly came from Sue's 3 songbooks, DJ Songbook, Girl Guide Books 1 & 2, Canadian Jubilee and some copies done on the "banda" printer. We just didn't have many books to choose from then. Certainly none from other Singing Circles yet. They just didn't exist. We were the catalyst for many other Singing Circles and the books they would produce. (The only other group in operation was LGSG, run by Hettie Smith, I believe, back then.)

I remember a few songs we sang: Si Si Si, The Tree Song and Les Clartes, as well as ones Sue had published. We also did Brownie Singing Games and "dances" from around the world as there was much more space! (Also, we were much younger !)"



FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

AUTUMN 2013



Thoughts of a Newcomer

Marian Elcock

Being from a small singing circle in Brisbane, Australia with no others around for hundreds of miles, I have thoroughly enjoyed several Meets and Musical Madnesses. I couldn't get enough of the singing here in England. So, when I heard of Foxlease Singing Circle's 30th Birthday weekend, I hoped it might be possible to come and my timid request to Rachel was met with a welcoming positive response.

We arrived after Brownies about 9pm to hear singing in full swing and though a meal was waiting for us, who could resist joining the singing immediately! Smiles of welcome turned towards us as we arrived and found a seat.

The singing throughout the weekend was a joy - 104 people who love to sing and sing easily in harmony creates a wonderful sound and lifts the spirits high. So many talented session leaders - it leaves me speechless, and gives great variety to the weekend. The reminiscences of the last 30 years were most interesting and also helped you feel a part of it all. Who could not have songs going round your head for the next week or so and continue to chuckle at the "Chook" song....

Brenda asked me later if I would go again on my own, and I responded "Yes, I would. Everyone is so welcoming."

Thank you to all the people who gave of themselves to enable us to have such a fun weekend.





FOXLEASE SINGING CIRCLE

AUTUMN 2013

COMING TO YOU IN NOVEMBER



Ali Crooks will be our leader for the November weekend so get your tongue in gear for some Cornish choral colloquialisms and some West Country wit and we'll see you there.

OTHER NEWS FROM AROUND THE SINGING CIRCLES

A happy 40th birthday to Gloucestershire Singing Circle who will celebrate with a Ruby Celebration Weekend in October.

Netherurd's new CD, "Pictures of Christmas", will be available in December for £10. There may still be time to make a dedication or sponsor a song, too. Contact: Hilary Stokes for more information at hastokes@blueyonder.co.uk or by post at 20 Ravenscroft Gardens, Edinburgh EH17 8RP

Though registration for the upcoming 2014 Meet is now closed with 190 applicants, a wait list has been started. Further information and workshop allocations will be sent out in December. Contact: Janette Walker

