

## **Body of Sound AGM - Musical Director's Report**

Body of Sound is a joy to teach, and it feels like a privilege to be part of such a warm and creative bunch of women. It has been great to start a new chapter of our life in this new hall, with a new posse of women, and I'm enjoying teaching a bigger group. We currently have 39 members, and average attendance over the past year has been 71%.

I really value the way people get on board with the songs we sing, especially the more challenging ones, and it's great to see songs that seemed very difficult at first, become much easier with time - and practice! (We'll see how that pans out in the case of "Ain't No Grave"...) It has also been good to revisit old songs, often as a result of people requesting them as birthday songs, and to be reminded of lovely things we've learnt in the past.

Apart from Wednesday evenings, we've had some great performance opportunities this year. Things that stick out in my mind are busking in torrential rain on Fargate for Marie Curie, the Honouring our Elders part of the Karen New Year celebration, the International Women's Day celebration here - dancing with the Karen women, and the way the Sage singing group enjoyed being part of that evening - singing at our first BOS wedding for Liz and Sarah, and singing *in* a tree on Wadsley Common. And looking ahead, we have our 20th birthday and associated celebrations to look forward to - watch this space for further developments...

A big THANK YOU to the Steering Group, all the various organising posses over the past year, monitors of various descriptions, and members, for everything you give to the group.

Kate Thomas - June 2016