

# SING! BENTLEY HEATH

## *The Community Choir makes its debut in Knowle*

It was with some trepidation that a motley crew of girls, women and men arrived at Sunrise Senior Living on Warwick Road, Knowle in April. This was Sing! Bentley Heath's first ever gig so as there were several novice singers in the choir, many of us were a little nervous! The community choir is run by conductor Caroline Edwards, who is also musical director of the Fellowship Singers of Shirley. Caroline has somehow managed to transform a group of different ages and musical ability, (many of whom had only previously sung to an audience of shampoo bottles in the shower) into a proper choir capable of five part harmonies.

Nerves were soon forgotten as the performance began and the sheer joy of singing in a group and hearing the harmonies working together so beautifully took over. It made a huge difference too, to have an appreciative audience to sing to, and to see their reactions.

Songs chosen for the performance at Sunrise included pop anthem 'The Climb', 'Rule The World' by Take That and Abba's 'Thank You For The Music' as well as traditional songs like 'Wade In The Water' and 'Swing Low Sweet Chariot'.

After the performance, choir members chatted to the residents and were treated to refreshments. One of the founder residents Marjorie Hulme commented that the performance was "refreshing – the choir had a lovely tone and were all so enthusiastic!"

Sing! Bentley Heath hopes to be performing more dates in the near future, and welcomes new members. You don't need to read music or do an audition - all you need is a love of singing! Men and boys will be particularly welcome: anyone from secondary school year 7 and above can join. You can turn up for a session free of charge and see if you like it first! Meetings are

at Dorridge Junior School on Thursday evenings in term times.

For more information contact Caroline Edwards on 07919 887968.

**Catherine Elliott-Kemp**  
(Soprano!)

