

For more information regarding this press release please contact initially, Terry Street, Publicity Officer [press@villagevoices.co.uk](mailto:press@villagevoices.co.uk) mobile 07785916060 quote reference

## Press Release 02/2017

*Release date - Immediate*



### **Village Voices Warwick Choir Raised £1750 for the Bloodwise Heart of England Branch.**

Local community choir, Village Voices, has raised £1750 for Bloodwise, one of two charities chosen for 2017.

The funds were raised at a concert presented by the choir, at Northgate Methodist Church, from sales of tickets and programmes as well as raffle tickets, donations for refreshments and general donations.

The members of the Choir nominate suggested charities each year and one is selected by vote.

For more information please initially contact Terry Street *Publicity Officer for Village Voices*, ☎ 07785916060

The money was presented to Anne Oliver on behalf of Bloodwise by Sandra Hayward who had suggested the Bloodwise Charity to the choir. On receipt of the cheque for £1750 Heart of England Branch Chairman, Anne Oliver, said that she was very grateful to the choir for choosing Bloodwise to benefit from one of their concerts. Over 150 tickets were sold, and as the choir had generously provided 25 raffle prizes, sales of raffle tickets had boosted the profit for the evening. Northgate Methodist Church kindly provided the venue, and members had helped to make the evening a great success.

## Notes for Editors

### 1. **Village Voices Warwick**

Village Voices is an established mixed voice community choir which celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2015. The choir rehearse Thursday evenings from 20:00 to 22:00 at Chase Meadow Community Centre. The Choir has an active schedule. Future events include two weddings in the autumn, and an invitation to help commemorate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Falklands War on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017. For more details of Warwick District Remembers contact Adrian on [adrian@warwickdistrictremembers.com](mailto:adrian@warwickdistrictremembers.com), <http://www.warwickdistrictremembers.co.uk/>

The next main concert is on December 9<sup>th</sup> and will raise funds for the second 2017 charity, the Warwick Sea Scouts.

The Village Voices choir has successfully recruited some new singers earlier this year and has developed a much stronger base and tenor section. However, we always welcome new singers and there are no auditions. The start date for Autumn Rehearsals is Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September (20:00-22:00 at Chase Meadow Warwick. This is an ideal time to join as we rehearse for our autumn programme. It is not all rehearsals and singing at Village Voices, as they have an active social agenda too, including a lunch club and trips to the cinema and theatres etc. Members of the choir are also available to sing at private functions, from performing at residential homes to weddings and parties.

**Contact** *Claire Darlington, Chair of Village Voices, ☎ 01926 886408*

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 [warwick.villagevoices@gmail.com](mailto:warwick.villagevoices@gmail.com)

[Publicity contact [terrystreet@live.com](mailto:terrystreet@live.com) mobile 07785916060]

## 2. Bloodwise

Bloodwise is a national charity. The Heart of England Branch covers central and south Warwickshire, and fundraises for the national charity. We only have a small committee, but last year we sent about £11000 to HQ as a result of our fundraising and flag days. New supporters are always welcome, particularly to help with our fundraising activities. If anyone has been affected by blood cancer there is more information on the Bloodwise website, including a support line.

Anne Oliver has been involved with the Heart of England branch for over 20 years, since her young daughter Sophie developed leukaemia. Sadly Sophie died in 1998 at the age of 7, and the family has been raising money for Bloodwise ever since.

### **Bloodwise aims:**

- **To fund research into cures, for every type of blood cancer**
- **To develop better tests, so people can get a more accurate diagnosis, more quickly**
- **To help raise awareness of blood cancer**
- **To provide expert information and practical support, for every person affected by blood cancer**

Anne Oliver  
Chairman  
Heart of England Branch  
BLOODWISE  
01926 776240  
[annieol@ntlworld.com](mailto:annieol@ntlworld.com)

website: [www.bloodwise.org.uk](http://www.bloodwise.org.uk)

Bloodwise, 39-40 Eagle Street, London WC1R 4TH  
Registered charity 216032 (England & Wales) SC037529 (Scotland)  
A company limited by guarantee 738089 (registered in England & Wales)

### 3 Funds Raised Previously by the Choir

Village Voices has raised funds for a variety of causes in recent years including these examples: -

- Salvation Army Way Ahead Project - chosen Charity for 2016 (totals payment) - £?,000
- Springfield Mind - chosen charity for 2015 - £1500
- SW Heart (South Warwickshire Heart Failure Education and Cardiac Rehabilitation Trust) - chosen for year 2014 - £2280
- Alzheimer's Society chosen - charity for 2013 - £560.
- Childhood Eye Cancer Trust 2012 - £280
- Myton Hospice October 2012 in memory of former member Roger Duclaud-Williams - £285
- Long Itchington Church restoration on 11 May 2012.
- Warwickshire Northamptonshire Air Ambulance,
- Galenos House residents - £570
- RNLI at Cubbington Hall, the choir helped to raise £600

### 4 Images

Presentation of cheque Left to right Sandra Hayward, Anne Oliver, Claire Darlington

