**Free Range Discussion Session at Jonathan’s (thanks!) Tues 16th July 2013.**

Here is a resume of the main points that emerged – although I do not think that I have captured them all – especially from the whole group discussion at the end. Perhaps members would consider emailing any omissions and further comments around the group.

Items proposed for discussion:

* Repertoire: breadth v depth? Themes v variety? Dave P
* Repertoire: reasons for Jane
* Preparation Jonathan
* Structure of the evening Kate
* In a planned and consistent way, to work at being better singers – individually and as a choir Paul
* How can we improve our singing performance Alison
* How acceptable is it to come and go – ie miss sessions and still be a member

Chris

* New members – who, how , when, why etc Joanna
* Performances David

The key points identified in group discussions were as follows:

* Favourite gigs were when we were confident and sang well
* Want to maintain variety and mixture
* Aim towards fewer songs done better – dynamics, phrasing
* Need to be more ruthless dropping songs not working
* Need the focus of a performance
* Need a focus for rehearsals
* OK to miss rehearsals for personal reasons
* Buddy system if member misses a session/s
* Commit to gaining performance standard if you take time out
* Give as much notice as possible if missing a session
* Start with 15 minute warm-up
* Arrive on time, focus on the songs
* Break for short chat in the middle
* Advertise ahead re times of performances, repertoire to be sung
* Get practice files out early
* Performance is important – one per term, set planned well in advance

Further points raised in full discussion (very incomplete, I fear.)

* Target the recruitment of younger members
* Membership of about 30 optimum – replace leavers as needed
* Increase the number of new songs being learned