

**THE ROYSTON SINGERS
OF NEWBOLD**



BY SAMUEL T STEWART - SEPTEMBER 2022

The "Royston Singers" choir was formed c.1963 by Royston Draycott, a talented amateur musician who played trombone in various dance bands. The choir sang at various venues throughout the district. Royston Draycott married Lily Menzies who was born in Newbold. They had a daughter Moyra and lived in a bungalow they had built near the Well in Newbold. Royston sadly passed away in 2004 and his wife Lily apparently tried to keep the choir going but she sadly passed away in 2005 and the choir was disbanded. It was a remarkable achievement to keep a local choir together for c.40 years.

Photographs kindly supplied by Judith Darby (nee., Wright) of Griffydam



NAMES OF MEMBERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

? , BILLIE BENSON, SHIRLEY BETTISON (NEE. HINES), ? , ? , DORIS JAKEMAN, KATH LOVELL, CHARLIE SPARE, ? , HERBERT ROWELL, GWEN MEASURES, ? , JIM ROWELL, ELIZABETH MENZIES, DOROTHY SPARE, ROYSTON DRAYCOTT, LILY DRAYCOTT, VIOLET DOUGLAS, ? , ? , BARBARA ?

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NAMES OF MEMBERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

SHIRLEY BETTISON (NEE., HINES), HIDDEN, DOROTHY SPARE, VIOLET DOUGLAS, ? , MRS. RICHARDS (NEWBOLD), ELIZABETH MENZIES, MAUD MARTIN, MAY WRIGHT, IVY FOWKES, MRS. SIMMS, LILY DRAYCOTT

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MEMBERS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

**MARGARET RICHARDS, SHIRLEY BETTISON, BEHIND ?, KATH LOVELL, DORIS JAKEMAN, ? ,
VIOLET DOUGLAS, ? , ELIZABETH MENZIES, ? , ? , (CHILD IN FRONT NOT KNOWN), ROYSTON
DRAYCOTT, DORIS HODGES, IVY FOWKES, DOROTHY SPARE, LILY DRAYCOTT (NEE.,
MENZIES), MAUD MARTIN, ? , MRS. RICHARDS (NEWBOLD) ? , MAY WRIGHT**