

For release
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British Choirs sing out for ChildLine

Calling all Choral Singers! Classical tenor and choral guardian Phillip Tolley is encouraging choristers from across the UK to tune in and hit the high notes for ChildLine – the UK's free, 24-hour helpline for children and young people.

Phillip, who maintains the internationally recognised website '[British Choirs on the Net](#)', from his home base in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, is supporting 'In Tune with ChildLine', the charity's yearlong challenge to musicians around the country to raise £320,000 – enough to counsel an extra 10,000 children.

Phillip is supporting the initiative by promoting an extended Choral Weekend from 22 – 25 October 2004. Through '[British Choirs on the Net](#)' he is asking choirs to schedule a choral concert over that extended weekend, where possible, with all profits going to ChildLine. All registered choral concerts will then be advertised on his online choral diary www.concertfinder.co.uk.

Phillip says: 'Singing has always been a pleasure for me and getting "In Tune with ChildLine", enables me to share that pleasure while helping the children who are our future. Whether you are an established choir or a group of like-minded singers brought together for the occasion, just sing out and turn musical notes into much needed cash to help ChildLine answer more children's calls.'

There are many different ways to help – from a fully-fledged concert or sponsored singalong to a musical coffee morning or 'come-and-sing' performance' – with every note helping to raise funds for ChildLine to help even more children.

And those notes will certainly make a difference in ChildLine's 18th birthday year. Every day around 4,000 children call ChildLine, but lack of funds means that only 1,800 of them currently get through to the comfort, advice and protection they so desperately need. Just £3 will pay to answer another call from a child who may be desperate for help; who is injured, alone or afraid; a child whose life may be in danger. Every £32 raised will help provide in-depth counselling to help change a child's life.

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To register a choral concert visit British Choirs on the Net at www.choirs.org.uk and click on the 'In Tune with ChildLine' logo or email philliptolley@colcanto.co.uk .

For an 'In Tune with ChildLine' information pack call 0161 877 9144.

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For more media information about 'British Choirs on the Net' visit the press page on www.choirs.org.uk or contact Phillip Tolley, 35 Old Lynn Road, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire PE14 7AJ or email philliptolley@colcanto.co.uk

For more media information about ChildLine please contact Alison McKay in ChildLine's Press Office on 020 7650 3246/3240.

Notes to editors:

1. '[British Choirs on the Net](http://www.choirs.org.uk)' is a free internet listing service for British and International Choirs. It currently provides listings and other choral services for over 1300 British Choirs. It was established in 1995 and has been under the guardianship of Phillip Tolley since Aug 2002.
2. Musical organisations throughout the UK are supporting 'In Tune with ChildLine':
 - **Alan Simmons Music** – specialist supplier of songbooks and choral music
 - **British Choirs on The Net** – internet and email listing service for British and International Choirs
 - **British Federation of Brass Bands** – national association for brass bands throughout the UK
 - **Flutewise Trust** – non-profit making trust, set up to help people, especially the young, to enjoy the flute
 - **gerontius.net** - site for choirs and lovers of choral music
 - **Handbell Ringers of Great Britain** – promotes and encourages the development of tune ringing on handbells
 - **Headquarters Army Music** – at Kneller Hall, near Twickenham
 - **Making Music** – representing and supporting over 2,000 amateur music groups throughout the UK
 - **National Association of Choirs** – provides a range of services to help member choirs
 - **Royal College of Music** – one of the world's leading conservatoires, providing specialised musical education and professional training for performers and composers.
 - **youngchoirs.net** – aims to stimulate and encourage choral singing amongst young people throughout the UK
3. ChildLine is the UK's free 24-hour helpline for children and young people. Trained volunteer counsellors provide comfort, advice and protection to children calling about any problem. **The number for children to call is 0800 1111**. Lack of funds means that children may have to dial several times before getting through to the help they need.