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**PRESS RELEASE**

### **Bristol choir sings its way to success**

Award-winning ladies chorus Bristol Fashion has continued its winning streak, picking up three singing awards over the past two weeks.

Last Saturday, the 48-strong chorus scored its highest points and won the silver medal in the South West preliminary round of the Ladies Association of British Barbershop Singers (LABBS) Convention. Led by Musical Director Craig Kehoe, the chorus was highly praised for its performance of two ballads, If I Love Again and Time After Time.

Due to its strong performance, Bristol Fashion easily qualifies to compete in this year's LABBS Convention, the highlight of the barbershop calendar, which this year takes place in Harrogate in October.

Two weeks ago, the chorus also impressed the judges at the Bristol Music Festival and won two trophies. Directed by Assistant Chorus Director Jill Stephens, the chorus won both the Barbershop Class and the Choral Class.

Craig Kehoe said: "We've been working extremely hard to keep improving our performance and so it's wonderful and very encouraging to hear such positive feedback from the judges and bring home more trophies for the trophy cupboard.

"After a very hectic first three months of the year, we're now going to focus on preparing for the annual barbershop Convention in October."

Bristol Fashion has steadily moved up the barbershop rankings since Craig Kehoe took over as Musical Director in 2007, moving from 22<sup>nd</sup> place in 2008 to 12<sup>th</sup> place last year.

The choir has won four major barbershop awards including the Most Improved Chorus trophy in 2009 and the Peter Caller trophy for moving from Division 2 to 1 in 2010. Craig Kehoe also won the trophy for the Musical Director who has made most improvement to a chorus in 2009. Last year, Bristol Fashion was shortlisted as one of four choirs for the final of Good Housekeeping Magazine's Choir of the Year competition.

Bristol Fashion rehearses on Thursday evenings at Four Acres School in Withywood. New members are very welcome. For more information about joining or booking Bristol Fashion for a sing-out, please visit [www.bristol-fashion.org.uk](http://www.bristol-fashion.org.uk)

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**Notes to editors**

Bristol Fashion Chorus is an award-winning ladies' chorus which strives for musical excellence in a cappella four-part singing. We sing primarily in the traditional barbershop style and aim to encourage and develop the style through our chorus, quartets and small group performances.

Bristol Fashion Chorus aims to perform and compete at the highest level in the Bristol area and within the Ladies' Association of British Barbershop Singers, in order continually to improve our vocal and performance quality.

Our mission is to educate, support and enrich the lives of our diverse membership and share the gift of music with our audiences through a unique blend of close harmonies and close friendships.

**Ladies Association of British Barbershop Singers Annual Convention**

Bristol Fashion will compete at the LABBS annual convention in Harrogate on 21-23 October 2011.