

JAN 14<sup>th</sup> '77 CLUB SING AT OLD FOLKS CENTRE, LONGFIELD  
CROSTON RD, A'GLOW AT ANCHOR INN, FARRINGTON  
MOSS - ALF MEE ILL, SO DAVID MAHON  
CONDUCTED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

JAN 19<sup>th</sup> CLUB SING AT WRIGHTS FOLD, LEYLAND.  
WITH A'GLOW AT THE LORD STOKES.



FEB. 22<sup>nd</sup> '77 ALF MEE HANGS UP HIS  
PITCH PIPE FOR THE LAST TIME.

## Magician entertains



QUESTION: How do you make six metal rings join together in one easy lesson.  
ANSWER: Sit back and watch magician Alan Bailey.

That's what senior citizens did at Wright's Fold. They were entertained by feats of magic by Mr. Bailey from Penwortham and the Preston Barbershop Harmony Club. Also on the programme were the Red Rose Quartet.

Don't ring us, we'll ring you! Magician Alan Bailey demonstrates his magic rings to Alice Wareing, Margaret Wilson and Edna Parker. (E627).

## The late Alf Mee started Preston Barbershop Harmony Singers in 1974.

### Alfred calls it a day



22<sup>nd</sup> FEB '77 Mr Alfred Mee

THE man who brought barbershop singing to Preston has thrown in the towel.

After one close shave with illness, Alfred Mee — television, radio and clubland personality — has decided to quit for his health's sake.

But he is certain that the trend he began in Preston three years ago will not recede after his departure.

"Barbershopping is so popular in this area, there is no chance of it vanishing for a long time to come," he said at Preston Cattle Market where he works as an auctioneer's clerk.

"I am sad to leave, but I have to be realistic about my health, I have been doing too much."

Mr Mee, 57, first took an interest in barbershop singing after watching old time music hall on television. He wrote to the BBC and was put in touch with the British Association of Barbershoppers.

Then with four friends he put together an act and took to the stage at the Holy Family Social Club in Preston where he is resident organist.

After that came appearances on Granada Television and local radio and performances in numerous clubs in the Preston area.

The Preston Barbershop Harmony Club which he founded now has around 15 members.

"There is something extra special about barbershop singing, something that is hard to define but which gets into your blood," he added.

"It is entirely different to any other form of harmony singing I have ever come

across, and so enjoyable. I am going to miss it."

Mr Mee, of Berwick Drive, Fulwood, was struck down by a heart attack in 1965 and told by doctors to take it easy.

But the club performer, church organist, choir-master, worker and family man, could not relax.

He added barbershop singing to his exhausting schedule in 1974, but now, following pressure from his family he has decided the show cannot go on any longer.

"I admit I have been overdoing it a bit, and as playing the organ is my first love then the barbershop singing just had to go."