

Thetford Boy's School Choir.

In the past, singing formed a particularly important part of school life. The daily ritual of morning assembly always included the singing of one or two hymns. School choirs have also found a place in school activities from time-to-time. Perhaps one of Thetford's most successful school choirs was that at the Norwich Road Boys' school under the leadership of the headmaster, Mr Jas Lee, in the 1930s. After success at the Norfolk and Norwich Music festival, part of the choir travelled to London in January 1938 to perform 'live' for BBC Radio.

Extract from Newspaper reporting on the choirs' success:

Bury Free Press

Saturday 1 January 1938

SCHOOL BROADCAST.—We understand from Mr. J. H. Lee, the headmaster of the Thetford Boys' Council School, that the School Choir will be broadcasting from London Regional during the children's hour at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 18th, when they will sing two groups of songs entitled, "The Coasts of High Barbary," "As I walked thro' the meadow/" "The Traction Engine," "Devon, O Devon," "Coming Spring" and "The Milk Cart Pony." This is a great distinction for Mr. Lee and his school choir, but yet another honour has been conferred on the Thetford Boys' School, for one of the scholars, a member the choir, Master Robert Regent, is also to broadcast two solos, "A Brown Bird Singing" and "Little Boy Blue." We believe that Robert Regent will probably the first schoolboy in East Anglia to broadcast solos. Regent is one of Mr. Lee's solo boys at St. Cuthbert's Church and on Sunday next, January 9th, he will be singing Mendelssohn's "O for the wings of a Dove."

