

Songbirds Newsletter - February 2020

Hi Everyone

Well, we have had some new songs to sing and learn and some new faces to welcome in the early months of this new year, all of which feels very positive to the Committee - we hope you agree!

Suggestions Box

You will hopefully have noticed the cardboard box and slips of paper that have recently made an appearance in the vicinity of the reception desk. The Committee felt that this was a good way of enabling Choir members to put forward songs they would like the choir to perform. Since the box will be there most weeks, members can add a suggestion without having to wait for a particular opportunity. Jane and Faye, with the support of the Committee, have the final decision on what pieces are performed at our concerts, but the wider the range of suggestions to work from, the better, so please add as many as you would like to.

Mission Statement

A framed copy of the Choir's Mission Statement will be placed in the reception area for members to see as they register at rehearsals. The Mission Statement is also on the website:

<https://harboroughsongbirds.weebly.com>

It's Subs Time!

Our next subscriptions are due on Thursday February 13th. Please can you bring your £20 in cash to give to Alison on Reception, or pay by bank transfer, with your name as a reference, if you prefer.

Bank transfer details: Account No. 15686668, Sort Code 30-95-47

Publicity

A photograph and short report were sent to Harborough Mail and Leicester Mercury after last week's visit from Kate Hawkins and presentation to VASL Young Carers Group. So far, a report (without the picture unfortunately) has appeared in the Mercury - a scan is included below.

Quiz and Chilli Night

A social evening is planned for March 21st at 7.30. The event will be held at St. Dionysius Church Hall on Coventry Road, Market Harborough. There will be a quiz (teams sized between 4 and 6) and food (along the lines of jacket potatoes, meat chilli, vegetarian chilli) on the evening and we can take our own drinks. I'm sure there will be prizes and a raffle too so that we might raise a few funds for our new charity (as yet to be chosen) but the emphasis is on enjoying social time together, as a choir, with our friends and family. Any donations of prizes for the raffle would be gratefully accepted!

Tickets will be available this week - priced at £8.

VASL Thanks Songbirds

A copy of our "Thank You Certificate" and an article from the Leicester Mercury...



Alison's Race for Life

Our very own Ali Brown is taking part in a 5K Race for Life to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. The event will take place in Leicester on July 12th 2020. If you are able to sponsor her, there is a page set up for Ali on the fundraising page of the Cancer Research website - here is the link:

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/alisons-race-for-life-12103825>

Summer Concert

Just to confirm that the date for our summer concert is Friday June 26th.

New Charity

It's time to select the next charity for us to support. Thank you for your nominations, from which we have compiled a short-list with a summary for each. You will be able to vote for your preferred charity from this list at the February 13th and 20th rehearsals.

1st Bowden Scout Group

They are looking to build a new hut and have currently raised £40,000 of the £250,000 needed to achieve their goal. The group caters for 140 youngsters aged between 6 and 14 over the week.

Jubilee Food Bank

The food bank supports local families in crisis, short-term, to help them get back on their feet. It needs donations to provide vouchers for fresh fruit, vegetables and meat. Training for volunteers, transport, insurance and storage also have to be paid for.

Spectrum

A local parent/Carers support group for children, young people and adults on the Autistic spectrum. It provides twice monthly support groups, inclusive family activities and pamper days for Carers as well as guidance for local families.

Homestart

Advice and support is provided to parents of young children via home visits, group work and courses. It currently also runs groups to support parents under the age of 21, those experiencing post-natal depression and helping families get active.