

Songbirds Concert Bulletin - June 2022

It is really worth reminding ourselves that, after many, many months of not meeting up at all (except via Zoom) it was only in mid September last year that we returned to shorter rehearsals in distanced and restricted (and often cold) conditions. Full length rehearsals are a fairly recent re-introduction. Furthermore, a number of our pre-Covid-19 members have, for a whole range of reasons not returned to Songbirds and new members have joined us. It's been a time of real challenge and change and yet we have still been able to put together a concert this summer. Well done - to our musical leaders and to all our members for the hard work and effort that have got us to this point!

Concert Information

The Committee had a meeting on Tuesday and finalised details for the upcoming Concert on 30th June 2022 - our first for two and a half years!!

Tickets are £5 per adult and are available through Eileen at rehearsals each Thursday. It may be possible for friends and family to buy tickets at the door but it is much more helpful (in terms of planning seating and refreshments) if numbers are known in advance. You can pay cash for tickets or make a bank transfer. Please remember to reference 'tickets' if you make a bank transfer.

Refreshments - Cold drinks (bottles of water and cartons of fruit juice) will be on sale before the concert and during the interval. There will also be small packets of biscuits to purchase. We have decided against hot drinks this time to try and avoid too big a build up of people at the counter collecting a hot drink. The interval will be quite short but people can take their drinks into the main hall.

Dress code - black, smart casual and, as usual, flowers will be provided - in recognition of the recent diamond jubilee we have different flowers. Apart from your music folder and a bottle of water please bring as little as possible with you as we will not have a lockable space for valuables.

Timings - the concert begins at 7.30 and choir members are asked to arrive no later than 6.45pm. We will meet in the small room immediately on the left as you enter through the front doors of the church.

Running Order - see attachment. Please print one off if you are able but I will bring some extra copies with me next week. It would be a good idea, if you haven't already, to get those folders out and arrange the music therein. This will give you time to get used to holding your folder in such a way that it does not hide your smiling face from the audience and at the same time enables you to watch Faye intently during our final rehearsals and at the concert!

Sing-a-Long - The committee has opted to have a 'community singing' section on the programme as you will see from the Running Order. The link between the 4 songs is that they were popular in 1952/53 when Queen Elizabeth came to the throne and was then crowned. The songs are generally well known and the audience will have the words so, with our encouragement, we hope they will enjoy this and join in with gusto!!!

Meeters and Greeters - We would like be able to offer a warm welcome to our guests as they arrive and, while we should all take some responsibility for that, it would be really helpful to have two or three named choir members willing to perform this role for a short while prior to the concert! Volunteers please let us have your names.

We now have three rehearsals left to work on those little bits of songs that still need attention and there are a number of things still to finalise. Last night was our first time sitting facing towards the 'audience' which means we are now to getting used to a different position in relation to both Faye and Jane. Nearer the time Faye will firm up our seating positions and our entering and leaving the hall to achieve the best balance of sound and to ensure we all do things 'tidily' and together.

I usually sprinkle a few one-liners around my newsletters but have totally struggled to find anything in my 'google' searches that was remotely amusing about singers and choirs - I did find some surprisingly offensive material though and decided it was best not shared!!

So - signing off from this joke-free bulletin with just one final comment:

Eyes on Faye and remember to smile because **we are enjoying ourselves!!**