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27th June 2019

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

Thank you to all the members of the choir who attended this year's Florence Nightingale service at Christ Church, Holloway. I have received many kind comments regarding our contribution.

I am pleased to announce that this year's Christmas Concert will be held on **Friday 6th December 2018 at 7.30 pm** at Derby Cathedral and the proceeds will be given to The Combined Cancer Services at The University Hospitals of Derby & Burton. At our concert this year, we will not be accompanied by a band but will be joined by saxophonist Alistair Parnell and our Compere will again be Richard Moulder. We are all working hard to ensure that again this year, we have a varied and interesting programme. Something for everyone I hope!

As usual rehearsals will be held at 7.30pm at the **Broadway Baptist Church, Broadway, Derby** on **Wednesdays**, as follows:-

September 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th,

October 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

November 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

December 4th

There will also be a rehearsal in the Cathedral on the afternoon of 6th December; details will be given near the date.

I understand that many of you have found it difficult to attend some of the rehearsals, particularly in the early part of September which I understand is unavoidable as it is still the "summer holiday" season. Therefore, we have now scheduled 14 rehearsals and I would ask that you try to make every effort to commit to attending a **minimum** of 11.

I do hope you will be able to participate this year as a member of the choir and help to make the concert a successful and happy occasion. If so, I would be grateful if you would kindly complete and return the attached registration form **no later than Friday 2nd August 2018**, you are welcome to email your form to dgalleyne@hotmail.co.uk if that is more convenient for you.

We are unable to guarantee a place to those who have not returned their forms, as we are limited to the amount of people we can accommodate at the cathedral, so it is very important to put your name down early. *Please also ensure your email address is up to date and written clearly, we have several people who appear to not be receiving my correspondence because their email address is not recognised.*

If, during rehearsal, you wish to change the section in which you are singing then please speak to David. Would you please note that the enclosed form is for your **personal use only**. Of course, if you know of anyone else who is interested in joining the choir please ask them to contact our Secretary, Di Alleyne direct, she will be happy to give them more information and take their details.

This year we will be selling prize draw tickets in the hospital both on the main corridor and at Junction 24, we will require more sellers and it would be lovely to see new faces. We are unique as a choir in that we exist to raise money for the Hospital. Whilst I appreciate you give your time freely for rehearsals and the concerts itself, we would not have a choir if it wasn't for our fundraising efforts. Please consider giving up a couple of hours either morning or afternoon to help us sell tickets.

Ticket prices for this year's concert will remain at £15, one price for all seats! This year we will be continuing our on-line ticket selling at Prior Booking. They will be available on-line from Monday 16th September. Ground floor seating will be sold in blocks, so please make sure if you require multiple tickets you buy them together; once a block has sold out, we are unable to get further tickets for that area. It is important you realise this will not give you a numbered seat, just a reservation within that block; staff will be on hand at the concert to help you find a seat. We are also very grateful to the Cathedral bookshop who have kindly offered to sell tickets for us this year.

As announced at the 2019 AGM, this year there will be no second concert. It is always a very costly concert for the choir and the work involved in organising two concerts in 5 days is too great for us to continue.

We have a new, updated website which contains all the information you might need so please remember to check it regularly, www.derbyhospitalschoir.co.uk.

Those of you who were at the AGM or Florence Nightingale rehearsals will know that this will be my final year as Choir Chairman. We are actively looking for my replacement and if you know of anyone who would like to become my successor, please ask them to contact us via email.

I look forward to seeing you on the 4th September to start rehearsals for what I know is going to be a very enjoyable Christmas Concert!

With very best wishes

Yours sincerely

Louise Hill