

Charity concert featuring “The Voyage” by Bob Chilcott End of project report

The charity concert featuring *The Voyage* given by combined choirs at St John’s Church in Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire on Saturday 23rd March 2019 was a resounding success.

Firstly, from a musical viewpoint it was well performed and greatly enjoyed by the participating groups: Aeolian Singers, Dacorum Community Choir, Sandringham School Choir and instrumentalists from St Albans Schools. The large audience also clearly enjoyed the performance.

Secondly, it was a wonderful social occasion bringing together singers and players from a wide range of ages to sing this secular piece, about the ‘voyage’ through life, which Bob Chilcott wrote to words by the poet Charles Bennett, specifically for Age UK to help with their contribution to the campaign to end loneliness.

Thirdly, it was a financial success in that over £2,800 was raised by the event for the charity: **Age UK Dacorum** to assist in combating loneliness in our area. (£2,241 of this was from ticket sales and the rest from donations.)

Age UK Dacorum have stated that the money raised from this event will be used to support their **Boxmoor Good Neighbours** Scheme.

The concert was well attended. Two factors helped in this respect: firstly, the large number of performers selling tickets to family and friends together with wide publicity before the event. The second factor was the absence of the parking problems normally associated with events in Boxmoor. This was because the Box Moor Trust had kindly allowed us to use adjacent moorland for parking.

I wish to record my thanks to everyone who helped to ensure the success of the project by their contributions of time and money. In particular we are most grateful for grant funding received from Dacorum Borough Council, the Box Moor Trust and the John Laing Charitable Trust.

Paul Davies, Project Manager



Rehearsing for “The Voyage” at St John’s Church

Photo by Sally Davies