

**CONCERT MANAGER’s REPORT**

**AGM 5 JULY 2022**

What a joy to be back reporting on concerts.

For our **Welcome Back** short concert on Sunday 17th October 2021, we were fortunate to be welcomed into the delightful St Peter’s Church in Westcliff. Our friends and family were there to support us and through a retiring bucket collection we were able to support the venue’s chosen charity, St Stephen’s Church in Prittlewell.

On Saturday 13th November we combined forces with Southend Band and Southend Wind Orchestra for our **Festival of Remembrance 2021**. A different format on this occasion as we combined our Act of Remembrance with a ‘Salute to the NHS’ by supporting Southend Hospital’s Staff Wellness Fund.

Friday 19th November saw a welcome return for us to **Chelmsford Cathedral** for their popular lunchtime concert season. It is always such a pleasure to be welcomed into the cathedral and the audience had returned I’m pleased to report.

To finish 2021, we were **Celebrating Christmas** on the 11th December in St Michael’s Church in Leigh. Southend Band joined us in the celebration and the audience were in fine voice for the participating carols.

Our 2022 Calendar of Concerts is full and varied. An itinerary which will take us to a variety of venues, whilst supporting several different charities. We have chosen to support the memory of our dear friend and supporter Sir David Amess by raising funds for two of his chosen charities.

Our **Spring Concert** at Hadleigh Salvation Army on 21st May was for the first of these charities. The concert, with the delightful Hilary Pell as soloist, was a resounding success with proceeds split between Endometriosis UK and the local Endometriosis Foundation.

The **Summer Celebration** supporting the *Friends of Holy Trinity Rayleigh* followed on Saturday 18th June. This newly refurbished church looks splendid, provides wonderful acoustics and facilities and I’m pleased to report a good-sized audience too.

As always, I would like to say a big thank you to all who join me to assist in various capacities whenever we stage a concert. Firstly, those who promote our concerts via the website and social media; those in the Publicity Team and choir members who distribute publicity; those who provide the Box Office and sell the tickets; those who help with the set- up on the day; the guys in the Front of House Team; the technical support and finally all those who assist with the clear-up at the end.

Thank you all, for your assistance and enthusiasm, you really do make a difference.

**Marion Orchard**

**Concert Manager**

**June 2022**