



Warwick Castle Events

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Treorchy Male Voice Choir



The Treorchy Male Voice Choir performs at the Town hall, Birmingham as part of 'A Night on the Town' concert on the 23rd June - said by Sir Anthony Hopkins to be "the best Welsh choir of them all". Treorchy Male Choir must be regarded as one of the greatest success stories in the cultural history of Wales. Since its reformation in a valley schoolroom on October 16th 1946, Treorchy has developed into what is probably the best known male voice combination in the world. When founder-conductor John Haydn Davies first raised his baton to the original group of raw musical recruits, how could he have realised that he was about to create a legendary musical organisation that would be highly respected and admired by generations of people throughout the world. It was under his command that the unique 'Treorchy' sound was conceived and nurtured - a legacy which was accepted with pride and respect by his successors.

The choir has achieved an unbeaten record of Eisteddfod wins, produced an unequalled amount of commercial records, undertaken hugely successful tours of Australia, Canada and the USA while performing hundreds of concerts closer to home. Over the years this amateur group of singers has become an admirable ambassador for Wales. As a charitable organisation, Treorchy Male Choir is dedicated to raising funds for many other worthy causes whilst leading the Welsh choral tradition into the future.

A Night on the Town

The whole city is looking forward to welcoming Rotarians. The Bull Ring, Europe's largest shopping mall, offers 160 shops to choose from. The Bull Ring was originally chartered in 1166 as an official market. Eight hundred years later, it was transformed into one of the country's most celebrated examples of revolutionary urban planning.

Convention goers can attend one of three great shows on 23rd June, all of which commence at 19.15.

The Treorchy Male Choir Concert at Town Hall, Birmingham Tickets: £25

The Birmingham Royal Ballet at the Birmingham Hippodrome performing their final dress rehearsal before the summer season begins. Tickets: £25

East Meets West Variety Show at Symphony Hall will feature entertainment from Korea, Great Britain, Ireland and other parts of the world. Tickets: £25



David Hopkins OBE. Newsletter Editor

In 2009, the accent is making this a family Convention where entertainment and fellowship are the key words. There is a great deal to see and experience around Birmingham which is not only for the visiting Rotarians to Great Britain and Ireland. Whilst we play hosts to our Rotarian guests, let us ensure that we take full advantage of all the wonderful opportunities that are on offer.

The first thing is to make the decision that you will attend - register and then book your hotel, that is if you do not decide to travel daily. Each month we will give you details of what is available - do not leave bookings for various events to the last minute because overseas Rotarians are also likely to appreciate the value for money that is on offer.

I can promise you the most exceptional Convention to date and it would be a pity to miss it.

David Hopkins.

Concert of Concerts



Katherine Jenkins is one of the most extraordinary singers of her generation. Katherine Jenkins and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra will be playing a programme of popular music, concluding with Tchaikovsky's '1812 Overture' with lights and cannons. Her appeal is such that she has already outsold such opera greats as Maria Callas. She is the only singer in musical history to simultaneously hold the number 1,2 and 3 position in the classical charts which she did with her three albums 'Premier', 'Second Nature' and 'Living the Dream' in 2005.



The UK Industry had never seen anything quite like it from a classical singer, and with her new album, 'Sacred Arias', is a joyful affirmation of Katherine Jenkins' origins. Music, teaching and the Church are deep in her being. Her mother taught at Sunday school and Katherine might have followed her into a similar vocation if her talent had not propelled her inevitably into a professional singing career. Singing was at the heart of the community. From a young age she was being asked to perform at family parties. Lloyd Webber's settings of Pie Jesu was a great favourite of her father's, and this makes it a particular inclusion on her latest album. At the end of 2008, after a summer of open air concerts, including Kenwood, Hampton Court and Belvoir, Katherine embarks on a tour of concert halls. After Christmas she intends to go to the U.S. with the aim of making an album of American music. The album 'Sacred Arias', with its serene mixture of wonderful tunes and profound spirituality, will further enhance Katherine's reputation as the most extraordinary singer of her generation.



The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra is one of the world's leading symphonic ensembles, having worked with many leading international conductors since its inaugural concert in 1920, conducted by Sir Edward Elgar. Today the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra is under the leadership of its Music Director, the internationally renowned Andris Nelsons. The orchestra established itself as a major force during its 18 year association with Sir Simon Rattle, and has continued to prosper under the Finnish conductor Sakari Oramo, who was appointed Principal Conductor in 1998 and Music Director in 1999 until 2007 when Andris Nelsons took over the baton as Music Director.



Recent programming initiatives - including rush hour, matinee and family concerts - ensure that the broadest range of people can experience the CBSO's performances of music, from Beethoven to Bollywood and Bach to Bond themes, and reflect our mission to share our passion for music.



The CBSO is in constant demand to perform all over the world. Recent tours have seen concerts in Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Romania, Spain, Switzerland and Taiwan, in addition to regular appearances at the BBC Proms and the prestigious Aldeburgh Festival. The Orchestra is proud to act as an Ambassador for the City of Birmingham and the wider Midlands region, and recently won a special award from the Regional Development Agency Advantage West Midlands for Raising the Profile of the Region Internationally. For more information see www.cbso.co.uk

A Mediaeval Spectacular

Don't just imagine the great history of England relive it! Step into Warwick Castle, built in AD914, rebuilt in 1264 and now recognized as the world's best preserved mediaeval castle. Closed to all except Rotarians and their guests for this event, the castle was the ancestral home of the Earls of Warwick, known as 'the Kingmakers'. Rotarians will step back in time a thousand years to enjoy a unique and very special evening which will include:

- ❖ A traditional mediaeval tournament featuring an incredible display of horsemanship and chivalry. Come and cheer your favourite knight as he takes up the challenge.
- ❖ The Dream of Battle, this newest attraction lets you relive the castle's most fateful conflict through the dreams of William, 12 year old squire to the Earl of Warwick, as he prepares to bear arms for the first time at the Battle of Barnet and takes you on a journey through some of the oldest areas of the ancient fortress.
- ❖ A Tour of the Castle Rooms, including the Great Hall, Queen Anne's bedroom, the dungeons with their torture chambers, the towers, the ramparts and the State Rooms including the stunning State Dining Room.
- ❖ The Flight of the Eagles, an amazing display of the ancient and noble art of falconry in which birds of prey, including eagles and vultures, swoop and dive over the castle turrets. Afterwards, see these magnificent raptors face-to-face as they rest in their mews.
- ❖ The Warwick Castle Trebuchet, the world's largest siege machine, a 22 tonne monster that would catapult huge projectiles to breach castle walls. See it shoot its ammunition 25 metres into the air and an amazing 300 metres down the length of the river island in an awe-inspiring demonstration of 13th century war craft.
- ❖ Book early for this extraordinary opportunity to see life as it was lived in Old England. Warwick Castle can admit only 8,000 guests, so it's first come, first served for this event. Food will be provided.

Special Offer: The first 8,000 convention registrants who book a joint ticket for the Concert of Concerts and Mediaeval Spectacular will receive a £10 discount. Tickets for Katherine Jenkins are £25 and £35. Tickets for Warwick Castle are £40, including food. So don't delay - book today. (RI coach transportation will be provided from the NEC to the venue and return to RI room-block hotels. Transportation will start to leave the convention site after the conclusion of the plenary session.)



Discounted Tickets

The 2009 Convention will prove to be the best value possible - tickets for both the Concert of Concerts and Warwick Castle will attract a discount of £10. Tickets for the Katherine Jenkins concert would normally sell for four times the £25 and £35 asking price of Rotary. The fabulous Warwick Castle Mediaeval Spectacular, including a pig roast with vegetarian option, is only £40. This means that both events will cost either £65 or £55 if booked at the same time. This is just one example of where the committee has gone to great lengths to attract a good attendance. When you take into account this year's low registration fee for early booking, then this is a convention not to be missed.

Fun Run



10k (or less) Fun Run. Saturday 20th June 2009 (09.30)

Run like an Olympic athlete, or stagger like a winded mule; it doesn't matter; the Fun Run is open to all. Organised by the City of Birmingham Leisure Services Department, the Fun Run will donate all profits to The Rotary Foundation.

Join the ACHAFR in North Wales before the Convention



Members from the RC of Quickborn (D) on the 2008 Tour de Normandie

For 2009 the Rotary Retro Automobile Fellowship of GB & I in conjunction with the ACHAFR will be organising its Third Fellowship Tour for Vintage, Classic and other post 1981 interesting cars between June 17/20 2009. The Event will thus tie in with the 2009 Rotary Convention.

Although detailed planning for this event is still underway it is anticipated that the event will start at the Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb venue in Worcestershire before travelling into North Wales. Overnight stops are planned at the [Classic British Hotels](#) at Lake Vrynwy; Ruthin and Shrewsbury. On the Saturday the cars will

journey to the NEC Birmingham where they will be on show before participating in the convention parade.

It is hoped that a similar Rally - the Rotary Tour Autoretro organised by District 1730 from France - will start in Reims at the same time and join up with the above Tour on either Friday or Saturday.

The UK Event will be strictly limited to 40 cars, including those of the organisers.

Further information and initial registration can be obtained by contacting:

- 2009 Rotary Convention Tour - rotarytour2009@hotmail.com
- Rotary Tour Autoretro 2009 - rotary1730@free.fr

or by going onto the <http://www.rraf.rotaryweb.org> website

A Night with Rotary - Host Hospitality

Monday, 22nd June. (16.00 - 22.00)

This popular convention event promises an evening of fun and fellowship in 2009. Whether eating heartily at a Merrie Englande Banquet, enjoying a club barbeque or simply sharing fellowship in a local Rotarian's home, you'll be assured of a warm Rotarian welcome! Your hosts will provide transportation.



Purchase tickets online at www.rotaryconvention2009.com through our secure service or fax us on +44 (0) 1789 765570. Telephone enquiries +44 (0) 1789 765411. E-mail: enquiries@rotaryconvention2009.com

Host event tickets may only be purchased by convention registrants for themselves, their registered convention guests and members of their immediate families. Ticket orders will be processed in the order they are received. All tickets must be collected at the HOC convention booth, which will be open from Thursday, 18th June 2009. Tickets will not be posted. Please note all payments are made to Birmingham Convention 2009 Limited. We regret cheques cannot be accepted.

The Caravan Fellowship will have its own special event on Monday 22 June at the Heart of England Centre