

Local Venue Committee 2006 (Cincinnati) Report

As we get closer to the festival I am pleased to announce that the organization of the 2006 festival is going quite well.

All of the events are scheduled and seminar and musical events finalized. I have arranged for the visiting choir to stay at the Hyatt Regency Hotel next door to the Hilton in order for us to keep as many rooms at the Hilton for our guests.

The only hitch we are having with the hotel at this point is the location of the Sunday morning church service. They have booked another group in the Hall of Mirrors for a breakfast at that time. They are at this point trying to get the other group to relocate to another location. Apparently the cause of this problem is that we did not originally book the hall of mirrors on a 24-hour basis in the original contract. This is something to learn for future contract negotiations to make sure that we book the main venue hall for the concert and Gymanfa Ganu on a 24-hour basis.

I have received 2 separate quotes for the supplying of sound equipment and lights for the musical events. My preference will be to book with the in house people as long as their pricing is right. I am still negotiating with them but the final price for the whole weekend should be around \$9-10,000.00. I will be traveling to Wales directly after this weekend and will be meeting with the choir and Hogiar Bonc to go over their requirements before I finalize the equipment.

Another matter I would like to discuss is how we handle the registration of the choir and their party. In the past this has caused some minor problems with the groups mostly because of lack of communication. To make sure this does not happen this time I would like to make the following suggestion.

I will take copies of the registration forms to the choir for them to fill out. All members of their group should receive free registration and we will have name badges done up indicating them as members of the choir group. This will allow them access to our events on a space available basis. For the banquet and other meal events they will pay the regular costs as everyone else. By supplying them with the forms ahead of time we will know how many will be attending the banquet and other meals well in advance.

I am a little concerned about the lack of interest in the marketplace this year and I think we should look at some kind of marketing to get potential vendors more interested in the event. I know that Karen has sent out letters to our past vendors and hopefully we will get some responses to that soon.

Another thing that we need to decide on is the tearoom and welshcake situation. The hotel has offered to make them (at a price) and who knows how they will turn out. I do have some people here in Ottawa who will help with making some that can be taken down but we will need many more than that. I would very much like to pass this duty off to one of my committee members who could then take this one aspect of the festival on and run with it. This would free me up to get everything else done and organized in the best way possible.

In conclusion I feel the event is well on its way to being a great success and as long as we stay concentrated on the details it should be a weekend to remember.

Sincerely

Ian Morris Venue Chairperson