

THE PASSAGE 1980-2010

HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE FOR 30 YEARS

FOUNDING PATRON Cardinal Basil Hume

PATRON Archbishop Vincent Nichols



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Monday 3rd December 2012

Sacred Military Constantinium Order of St George's sponsorship of *A Night Under The Stars: Crown and Country*

I am writing to thank you for the Sacred Military Constantinium Order of St George's terrific support of The Passage's annual fundraising concert, *A Night Under The Stars*. The Choral Foundation's advert and wonderful singing were important factors in ensuring that this year's concert was our most profitable in the event's 12-year history. Please find enclosed a copy of the programme containing your half-page advert.

Last week we finalised the numbers for *A Night Under The Stars*. As you may recall, by the beginning of this year's event on 8th November we had generated revenues of over £140,000 and were on course for a profit of just under £100,000 for The Passage. I am delighted to inform you that the combination of raffle ticket purchases, our post-concert reception auction and associated donations that have flooded in during the weeks following the concert means that the event has now generated profit for The Passage of almost £121,000, representing an increase of 19% on 2011 and 82% on 2010! However, beyond the numbers, I was personally thrilled to see that the 2,784-seat Royal Festival Hall was completely full (with those wanting last-minute tickets queuing hopefully for returns), allowing us to convey the message about The Passage's work and our sponsors' generous support to the largest possible audience.

Given the success of this year's concert, we are now looking towards next year's event on Tuesday 5th November 2013 at the Royal Festival Hall. With a theme of *Mainly Mozart*, we are excited to have already confirmed two world-class soloists: Michael Collins will perform the composer's much-loved Clarinet Concerto and baritone Christopher Maltman will sing arias from Don Giovanni and other operas. Appropriately for bonfire night, we will open with Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks.

At this time of decreasing supply of public funds and increasing demand for our services, the support of organisations like the Sacred Military Constantinium Order of St George is crucial to ensuring that The Passage can deliver on its mission to encourage, inspire and challenge homeless people to transform their lives. In the video that was shown at the concert, we heard Henry describe how The Passage 'saved my life'. Although Henry is off the streets and in his own flat, this can be an immensely challenging time too. We all get lonely and we all need support networks; our focus for Henry now is to ensure that the right support is in place to help him take the final steps back into society, get a job and never return to homelessness. With local authority cuts across London to resettlement support services, The Passage will be using some of the money raised at A Night Under The Stars to launch our Home For Good project to help many people like Henry sustain their accommodation.

All of us at The Passage would be delighted to welcome you and/or any of your colleagues to visit us, so that I may have the chance to tell you about the projects and show you the work that your support is helping to fund.

Yours sincerely,

Mick Clarke
CEO, The Passage