

The Bishop Chadwick Trust Dawn Chorus 'We'll Meet Again'

Hello everyone! My name is Mike McGrother and I am working with a number of your schools in a whole load of different ways over the coming months. I am a musician and singer in a band who performs across the world but am just as passionate about bringing people together in their community. This is a unique chance for YOU to be a part of something very special as we send our love, specifically to our relatives and neighbours who are living through desperately lonely times at the moment.

Friday, 8th May marks the 75th anniversary of VE Day – a day of massive importance as World War II was coming to an end. Many of our older family members and residents remember it as a day of liberation, hope and peace. But many of those same people are struggling to find that hope today.

And so we thought, to cheer them up we will try creating a 'virtual' version of 'We'll Meet Again' – a song that they will know because it was of that era. Think of Captain Tom and you can see how proud that generation is of their contribution to the war effort. This is OUR chance to say thank you and give a little bit of our time back to them.

We want to add as many of your voices onto it as we can – forget whether you think you are a good singer – sing from the heart and you will be a part of a message that people really need to hear right now.

LISTENING

It is a RELATIVELY simple process that most of you will be able to attempt! Perhaps even encourage your families to take part. Recording is basically a process of 'layering'. I am providing you with a short section of the song:

<https://soundcloud.com/wildcats-of-kilkenny/the-dawn-chorus-guide/s-9WNuB5Ogi4b>

On a tablet or PC have a listen a few times to help you learn the song. When you listen to it you will hear me count you in using the FIRST note you will sing - 1,2,3,4. When you feel you know it just sing along without recording, get others to sing with you if you like! I know the 'click' is annoying but that won't be heard in the final version.

RECORDING

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

1. **MOBILE PHONE** on a table or desk. Find the **VOICE RECORDER APP** on it – any ready installed one will do or download a free one.
2. **THE TABLET OR a PC OR LAPTOP OR SECOND PHONE** still logged onto the same link: <https://soundcloud.com/wildcats-of-kilkenny/the-dawn-chorus-guide/s-9WNuB5Ogi4b>
3. **HEADPHONES PLUGGED INTO (not bluetooth) THAT TABLET / PC / LAPTOP / SECOND PHONE**

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The **MOBILE PHONE is your microphone** – your recording studio and the thing you SING into. Place it on a table around 6 feet away from you, (a bit less than social distancing!)

The **TABLET / PC / LAPTOP / OTHER PHONE is your ‘piano player’ or conductor** – the person you need to follow to sing the right thing at the right time – the thing you LISTEN to.

The **HEADPHONES are how you are able to listen to the music. BUT THERE IS A SPECIAL TRICK.** IDEALLY you need to keep one headphone on your ear and the other one OFF the other ear. This will help you to hear the music... BUT ALSO hear your voice! If you have both headphones on it becomes difficult to know if you are singing the right tune! TRUST ME.

Have a little practise and then simply record your voice onto your Phone Voice Recorder App whilst singing along to the track. Don't worry or panic about a gap before you sing - just relax - I can cut it to fit with the song. I should just hear YOUR voice – not the backing track.

THE WORDS

We'll meet again
Don't know where
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day
Keep smiling through
Just like you always do
'Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away
So will you please say hello
To the folks that I know
Tell them I won't be long
They'll be happy to know
That as you saw me go
I was singing this song
We'll meet again
Don't know where
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day

Next, send us your sound file

1. Name your Track SchoolNameYourName e.g. StBedesMikeSmith

2. Email your track to the following address **bishopchadwicktrustchoir@gmail.com** by 3pm WEDNESDAY 6th May at the very latest!

If you want to, you can add a photo too! You are welcome to send us a **JPEG photo** of yourself and/or someone who you are missing, it may be someone in your family who was involved in World War Two. **Please note if you are sharing your photo, you have the permission to do so and that that photo will be used as part of a video montage to accompany the track.** The video will be **shared on social media**, we are hoping that we will be able to secure **air time on local radio stations.**

I'll mix the various lines together and then we will share the song to the North East as dawn breaks, (5.11am on Friday). We want YOUR version to be the first to be heard because it is a very popular song!

Mike McGrother