

So Many Beauties

free dementia-friendly music event

Friday 19 September 2025

12 noon – 3.15pm

Bridgewater Hall, Manchester



Frequently Asked Questions

- **What can I expect from the event?**

A free, unticketed concert in a welcoming and relaxed environment. The concert will include music composed collaboratively with people living with dementia, performed by world-class musicians. After the concert, you can choose to take part in a singing for wellbeing workshop on the first floor or relax in the ground floor café. We're expecting an audience of around 180 people and the venue is very open with high ceilings and good ventilation.

The timings for the event are as follows:

12.45 – 1.30 Ground floor foyer: So Many Beauties Collective perform songs and music created with people living with dementia in Greater Manchester. This collective of culturally diverse, world class musicians was formed during the pandemic.

2:00–2:45: Singing for Wellbeing Workshop with Shared Harmonies in the Barbirolli Room on the Choir Circle Level, accessible by lifts and stairs. A gentle session to help all the “non singers” out there find their voice or...

Relax and network in the ground floor Cafe.

3:00–3:15: Farewell song in the Foyer

We advise you to arrive in plenty of time to get comfortable for the concert. The main doors will be open from 11am for anyone wishing to access the downstairs cafe. Security searches of bags take place outside the main doors and we encourage you not to bring large bags, glass bottles or sharp objects.

- **Who is the event for?**

The event is for everyone! We welcome people of all ages and backgrounds, especially people living with dementia and their carers. The event may also be of interest to anyone wanting to find out more about the importance of music in dementia care – from NHS and care home staff, policy-makers, and musicians interested in working in dementia care settings.

- **How do I get to the Bridgewater Hall?**

The full address of the Bridgewater Hall is: The Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street, Manchester, M2 3WS. The Hall is in the centre of Manchester, easily accessible by public transport and by road.

By Metrolink

The nearest Metrolink tram stop to The Bridgewater Hall is St Peter's Square, which has ramp access to all platforms and is approximately 330metres from the main entrance of the Hall via flat terrain. Deansgate-Castlefield is approximately 450 metres from the Hall, with lift access to the platforms located on the corner of Deansgate and Whitworth Street West.

By Train

The closest railway stations to The Bridgewater Hall are Deansgate (approximately 500m) and Oxford Road (approximately 650m). Deansgate station has long ramp, stairs, and lift access between the platforms & street level.

By Bus

Many buses, including the free city centre bus service, stop within easy walking distance of The Bridgewater Hall.

Bus stops on Great Bridgewater Street, directly behind the Hall are served by routes 33, 33b, 255, 256, and x50.

The nearest free bus stops are: Mount Street/ Peter Street (300m) – Route 2 + Deansgate station(500m) – Route 3

By Car

There is a drop off and pick up point outside the main entrance on Lower Mosley Street. Please note that this is not a parking space – even for Blue Badge holders.

The nearest car parks to the hall are Q-Park, NCP Manchester Central, NCP Great Northern and NCP Oxford Street. All of these are accessible.

NCP Manchester Central is located on Lower Mosley Street, directly opposite the Hall. Access to and from this car park is by lift or ramp between Barbirolli Square and the canal basin and covered walkway under Lower Mosley Street. For Sat Nav systems the postcode for the car park is M2 3GX.

If you would like to pre-book parking or have any further enquiries please contact NCP on 0845 050 7080 or visit [NCP website](https://www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk/your-visit/access/).

There are disabled parking spaces available at NCP Manchester Central. These are charged at NCP Manchester Central's standard rates, with some discounted evening/ pre-booked rates available. See the NCP's website for more information.

More detailed access information for the Bridgewater Hall can be found here: <https://www.bridgewater-hall.co.uk/your-visit/access/>

• How do I get around the Bridgewater Hall?

There is step free access to all areas of the Bridgewater Hall. The concert will take place in the Foyer, on ground level. The Singing for Wellbeing workshop will take place in the Barbirolli Room, which is on the first floor and is accessible by lift and stairs. Venue staff will be available to help you make your way around the venue.

• Is there space for wheelchairs for the main performance and workshop?

We will do our very best to accommodate everyone but if you would like to let us know in advance, we can reserve you a space. Please email hollymarlandmusic@gmail.com.

• Will there be refreshments available?

The Cafe will be serving a range of hot and cold lunches (limited vegetarian, gluten free and vegan options) along with hot and cold drinks (non-alcoholic and alcoholic).

• Are there accessible toilets at the venue?

There is a unisex accessible toilet on every floor of the Bridgewater Hall. Staff will be available to direct you to the nearest facility.

• Is there a quiet space?

The Charles Halle Room on the ground floor is available throughout and there will be drinking water available there. The Choir Circle Level could also be used during the upstairs workshop although there will be sound from downstairs.

If you have any other questions please email us at hollymarlandmusic@gmail.com
or phone Holly Marland on 07811 352 102.

