

At last – a glimmer of hope for a return to singing.

The PM's "Roadmap" statement this week set out a plan to remove all COVID restrictions in late June. It may be a cautious approach and full of provisos, but it means we can begin to think about getting back together again. We may have to "tweak" our ideas if some part of the "Roadmap" hits a pothole, but at least we can plan again with more confidence than we have been able to for a year.

At the moment we are planning to return to Monday rehearsals in Marden House at the start of September. If we are allowed to meet again before then, we will look at doing so on an ad-hoc basis. One of the provisos in this week's statement was of airborne transmissions in performances, which is still under study apparently, so allowing singing indoors again from June is not a foregone conclusion. Maybe we could rehearse outdoors given daylight and weather. It will be a gentle restart whilst we gauge how confident members are to return. It's also possible that after a year of restrictions, families may have other ideas on first choices!

Concerts are further off in our thinking, as all restrictions must have gone before we start those again. Equally, if we don't move, we risk others grabbing the dates we might want, as everyone starts planning events again.

So here are two dates to pencil into diaries.

**Saturday 18 December 2021 – Christmas Concert
St Mary's Church, Calne**

**Saturday 9 April 2022 – Spring Concert
St Andrews Church, Chippenham.**