

## Actress Nerys Hughes to host festive Sing! concert for local charity

Local children from Colerne C of E School will join the Bath Male Choir and Bath Chorus at the National Osteoporosis Society's annual Christmas concert, Sing! on Wednesday 26 November 2014. The evening will take place in beautiful Bath Abbey hosted by former Liver Bird and veteran comedy star, Nerys Hughes, who is a patron of the charity.

Highly respected choir leader and musician, Grenville Jones, will conduct the Bath Male Choir and Bath Chorus in a programme of festive music and carols. There will also be performances from Bath's 2013 Young Musician of the Year: Kirsty Chaplin, and local school choir Colerne C of E Primary School who will be singing their own specially written composition 'Footprints'.

Claire Wynne Hughes, Fundraising Director with the National Osteoporosis Society said:

*"We're very excited to announce our fourth annual Christmas concert, guaranteed to fill you with the festive spirit. As a charity born and based in Bath, it's a privilege to be able to stage this very special event in magical Bath Abbey. The National Osteoporosis Society was founded 28 years ago at the 'Min' and ever since, has been at the forefront of the fight against osteoporosis. Sing! will enable us to continue to support the three million people with osteoporosis in the UK and the thousands of people affected by painful and debilitating broken bones every year. It also provides a wonderful chance for many for our local supporters and friends to celebrate together, so please come along and support us on this very special night."*

Tickets are available from **Bath Box Office** on 01225 463362 or online at [www.bathboxoffice.org.uk](http://www.bathboxoffice.org.uk). Tickets are priced at £20, £15 and £8. Concessions are available.

All of the money raised will go towards the National Osteoporosis Society.

For more information about the National Osteoporosis Society visit [www.nos.org.uk](http://www.nos.org.uk) or call 01761 471771.

### ENDS

#### Note for Editors:

#### Definition of osteoporosis

Osteoporosis is the fragile bone disease that causes painful, debilitating and sometimes fatal fractures, particularly of the wrist, hip and spine. The disease is characterised by low bone mass and deterioration of the micro-architecture of bone tissue leading to an increased risk of fracture. Bones are prone to break after a minor bump or fall. These broken bones are often referred to as fragility fractures.

#### About the National Osteoporosis Society

1. The National Osteoporosis Society is the only UK charity dedicated to ending the pain and suffering caused by osteoporosis
2. We are committed to helping people with osteoporosis live the lives they want to lead
3. We support researchers and healthcare professionals improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and fragility fractures
4. We want every person over the age of 50 who breaks a bone to be assessed and treated for osteoporosis
5. We are campaigning for better provision of Fracture Liaison Services across the UK because it is a proven way of preventing future fractures
6. We offer free support and information to people affected by osteoporosis and fragility fractures, including a help-line (0845 450 0230) that receives more than 13,000 enquiries a year.
7. We are a charity, mainly funded by individual donations and legacies. We do not receive money from the government.

#### Facts about osteoporosis

1. 1 in 2 women and 1 in 5 men, over the age of 50, will break a bone, mainly because of poor bone health.
2. Osteoporosis is very common. We estimate that 3 million people in the UK have osteoporosis and there are roughly 300,000 fragility fractures a year.
3. The combined cost of hospital and social care for patients with hip fractures alone amounts to more than £2.3 billion per year in the UK – that's approximately £6 million a day.
4. There are more hip fractures suffered by women in the UK than breast cancer diagnosed (Cancer Research, UK)

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