

## **Booking DWC - some important stuff to think about**

Dogs Without Collars try to suppress any prima donna tendencies and not ask for too much from those who lay on opportunities for them to play. However, there are several things which we request from people who are considering booking us ...

### **Costs**

Dogs Without Collars don't charge for their musical services as they believe that by playing for free they are enabling Churches and Charities to benefit financially. Should there be no suitable cause as the benefit from the evening, the band ask that a substantial donation be given to the Sudan Medical Link of the Diocese of Salisbury.

The one cost that the band have to ask is paid for is the cost of hiring a PA for the evening. DWC are not able to guarantee the same PA each time and so ask that hosts allow for between £50 and £100 for this purpose. The band will notify the host of the amount in advance of the concert and ask that the money is provided in cash and available on the night.

Any donations towards the bands travel expenses are always appreciated! At least one member of the band will usually be travelling a minimum of a 50 mile roundtrip for the concert.

The band ask that the staging of the concert is considered and a reasonable amount of space is provide for the band to work in (15' x 10' is the minimum). It is also requested that a good supply of three pin, 13 amp sockets are available.

### **Setting Up The Evening**

The band prefer a Friday evening to a Saturday, as the evening will finish after midnight for them and they all have to go to work on a Sunday!

The band and PA aim to arrive at the venue at about 6pm in order to set up and do a sound check.

Please advertise the evening as beginning at 7.30pm and that the doors will open at that time (not before). This enables the band to do a full sound check without the audience being there (which is preferable for both the band and the audience!). The band usually start playing at about 7.45pm.

The band usually play two sets: one lasting around 40-45 minutes of the sort of music that the audience will want to sit down and listen to (rather than to dance), hopefully without fingers in ears. The second set lasts around 75 minutes and is almost entirely the sort of music that we hope will make people get up and dance (a set list is available on the website) as opposed to get up and leave.

A mildly amusing powerpoint display is available if required and the band are able to provide a screen and a projector if required, although it helps us if the venue provides its own. The main question is that of working out where to show it in the venue!

The break between the two sets is usually between 20 and 30 minutes, depending on what is happening during the break. If a meal is being served, we would politely request that it is ready to be served as soon as possible after the first set ends (at about 8.30pm) in order to get through in time for the second set to start soon after 9.00am. Raffles take notoriously long to get through!!

The band always appreciate some refreshment (liquid or edible!) between the sets.

Please email the band ([dwc@bfpc.org.uk](mailto:dwc@bfpc.org.uk)) for further info or with any questions.