

PRESS RELEASE
10 October 2011

Kilkenny welcomes return of world-renowned 70-voice Welsh Choir for fundraising concert, Saturday 5th November

Kilkenny music lovers are in for a magical evening when the 70-strong all male Morryston Orpheus Choir from Wales makes a return visit to the Marble City on Saturday 5th November 2011 for a fundraising concert in aid of the Susie Long Hospice Fund and the Building of Hope Kenya Project 2012. The concert takes place at St John's Church on the Dublin Road and begins at 8pm. Tickets cost €20 and are available from The Book Centre, High Street, Kilkenny, The Newpark Hotel (056 7760500); Rollercoaster Records, Kieran St (056 7763669), Billy Murphy, Ballyfoyle (086 3262446) and members of the Susie Long Hospice Fund committee. Further details are available from www.susielonghospice.com

This concert by the Morryston Orpheus Choir follows their sell-out concert at St Mary's Cathedral, Kilkenny in 2009. Tickets for the concert at St John's Church are already selling well, so concert-goers are encouraged to buy their tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Often referred to as the unofficial ambassadors for Wales, the Morryston Orpheus Choir is one of Wales' oldest and most renowned choirs and is acclaimed internationally as a leading exponent of male choral singing. Their busy schedule takes them all over the UK and overseas to some of the major concert halls of the world, including **Carnegie Hall** in New York and **Sydney Opera House**, where they have received many standing ovations, and locations as diverse as North America, New Zealand, Taiwan and Dubai. The Choir has also performed at many international choral festivals, they represented Wales at the Seville Expo and they have recorded CDs with pop and rock musicians such as **The Alarm**, **T'Pau** and **Howard Jones**. Further info from www.morrystonorpheus.com

Although the Morryston Orpheus Choir is itself a registered charity and financially self-supporting, much of its work is devoted to assisting good causes at home and overseas, and the choir members are delighted to come to Kilkenny to support the Susie Long Hospice Fund, which is fundraising to build a 12-bed hospice in Kilkenny for the people of Kilkenny and Carlow, and the Building of Hope Project, which is building a school and residential home for blind, orphaned children in Mombasa, Kenya. Up to 20 volunteers from Kilkenny are travelling to Kenya in January 2012 to assist with this project. These volunteers have already raised funds for the construction materials for the centre and funds raised from this concert will go towards equipping the centre into the future.

Additional info:

Susie Long Hospice Fund

The Susie Long Hospice Fund (SLHF) was set up in October 2007 to provide the highest possible quality of end-of-life care for patients and their families through the establishment of a 12-bed hospice in Kilkenny, for the people of Kilkenny and Carlow. The Fund is meeting this challenge through fundraising, increasing awareness of the need and benefits of local hospice care and by lobbying Government for support. Donations can be made directly to the fund at AIB, High St, Kilkenny, Account No: 3462705, Sort code: 93-31-98. The Susie Long Hospice Fund is a registered charity, number CHY17950. Further details from www.susielonghospice.com

Building of Hope Project – Kenya 2012

The Building of Hope Project, an Irish based building charity, is calling on volunteers to travel to Mombasa, Kenya in January 2012 to build a new school and residential home for the blind children of Linkoni. Popular TV and radio presenter, Derek Davis is the patron of the charity and strongly urges anybody between the ages of 20 and 68 to give up ten days in January 2012 to travel to Kenya to assist in the building of the 15,000 square foot building which will house 189 children: "The blind children of Linkoni are in dire need of our help. The aim of this project is to take these children out of their current

squalor and provide them with the best possible setting to ensure they can learn skills, build confidence and eventually return to their communities”. The Building of Hope Project has enlisted the expertise of St Joseph’s Centre for the Visually Impaired in Drumcondra, Dublin to advise on the educational, clinical and residential needs of the students and training of staff. The registered charity has already built a hospice in Port Elizabeth, and a polytechnic in Linkoni with the assistance of almost 400 volunteers from Ireland. Further info from www.buildingofhope.org

ENDS