



**NEWS
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TICKETS FOR 'OLD FOLKS SHOW' AVAILABLE FROM FRIDAY 17 JANUARY 2025

The ever-popular 'Old Folks Show' takes to the Bridgwater Town Hall stage a month earlier than normal this year due to major refurbishment works commencing in March at this venue. The 3 night show runs from Thursday 27 February to Saturday 1 March and is organised by Bridgwater Gangs and Features.

The show has become a regular feature in the social calendar for Bridgwater's senior citizens and was originally designed to thank local pensioners for their continued support over the years, and for helping to keep the carnival spirit alive. This overarching principle remains to this day, and every year the free tickets are highly sought after by the over 60s of the town.

Over the years, the show has gone from strength to strength, and even though the show is less serious than the prestigious carnival concerts in terms of content and stage setting, the standards of singing and choreography are very similar. It also provides an opportunity for new club members to experience the thrill of taking to the stage, many for the very first time.

The show is organised by local carnivalite, Wayne Anker, with support from the Bridgwater Gangs and Features members. Local carnivalites also help with the stewarding, sound, lighting, compering, backstage arrangements, first aid and refreshments at the show.

Arthur Leigh, President of Bridgwater Gangs and Features, said: "Every year these tickets are highly sought after, and we would strongly encourage anyone who wants to attend, to collect their ticket asap to avoid disappointment, especially as we have less seating this year.

"There is absolutely no charge for the tickets, and we would like for those who are over 60 to come along and enjoy an evening with the Bridgwater Gangs and Features carnival clubs, local dance troupes and front of curtain acts".

Tickets for this year's *Old Folks Show* will be available to collect from the Carnival Centre, High Street, Bridgwater, on Friday 17 January between 10am and 12 noon. Any remaining tickets can be collected from the Carnival Centre during normal opening hours (Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm). Those collecting tickets should advise if attending in a wheelchair with a carer, or if a disability aid will be used.

A cash collection will be taken every night with all proceeds donated to nominated local charities. Since the Old Folks Show restarted in 2022 after the pandemic, the charity collection has raised over £3,000 for local charities