

# CCC AGM - 17 October 2024

## Apologies for absence

Geoff Budd  
Andy Robertson  
Caroline Horan  
Ruth Kemp  
Ian Abrey  
Harriette Purchas  
Andrew Farrow

## New Members

New members Louise (soprano) and Andrew (bass) Farrow were welcomed to the choir. Daisy Groet was welcomed back.

## Choir Manager's Report

Marie's report is reproduced here in full.

Firstly I would like to thank my fellow Committee members for all the hard work that they have done this year. They have been incredibly supportive whilst I was being rebuilt. As we have some new members since our last AGM let me introduce them (the committee members) and tell you what they do.

The choir could not function successfully without the work that each of them do. I think you too must be happy with the work they do as there have been no nominations for alternative candidates.

As you may remember we adopted a new constitution in March this year. According to this 1/3rd of the committee must resign every three years. So to comply with that Chris and I will resign this year. Should you wish to re-elect us we can be re-elected for a total of 3 three year terms.

The other members of the committee will stay in post and will be up for reelection in the future.

I think it goes without saying that appointing Calum as our musical director has been a great success. His enthusiasm and musical knowledge has made rehearsals enjoyable and productive. I think that the choir is improving and will go from strength to strength under his direction. So thank you Calum.

The concerts we have performed this year have I think been successful musically - I'll leave Calum to make that judgement. We have continued to attract good audiences which has contributed to our sound financial position. The concert in June and the one in September allowed us to contribute to the two churches that we are associated with. We were able to raise a total of £1050 for the roof fund at St Peters and £486 towards the Catholic Church.

We have also bought the Clavinova and have been able to allow for higher fees for musicians taking part in our concerts.

Membership has remained steady and we feel that the choir is about the right size. However we will always welcome good singers in any section but as I say each year we would like to recruit younger people, tenors and first sopranos. I think it would be helpful if we added a recruitment manager to the committee so I would welcome any one who feels they could take on this role.

Attendance has generally improved and of course it is important for ensuring that we are fully prepared for concert day. Our choir guideline state that 75% attendance is required to sing in a concert. Of course we recognise that people have health or family or work problems so if we are aware of these, this will taken into consideration when Calum makes the decision about singing in a concert.

In addition to the Committee there are other members of the choir who provide essential help with keeping the choir running.

Our website is vital to the way we communicate with the outside world. David Brown continues to do a great job as Webmaster despite having stopped singing. We need to look to the future and find someone to eventually replace David. I have asked if anyone would like to take on this role but had no response. Don't be shy!

Also big thank you to everyone who helps throughout the year. Setting up here each week. Setting up for concerts, preparing programmes, front of house for concerts, selling tickets organising parties etc. You know who you are and hopefully you know that what you do is greatly valued.

Finally thanks to you all. Paying your subs, attending rehearsals selling concert tickets are all essential to keeping the choir thriving.

## **Financial Report**

The treasurer's report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. A question was asked about the choir's charity status - Chris has started the application and it is work in progress. We will be able to gift-aid a percentage (as yet unknown) of subs.

The suggestion to keep subs at last year's level of £180 was agreed unanimously.

## **Musical Director's Report**

Calum thanked the choir, committee and helpers for a great year of music-making. He also thanked the choir for allowing the purchase of the new Clavinova, which had proved a great asset.

He hoped we had enjoyed the wide breadth of music we had sung. He enjoys getting requests from the choir as to what we would like to sing, even if those requests are not always complied with! He hopes to reflect the diversity of musical tastes within the choir in his programming.

## **Publicity Report**

Jane asked members if they all still required printed promotional material or had they gone over to purely digital promotion of our concerts. Printed material still very needed - and all sizes of poster and leaflet are still actively used. Jane requested that choir members are active in sharing choir posts on social media to spread the word about forthcoming concerts.

## **Election of Committee Members**

In accordance with our new constitution, Marie Brewer and Chris Sanders resigned from the committee, leaving 2 vacancies, for choir manager and librarian respectively.

Chris Sanders was proposed as librarian by Chris Watson and seconded by Faith Comminos.

Marie Brewer was proposed as Choir Manager by David Wilde and seconded by Bernie Haylett.

Both were voted on to the committee unanimously.

## **Future Concerts**

For our Easter concert we will be performing the Mozart Requiem. Concert date not yet set.

Summer concert (28 June) - possibly opera choruses.

## **Choir Party**

It was agreed that our traditional January choir party had run its course and would not be held going forward.

## **AOB**

A question was raised as to the physical whereabouts of the choir library. It is housed in Marie's barn at present. Calum has a list of the titles.

After Marie Brewer was thanked for chairing the meeting and managing the choir, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.