

It seems so long since I last wrote a newsletter and I hope this finds you all well. It has been a strange and frightening time and we all hope the worst is now behind us.

I was deeply saddened to think we will no longer have the contribution of Alistair Fraser-Moodie, he was a loyal choir member, a truly unique character and a good friend to many. We will acknowledge him at our first full concert by dedicating all proceeds to the Air Ambulance in his name. This was a cause that was very dear to him and it is ironic they they transported him on his final journey.

Covid has had massive implications for the Choir and we face changes in the short term, but hope to get back to 'normal' as soon as we possibly can.

Last week, David kindly invited all the officers to his beautiful garden for a socially distanced meeting to try and find a way we could still enjoy our choir in the interim. He has compiled a questionnaire which I hope you will take a look at and if you feel it is something you would like to still participate in, please could you complete it, print it and let me have it back by post so we are able to collate all the answers and find a way forward.

Our main hurdle before we are able to do anything else is to form a new committee. Currently this is what we have, as you can see we have several vacancies which we need to fill.

Please don't put your name forward for committee unless you are happy to take responsibility for a job. When we are back to normal, this is a 12 month commitment. It takes this long it takes to plan the concert! Currently some of these jobs will not be a working post, but, if and when we can restart, it is important we have someone committed to take them on.

We have traditionally met for committee meetings once every month, these are held at the Royal Derby Hospital in the early evening. We expect you to make yourself available to attend 10/12 meetings in the year. Committee member retire and are eligible to stand for re election, should they wish, every three years.

Chairman

Louise Hill - none singing

Minute secretary / music librarian / Vice Chairman

Elaine Finn

Membership secretary

Anna Cuthbert

Treasurer

Pauline Dunn - non singing

Auditor

Andrea Croud,
Accountant, Derby & Burton Hospital Charity.

Communications officer

Marie Gretton - non singing

Performance night coordinator, organising front of house.

(Non singing post)/ all things legal.

Mandy Cooling. - non singing

Fund raising, including acquiring prize draw prizes

Ann Loach

So these are the vacancies available:-

Rehearsal booking and point of contact for concert/rehearsal venue

Treasurers assistant on rehearsal nights

Ticket selling coordinator

(Coordinating prize draw/raffle selling and concert tickets)

Making music

representative.

(Making Music provide us with information and they are also our insurers)

Corporate Advertising and printing collection

David will remain as our Musical Director, he is not an official member of the committee as he doesn't have to retire and be re elected every 3 years, but he does attend all committee meeting and his help with all matters is invaluable.

I have attached David's questionnaire, please let us know your thoughts for the future of your choir.

Take care and stay safe.

Louise. X

Derby and Burton Hospitals Choir

June 2021.

1. How keen are you to sing in the Hospital Choir at the moment?

- a) I would like to sing as soon as it is allowed
- b) I prefer to leave it until next year
- c) I prefer not to sing in a choir for the foreseeable future

Answer (a/b/c):

2. What safety measures would you want for rehearsing this year or next?

- a) OK indoors without distancing once everyone has been vaccinated
- b) Indoors would be OK if there was 1m social distancing
- c) OK Indoors but I would need 2m social distancing
- d) OK indoors but everyone should sing with masks on that are suitable for singing
- e) Only outdoor singing feels safe for me

Answer (a/b/c/d/e):

3. Are you willing to sing if the choir is only small (e.g 30-50?)

- a) I am OK to sing in a small choir of 30
- b) I would only feel comfortable if there were at least 50
- c) I would only feel comfortable if there were at least 80

Answer (a/b/c):

4. We could do a small or large concert or just meet and sing for the moment. What are you willing to sing for?

- a) I would like to just sing with you even if we don't put on a concert this time (and contribute to rehearsal costs)

b) I am happy to sing in a small village hall style concert or whatever

c) I prefer to sing only when we are able to put on our usual big Christmas Concert

Answer (a/b/c)

5. For a small concert (or singing without a concert), are you willing to contribute to rehearsal costs?

a) Yes, lets just sing and see how it goes

b) No, we should make sure a concert covers all costs

Answer (a/b)

6. We may be the same size or we may be smaller - Do you have any suggestions for venues for concerts or rehearsals depending on how many of us wish to sing?

Answer:

7. What nights would you be available? But please bear in mind it might have to be a Friday due to building availability

Answer:

David

Please return to:

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