

## Scottish Chamber Choir AGM Minutes 27.09.2021 Stewart's Melville

<p>1. <b>Present:</b> All current committee members; further 20 ordinary members, Conductor Iain McLarty.</p> <p>2. <b>Apologies:</b> Adrienne, Vic</p>
<p>3. <b>Minutes of last AGM approved</b></p>
<p>4. <b>Matters arising:</b> Nil</p>
<p>5. <b>Chair's report:</b> Pauline McClellan: Despite another year of restrictions imposed on us by the Coronavirus we have managed to continue singing, albeit via Zoom. Iain has managed to keep us going unperturbed by any out-of-tune singing! I would like to thank Milda for scheduling the Zoom meetings and sending us our weekly reminders and to Martin for providing us with access to recordings of the rehearsals. We have also learnt a little about each other's taste in choral music and benefitted from a couple of very interesting workshops. Wilma MacDougall led an online workshop entitled 'Keeping your voice healthy during lockdown' in February and Dr David Allinson led a talk on 'Palestrina and choral perfection' in April. To complete our season, in June we even managed to hold a socially distanced rehearsal in an outdoor private garden in the New Town. I thought that this was a thoroughly enjoyable experience and it was lovely to see everyone again in person.</p> <p>We can now make plans for the future, which hopefully this year will come to fruition: Christmas Concerts in Greenbank Church and Roslyn Chapel, a March concert in Old St Paul's, and concerts in Roslyn Chapel and Limekilns in June. The Brahms Requiem joint concert plan with Calton Consort and Meadows Chamber Orchestra has been postponed until 2022.</p> <p>As I stand down from the position of chair I would like to thank all of the committee for giving of their time to choir business. Their hard work has made my job much easier. A special thanks to Milda, who is stepping down this year from her role as Membership Secretary. She has served on the committee, in different roles, for many years and fulfilled all of them with good humour, expertise and efficiency. Hopefully she will still be available for consultation purposes in the future!</p> <p>I would like to thank Iain once again for his valuable contribution to the choir. His quietly unflappable leadership style and his expert musicianship have served all of us very well indeed. Finally, a big thank you to you, the membership, for continuing to support the choir during lockdown. Let's hope for more live singing days ahead.</p>
<p>6. <b>Treasurer's report.</b> Graham Drew Accounts circulated. Examination of the circulated accounts will show the choir made a profit last year of just over £1,000.00. This is due to the continued support of the choir by its members during a very difficult period, for which we are grateful. The only expenditure was accounted for by MD fees; some music; the Zoom workshops we held, and our continued membership of Making Music.</p> <p>The Choir's financial position remains very healthy. Not shown in this year's accounts, but carried into next is the result of an eventual Gift Aid claim. Delayed due to protracted interaction with HMRC since I took over as treasurer, and the exercise of revalidating Gift Aid forms from the membership, a claim for the past 4 years was submitted immediately after this year (season) end. As a result approximately £4,200.00 has been received. Gift Aid will now revert to being claimed on an annual basis following</p>

the closure of the season's accounts. I would remind members to let me know of any change in their tax status that would affect our ability to reclaim Gift Aid on their membership fees.

For the coming year, subscriptions from the current membership will still approximately cover the anticipated costs of the Musical Director and general administration. On that basis, and anticipating that membership remains at least at its current level, the Committee does not propose any rise in the annual membership subscriptions – although with circumstances as they are, we expect to lose money on the concert accounts.

**7. Musical Director's report: Iain McLarty**



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**8. Publicity Secretary's report: Stéphanie Robin**

Nothing to report for this year due to the absence of concerts.

**9. Election of Office Bearers for Season 2020/21**

Julie Morrice and Brian Kerr have agreed to be co-chairs

Marjory Lobban has volunteered to be membership secretary

Neil Dawson will continue as concert secretary for the time being.

Treasurer: Graham Drew

Publicity Secretary: Stéphanie Robin,

Librarian: Valerie Holehouse,

Honorary Secretary: Marcia McDougall.

It would be good to have other people to come on to the committee; the committee would be happy to welcome anyone to meetings to see what is required .

**Charity trustees** Julie, Marjory, Graham, Stéphanie and Marcia

**Thanks were expressed by the choir for the leadership, enthusiasm and hard work provided by Pauline and Milda over many years of service to the choir.**

**Thanks too for the committee who have supported them, to Iain who helped us through the rehearsals on Zoom so expertly and to all of the choir for continuing to sing with the SCC. Thanks also to Martin for providing recordings of the Zoom rehearsals on Dropbox and to Jim for maintaining the website.**

Marcia McDougall, Secretary

4.10.21