

CHAIR'S REVIEW OF 12 MONTHS – WCCA AGM, 26 SEPT 2024

1. *Musical Leadership*

With interim MD's, Katie Rooney (15%) and mostly Alison Davies (85%) to year-end July we've had **another period of change, challenges and adaptation**. We have got through this and the new choir year has started VERY encouragingly.

Already, Katie and Victoria are **"raising the bar"**. They are setting new standards and expectations for learning & performance.

Musical leadership is settled for the foreseeable future within Katie & Victoria's service contracts..

Thanks go to Victoria for getting the "recruitment" of Katie over the line.

2. *Key changes*

Changes put in place after Mavis's retirement have been pretty much seamless – **thanks go to Jeannette** for taking over Mavis's duties, - and it's nice to still see Mavis front of house at concerts.

Music purchase/library using the PMLL service for music within Copyright regime has been a success (*PMLL = Printed Music Licensing Ltd*). We have invested in photocopying equipment and we're therefore self-sufficient in producing copyright music!!

3. *Looking Backwards – Concerts*

Another mixed bag:

Dec – although constrained by the layout of the Thornton Hough venue, the fund raise for WUTH Charity was a success.

April – the Lighthouse Church, Heswall worked well and the choir was concert ready in the nick of time.

July - at Trinity & Palm Grove Church, Oxton was a send-off concert for Alison we gave our best!! We remain grateful to Alison for keeping our choir going for the 23/24 choir year, and wish her well with her new choir, The Roundelay of Southport – which I understand she is enjoying.

4. Performance Group

Thanks to John T and the group for continuing to helping to keep the wheels turning during another challenging year. Concert themes & many of the suggested songs came from the PG's suggestions and, **at last**, we have achieved a consensus on the Dress Code!

Music repertoire will now be primarily led by Katie & Victoria, but feedback on concerts from the PG will continue to be valued.

5. Stability

Financials – in good shape, as you'll hear from the Treasurer...

Membership - still needs to **grow**

Musical Leadership – after 3 “send-off” for MD's we now, thankfully, are set fair for the foreseeable future

6. Looking Ahead

Sept '23 – “Objective to make WCC more appealing and to grow our membership.” More on this after the AGM.

And **lastly**, there's 2 other people deserving of **thanks: Nina and Jill**. The hours that they devote to the choir mostly go un-noticed, but we'd fold without their contributions.

CJG/25sept24/WCC review