

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2020

Contact address:

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The Trustees (the Committee members):

Miss Rita Hartley	President (appointed April 2011) Retiring May 2020
Mrs Lucy Devlin	Concert Secretary (Appointed November 2009 }Retired Dec 2019
Dr Pamela Harper	Treasurer(appointed May 2014)
Mr Ian Hunter	Programme Notes, Press Reports & Promotions
Mr John Leggate	Fundraising, Workshops & Education (appointed May 2012)
Dr Malcolm Moore	Bursary ,Refreshments&President Elect(appointed May 2014)
Mrs Isabel Wardrup	Flyer Distribution & Concert refreshments (appointed May 2016)
Mrs Rosemary Pitcaithly	Membership Secretary & Concert RefreshmentsMinutesSecretary until December 2019 Concert Secretary fromJanuary 2020 (appointed 2017)
Mr Archie Jamieson	Minutes Secretaryfrom Jan 2020, Fundraising AppointedOct 2019

Governing Document:

Founded in 1948, we were registered in 1977 as an Unincorporated Association. Our purposes and administration arrangements are as set out in our Constitution. Our supporters elect members annually to an Executive Committee.

Appointment of Trustees:

The Committee members are deemed to be the Trustees. They are elected at the Annual General Meeting and normally serve for a period of three years with a possible further three years before standing down for at least one year unless there are insufficient nominations to replace them.

Charitable Purposes:

Our purposes are to promote interest in the arts in Perth & Kinross and surrounding areas by organising annual programmes of chamber music recitals open to all, and by encouraging local schools to provide good musical education.

President's Report

In the year ending 31st March 2020 we were 'Celebrating the String Quartet'. We collaborated with Horsecross Arts for their String Quartet Day held at Perth Concert Hall on 6th October 2019. This was an outstanding day of music making by the Navarra and Castalian String Quartets. The evening concert that day featured both quartets playing the Mendelssohn Octet. and that concert was designated as the opening concert of our season. For that concert we paid Horsecross one sixth of our subscription income £ 414

but had no other financial outlays. Despite the high quality playing the whole day was very poorly attended.

The season continued with more music of the highest quality from the Brodsky Quartet, Trio Orfeo. James Gilchrist and Anna Tilbrook and the Engegard Quartet. Sadly the last concert of the season by the Tunnell Trust sponsored Fitzroy Quartet was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic but it is hoped to re-schedule this for later in 2020

We are fortunate in being able to engage professional musicians of an extremely high standard who give outstanding performances. All of the artists enjoy our hospitality and show their enthusiasm when they play

4 concerts took place in St. John's Kirk where musicians are always impressed by the spectacular setting and acoustics. We are indebted to the excellent team at the Kirk who so willingly provide the exact lighting and staging for the performers,

We welcomed Archie to the committee and he has taken on the Minutes Secretary role as well as some of the fundraising role. Lucy retired at the end of 2019 from her post as Concerts Secretary and we thank her for her years of devoted service. Our thanks to Rosemary for picking up the Concert Secretary role along with her Membership Secretary role. Thanks to Ian for the most useful programme notes and his excellent press reviews of the concerts and to Pam for keeping us straight financially. Many thanks to John for his hard work in fund-raising and in organising the workshops. Thanks to Malcolm for his expert organisation of the Bursary Competition and for agreeing to become President Elect Thanks also to Malcolm, Rosemary and Isobel for providing concert refreshments, and also to Isobel for the miles she has travelled to deliver concert flyers around Perthshire

As you can see there are many diverse roles on the committee and we are very keen to welcome new Trustees. It would be possible to shadow an existing Trustee to discover all the details of their particular role.

A special thanks also to Horsecross who advertise our programme in the Concert Hall brochure and also sell tickets for our Concerts. Concerts are also publicised on the Chamber Music Website.(perthchambermusic.org.uk) local press and BBC Radio 3. We thank Rob for his work looking after the website

Many thanks as well to all subscribers and supporters of Perth Chamber Music Society

The 2020-2021 programme is complete but in the current circumstances there is great uncertainty as to when concerts can restart.

Thanks to Retiring President

The Trustees all wish to thank our Retiring President Rita for her many years of devoted service to the Society

Membership and Attendance at Concerts

This was the sixth year of our partnership with Horsecross Arts and their publicity and ticketing facilities continued to be of great benefit. Sadly this was the last year of such collaboration as Horsecross felt their priority has now to be the organisations who actually perform at Horsecross. This year the average concert attendance has risen slightly from 61 to 63, of whom on average 38 were members. The consistently excellent quality of our concerts does deserve a much larger audience. Despite the very generous discount offered on season tickets there was a slight fall in membership numbers from 52 to 50 this year. There were also an average of 11 single tickets per concert sold at the door and an average of 9 tickets per concert purchased through Horsecross. Over the season 8 children attended on the 'Kids go Free' scheme

Finances

Despite the initial collaboration with Horsecross and the themed season both single ticket sales and subscriptions were reduced. This and the loss of income from the final concert contributed to the loss in the concert fund. We are grateful to the Gannochy Trust,, Enterprise Music Scotland, Tay Charitable Trust and Souter Charitable Trust. for their generous financial support. of the Concert Fund, The £2000 grant from Gannochy was released from the Skipton Building Society Reserves for use this season.

The Education Fund's positive balance is the result of the postponement due to Covid-19 of Schools' workshops in March and the payment of grants in advance for the now postponed school workshops planned for May 2020. We plan to re-schedule all these workshops late in 2020

We are grateful to National Lottery Awards for All, the Thomson Trust, the RJ Larg Family Trust, The Lochelbank Community Fund, the Guildry Incorporation of Perth, Enterprise Music Scotland and Carbon Financial Partners Ltd for their generous financial support to the Education Fund

At the time of preparation of the year end accounts, one of the cheques issued for the Bursary had not been cashed and this, together with an outstanding contribution to the Concert Fund for tickets will be included in the Accounts for the 20/21 Season.

The Committee expenses and all other expenses are always carefully reviewed to allow these costs to be as low as possible without compromising the running of the Society.

We offer our grateful thanks to our Independent Examiner, Mr Donald McDonald for his excellent work and helpful advice.

Jubilee Bursary Report 2020.

The Jubilee Bursary competition was held on 15th March 2020 at North Inch Campus in front of an audience of members of PCMS and parents and accompanists of the competitors

Two judges, Prof. Stephen Broad and Heather Nicoll, both from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland adjudicated, and they commented on the very high standard of the youngsters and their enjoyment at the afternoon.

Luke Mitchell [Perth High School] had dropped out with a bad cold which he was reluctant to pass on, which was noble of him. The winner of the first prize was Jessica McFarlane [Morrison's Academy] - Trumpet, and Maya Christie [Community School of Auchterader]- Violin won the second prize. Both played superbly and were worthy winners. Ellie Nielsen [Voice] and Madeleine Sayce [Violin] both from Strathallan School were also commended by our judges.

We wish to also thank Rosemary who served refreshments at the interval and Ian who dealt with the certificates and monies

We are grateful to the Jimmie Cairncross Charitable Trust and Concorde Music for their financial support.

School Workshops and Community Events

The 19-20 year began with a flurry of music workshops in June. First off was the Children's Concert by Pure Brass to launch the Bridge of Earn Summer Gala. This was followed by two hectic days of events by Arctic Winds and Manchester-based quartet A4 Brass. Between them they visited five primary schools, each time playing to whole school audiences. The schools were: Balhousie, North Muirton, Tulloch, Methven and Dunbarney (Bridge of Earn).

The visit was linked to the Education Department's Summer Music initiative, an indication of the close association PCM's programme has with the school authorities in the Region.

An exciting programme was then planned taking professional musicians to 12 venues: 2 Secondary schools, 5 Primaries, 2 Special Needs schools, 2 village halls and 1 play park.

The first 3 took place in November 2019. The Brodsky Quartet played and talked to almost 500 pupils at Kinross High School and 2 of its feeder primaries. A week later, the Agnew/Lazarretti flute and guitar duo spent a day entertaining 50 children and young people with special needs at Fairview and Robert Douglas schools.

Sadly the other 9 workshops scheduled for March and May 2020 then became the casualties of the Coronavirus shutdown.

More optimistically:

- every effort will be made to reschedule the postponed events next season
- a meeting has been held in Dunkeld to discuss ways of developing PCM's workshops to reach more schools in Highland Perthshire
- a proposal is under discussion to restructure and strengthen the Workshop Programme in the run-up to PCM's 75th anniversary in 2023

The workshops began in 2011 and have now taken live music to an estimated 3,500 children and young people in 32 of the Region's 80+ schools. This is both an achievement and a clear indicator of how much remains to be done.

Policy on Reserves

Although the Reserve Fund may be called upon to make good a shortfall in any particular season its primary purpose is to fulfil our existing contracts with musicians for a full season should the Society ever need to be wound up., The Reserve Fund stands at £14, 600 and £2600 will be used in Season 20/21. This will return the fund to a level of the same order as our annual turnover.

Trustee Expenses

Trustees are entitled to claim expenses incurred while carrying out Trustee duties:- for example postage, stationery, concert refreshments, travel or fees of meetings attended on behalf of the Society.

Archive

An archive of papers from Perth Chamber Music Society has been established at the Archive Department of AK Bell Library to which anyone can contribute papers pertaining to the Society.

We would invite all who have any such papers to consider donating to the Archive to help to preserve the history of the Society..

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Date</u>
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