



Faringdon Singers, Annual General Meeting 22nd October 2020.

Chairman's Report 2019-20

My report this year is much shorter than usual because of the Covid restrictions which put paid to all rehearsals and concerts after 12th March 2020 and the social activity planned at the end of the summer term. At the time of writing there is little hope of a return to normal until the Spring 2021 at the earliest.

The Christmas 2019 concerts were held in Ashbury Village Hall and the Church of the Blessed Hugh, Faringdon. No major work was performed at the two venues but a variety of shorter works including two motets by Mozart, Stanford's Magnificat in B flat, 4 carols by John Ridgway then some Christmas themed readings read by Meg Greenwood and a wide selection of carols by John Rutter, David Willcocks, Tchaikovsky, Walford Davies, Peter Hurford and Richard Rodney Bennett, with soloists from the choir and audience participation in the well-known carols. Both concerts were well attended and appreciated by the audiences. We were made particularly welcome in Ashbury Village Hall.

Haydn's Creation was the single work to be sung at the Spring concerts in St.Mary's church, Buckland and All Saint's Church, Faringdon. Rehearsals commenced in January and good progress made, but the nation-wide Covid 'lockdown' imposed by the government put an abrupt halt to all our activities. Our last rehearsal was on Thursday 12th March, agonisingly close to our planned concert dates on 28th and 29th March. I note from the attendance register that there were 38 members of the choir for the winter term and approximately the same number for the Spring term 2020, both with a high attendance rate.

My thanks again to the Committee:

Janet Sheil for collecting, distributing and returning music scores hired from Oxfordshire Libraries

Karen Vogt for advertising our concerts through the local media

Carol Griffin for her role as treasurer

Charlotte Holley for taking the minutes at committee meetings

Richard Maw for his help in the distribution of musical scores from the Singers' library

Maureen Pendlebury for her help in organising concerts

and - Sjoerd Vogt for the maintenance of our website and distribution of information to choir members

Finally I would like to thank Terence for his continued dedication, enthusiasm and support especially after the disappointment of the cancelled Spring and Summer concerts..... and of course, all you singers!

Carl Oberman

October 2020

Monies raised for charities at the Christmas concerts 2019

£300 for the Hall and the Church at Ashbury. £338.49 for CRUSE at the Catholic Church, Faringdon