

Members update - committee meeting Monday 13th April 2015

Present: Cathie Clifford, Aisling Fahy, Carmel Hamilton, Fiona Lennon, Maura Morgan, Una Murphy and Joe Mc Donald.

Apologies: Pat Clinton and Jim Slater.

Choir attendance: overall this has been good, however some members have missed a large number of practices and in accordance with the choir guidelines it was decided that the following text would be sent by Fiona on behalf of the committee

“Rehearsals resume on Wednesday 15th April at 7pm sharp. If you have not been a regular attendee since Christmas, you must attend all rehearsals (including the workshop on Saturday 25th April) if you want to take part in the concert”

It was noted that a few members have made their apologies as they are not available for the workshop as they had prior arrangements etc booked.

Sunday 10th May 2015, Concert in St Joseph’s Redemptorists Church

- Wednesday 15th Redemptorists Senior choir will join us at 8pm for a run through of Faure. The choirs will be mixed and seating arrangements will be decided on the night. It was suggested that the men would be in the middle.
- Saturday 25th April workshop, 10.00am to 3.00pm, St Louis School: Una will check out parking arrangements, security issues can arise if additional gates are open. While the choirs will be asked to take along their own refreshments, Carmel will take a flask of tea and coffee. Auditions for the men’s solo will take place then. It was agreed by the committee to invite Fionuala Quinn’s singing coach Eugene to help Una and Trevor with the audition process if he is available, Una will see to this. It was also agreed that the successful person/persons and Briege (soloist for Pieu Jesu) would be offered the opportunity to avail of a singing lesson from Eugene.
- Fionuala Quinn has been invited to sing as a soloist under the choir’s tradition of supporting young soloists. She will sing a piece from Phantom of the Opera, this will necessitate some staging, Una suggested the riser we used before and she will ask Jim about this.
- Saturday 9th May Rehearsal times cannot be given until we see when the church is available, it is hoped that Trevor will have the organ available then.
- Helpers will be needed for the steps and stage setup, Jim usually has a team and some additional helpers. We will also need people to do the door and to sell programs and act as ushers. The Redemptorists may be able to help with this. Joe will follow up on this. Members who are not available to take part in the concert will be asked if they are available to help.
- Tickets €15 (reduced rate for students/children €5): Joan Murphy is looking after ticket sales on behalf of the choir.
- Programme: Cathie advised that the cut off date for information for the programme is Thursday 30th April. Pat has a fair bit of the programme material done and will give Trevor a reminder about the rest of it. To date we have no advertisements for the programme, ¼ page €25 and ½ page €50, full page €100. Cathie will send a text

reminder as she needs them ASAP, the Redemptorists will also be asked again, we need 10/12 ads (€500 to cover the cost) otherwise we will have to go with a small programme.

- Advertising Facebook is working well as both choirs are promoting the concert. There is a form to be completed for Denis for Create Louth so that we can advertise there. Una will ask Trevor for a piece about the organ restoration. Cathie will contact Margaret Roddy about a piece for the paper.
- Uniforms: it was agreed that Setanta will wear their usual uniform throughout the concert. Ladies all black full length dress / skirt or dress trousers, shoulders covered and cream corsage, men black dress suit, white shirt with black dickie bow. It was not decided whether all scores should be covered in black paper.
- Choir programme: Our own pieces will be sung without music.
- Jim will be asked to book McGeoughs for refreshments after the concert.

Website

Una and Cathie have updated the website with a slide show of the Bursary and a background of music. It is hoped to do something similar for the New York trip. Care must be taking with regard to rights; some items may only be available on the Member's section.

Table Quiz

This fundraiser has been postponed until our next choir year.

Choir year 2015/2016

The only item on the choir schedule is the Prague trip. Committee members will ask members how they would feel about working with Brian McKay again, this time it would be very different as we would be approaching Brian for his input and not with a pre decided programme. We also have to look at what our audience wants; including some popular modern new pieces was suggested.

Members are asked to submit any suggestions for our next choir year via the website by using the member's Blog or direct to a committee member or their section rep. We need feedback before the AGM which is on Wednesday 27th May 2015.

AOB

- All Membership Subscriptions should be paid in full by now, if not the member should talk to Jim ASAP.
- The AGM will be held on Wednesday 27th May. Jim is standing down as treasurer and it was suggested that this role be divided to a purely financial role with perhaps the section reps collecting all subscriptions at the beginning of the choir terms in September and January when they are due. Due to personal circumstances Aisling and Fiona will also be standing down from their respective roles at the end of this choir year.

Next meeting Monday 27th April 2015, Ballymascanlon Hotel at 7 pm