

Setanta Committee Meeting

9th January 2017, Ballymascanlon Hotel 7pm

Present: Una Murphy, Pat Clinton, Cecilia Coyle, Carmel Hamilton, Michael McCabe, Joe McDonald, Maura Morgan, Mary Murphy, Murt Ó Séaghdha.

Apologies:

2018 40th Anniversary Plans

- The planned second meeting with DkIT did not go ahead, as on second thoughts it was likely to be a waste of time. Instead Una spoke to Fr Cusack to ask for the Redemptorist Church as a venue. He is currently so preoccupied with the current major renovations, and with more still to come, that he wouldn't make a commitment for February 2018. However he promised to review it with his advisors. An answer is expected in the next few days. If this is negative, the next approach will be to St Patrick's Cathedral.
- In either event we will then get back to Anthony Long of the RTE Concert Orchestra about finding an available conductor. Only then can we determine a concert programme.
- As previously mentioned, we intend to continue the year with a trip to a choral festival in spring 2018, probably to Verona, and then a cabaret style concert in October in the Crowne Plaza.

Choir Accompanist

- Una was in discussion with one good prospect, but he then got a job offer in Dublin that would prevent him accepting. So the search continues, with a number of leads being pursued.
- Meanwhile rehearsals of the 4 new pieces are going well, with Grace accompanying where required and the unaccompanied pieces providing good practice in tuning.

Keyboard

- The grant scheme from Music Network Ireland that we hoped to avail of has proved unattractive – very little on offer, lots to do in the application, many criteria that we don't meet. Meanwhile prices are falling. So the replacement decision will be put on hold for the moment.

Swedish Choir May Concert

- Carpe Vocalis choir in the small Swedish town of Skene, who contacted us in the first place, have responded enthusiastically to our proposal for a joint concert during their visit in May, from 4th to 7th. They booked flights for 28 of their members and asked us to advise on accommodation, as well as organising the concert venue etc.
- We contacted Cór Cairlinne to join us in this concert, hoping to use the Carlingford Heritage Centre as the venue on either Friday 5th or Saturday 6th May. They agreed, but that venue is unavailable on those dates. Carpe Vocalis have decided to look for accommodation in Carlingford so we will now look for an alternative venue there.
- The general format will be for each of the three choirs to sing for about 20 minutes and then sing a couple of pieces together. In our case that would include the 4 pieces we are currently rehearsing, adding some Irish pieces such as Óró and Sally Gardens, as well as other recent

ones such as Sandman.

We will arrange a social evening together to follow the concert. Venue TBD.

- Costs of venue etc will be borne by the Irish choirs, but we may also sell admission.

Krakow Trip Autumn 2017

- Maura got details from a Dublin group travel company of a possible trip to Krakow in late September - take part in rehearsals and then performance of Mozart's Requiem with full orchestra, soloists and other choirs (a total of 80-100).
- The duration is 6 days (5 nights), 26/09 – 01/10 and would cost €630 based on 48 travelling. This includes a full sight-seeing programme with 3 guided tours.
- Maura is to ask for cost estimates for smaller numbers travelling.
- The proposal will be put to the choir to assess the level of interest.
- **Please note: This trip would only involve a small number of choir members, therefore no formal preparation of the Requiem would take place during normal rehearsal times. Music and rehearsal tapes could be made available but the onus would be on each individual to learn their own parts!**

Website, Attendance, Membership

- It is recognised that much of the information and photos on our website needs updating.
- We welcome 4 newcomers to the choir, between sopranos and altos.
- All existing members are fully paid up.

Next Meeting: Monday 27th February, Ballymascanlon Hotel, 7pm