MINUTES OF HRS COMMITTEE MEETING Z31

Friday February 23rd 2024 at 7pm by Zoom

Present : Penny Smith (chair), Pippa Belas, Jean Campbell (vice chair & publicity), Franceska Dante (first half of meeting), Angie Jones (concert manager).

1. Apologies : Angela Barnes, Andy Cordery (treasurer), Helen Hooker (musical director), Alison Raines

2. Minutes of Z30 January 11th 2024 were agreed.

3. Matters arising : none that would not be covered by the agenda.

4. Outreach Programme

1. January 23rd Boundary Oak School : the afternoon had gone very well and been greatly enjoyed by the children, staff and HRS players.
2. Funtington Primary School at West Ashling, nr Chichester, appeared to have a recorder club with a teacher, Mrs Sue Cork. Jean would investigate whether the school would be interested in a visit from the HRS Travelling Bazaar.

5. 2024 & 2025 Concerts and Events

1. The concert at St George's Whyke in Chichester on June 28th was confirmed and would appear in the Festival of Chichester brochure. Penny had created two fliers which she would send to Committee members for comment.
2. In connection with this, Jean had emailed the Mayor of Chichester's office with an invitation to the Mayor and Mayoress to attend. The outcome was still pending, but the Mayor's Office had asked whether HRS would be interested in participating in a musical day planned for June 29th in Priory Park and in the historic Guildhall there. Further details would be sent from the Mayor's Office in due course, when Committee could discuss the option, which might provide useful publicity.
3. The proposed December 15th Christmas concert in St Nicholas Church, Hilsea, was not going to be possible because of imminent building work.
4. With Helen's availability dates in mind we propose instead:
    1. a Spring concert on Sunday February 16th 2025. This was agreed.
    2. that the Open Playing Day on Saturday July 14th should move to Saturday September 14th in order to kick-start the new term. This was also agreed.
        1. It was suggested that the day might be treated as a 'workshop day' where a longer symphonic piece (eg by Stephen Watkins or Sören Sieg) might be rehearsed and then played through at the end. This could be a big attraction to players from other areas and/or orchestras. Penny would discuss the suggestion with Helen.
5. Other possible concert venues and programmes were discussed. For example :
    1. An afternoon concert at Holy Trinity Church Gosport that was independent of their Sunday concerts. Angie would enquire about this.
    2. St James Road Methodist Church, Southampton

3. St Mary’s Church, Liss
4. Shared concerts with, for example, the Lowry Girls or Portsmouth Baroque Choir
5. A concert at St George’s Church Whyke in Chichester shared with the Vicar (of St G's) who might be invited to play the very fine organ.

6. Recording rehearsals

1. The principle and effectiveness of recording at rehearsals were still under consideration.

7. Subscriptions

1. Only 3 subscriptions were still outstanding and would be followed up.
2. HRS would donate £22 to Music in Portsmouth as a contribution to publicity costs. Andy to set up.

8. Player Information Leaflets

1. These would be sent out to new players applying to join HRS via the website. (Current players have received a courtesy copy.)
2. As enquiries and applications could now be made via a direct link to Penny from the website, responses can be quick and efficient.

9. AOB

1. Penny is considering ways of refreshing the HRS History website information and will liaise with Bob.
2. It was agreed to discuss with Helen a new photo of HRS for publicity purposes.
3. It was suggested that Robin Bigwood might be the right person to approach in future for videos of HRS in concert. As well as being a musician, Robin specialises in photography and video production for musicians and performance-related projects.
4. With some time in hand, Committee returned to the list of HRS Wishes for the Future made at the beginning of 2023 and was pleased to note that many of the 'wishes' had already been achieved or were well underway.
5. The idea of an event involving the Ukrainian community in Chichester was raised again and various ways of doing this were suggested. It was agreed to keep this in mind and try to action.

Next meeting Z32: Friday May 3rd at 7.00pm by Zoom

The meeting closed at 8pm.
Jean Campbell
February 23rd 2024