



## **Committee Meeting Monday 30 April 2018**

Present: Colin Cameron (Chair), Kirsty Allan, Mark Evans, Moira McKendry, Judith Neil, Bill Noblett.

**1. Welcome and Apologies:** Colin welcomed everyone. He had received apologies from Ewing Wallace. He informed the Committee that, as Balfron Church will be closed for the next three weeks for redecoration, rehearsals will be held in Killearn Kirk Halls on these dates.

**2. Minutes** of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were accepted as correct

### **3. Matters arising from meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Of the three advertisers who had not paid for their advert in the Christmas Concert programme, Colin has now received two payments, but one is still outstanding, despite numerous attempts to recoup the money.

### **4. Financial report**

The Strathpeffer Highland Hotel is paid in full for our trip on May 18-20<sup>th</sup>. Ewing is now unable to go and Bill has negotiated a 50% refund for the room.

Bill aims to have the Choir annual accounts available before the Strathpeffer trip.

BN

### **5. Reviews of Spring Concert and Coffee Morning**

#### Spring Concert

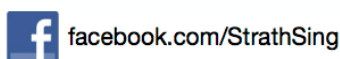
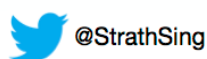
Mark was quite happy with the whole concert and everyone felt that the Rutter in the second half had had a stunning opening. The concert was very much enjoyed by the good-sized audience, although not everyone had been happy with the use of the organ instead of an orchestra. Some felt that the afternoon rehearsal had been taxing, which may have affected energy levels at the start of the concert. These recovered well, particularly in the second half.

#### Coffee Morning

This was very well attended and good feedback was received about the musical items in particular. The catering team did an excellent job and the stalls and raffle made great contributions to the final, very satisfactory total of £886.

There was discussion about increasing the entrance charge as some of the customers had felt it was too low. However, it was decided to leave it at £3 for the time being. Use of a microphone was suggested for the soloists as some people at the back had struggled to hear. This may be tried next year (although it was tried in the past without great success), or perhaps the seating arrangement could be different with the singers being more centrally positioned.

All in all, it was a very good team effort and an enjoyable social occasion.



Due to the success of the Coffee Morning held at this later date (after Easter) it was suggested that this could become its regular time slot. If so, a rehearsal of the music for the event could be held on the Monday beforehand. No final decision was made.

## **6. Diary Matters**

### Strathpeffer/Badenoch trip May 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>

We discussed the schedule for The Highland Tour. As Penny is unable to accompany us on our trip, our accompanist for the rehearsals and the trip will be Kristine Donnan.

Colin travelled north last weekend to hear the Badenoch Chorale concert in Kingussie Church, and this had been very useful. He had met the conductor, John Crombie, and got a feel for the choir which is about 30 strong and noted that they use members of their choir as soloists. He also visited St Bride's Church, Newtonmore, where we will be singing on the Sunday. This is a modern, flexible space with good acoustics with both a piano and organ. We will be provided with a two course lunch (at £10 per head) at the Golf Club, which is a few hundred yards from the church. Colin met the Golf Club secretary.

In the light of Colin's trip, it was felt that there should be an official choir mileage rate. It was decided to set this at 45p per mile.

Colin will draw up a tour schedule for the choir.

CC

### Come and Sing at Balfron High School

Bill will have a meeting about this event with Greg Ratcliffe, PT Music, on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Greg is very enthusiastic and already has an active choir at the school. He is also keen for some of his students to become engaged with the Strathendrick Singers. There will be no cost for the use of the school. It was felt that Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 would be a suitable date and it was suggested that a social event (eg. a barbecue) might be added on. Mark would like to meet Greg at a later date to discuss the event, and wondered if he might do a workshop with the school choir before the 'Come and Sing'. We want to involve both the general public and the school students. The event will be publicised through Social Media as well as through notices in the school and local communities. Bill was asked to request funding for the event through Stirling Council's Community Pride Fund.

BN/ME

### A.G.M.

This will be held on Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018. There will be a short rehearsal followed by the A.G.M. and light refreshments. The new catering committee of Christine Hunter, Julia Cross, John MacDonald and Philip Gaskell will be taking over at that point from Moira and Kirsty, who have served for four years. Colin thanked Moira and Kirsty very much for all their hard work. It was felt that the new committee might divide up the various events requiring catering between them, to lighten the load.

Christine will be asked to join the Choir Committee, as the Catering lead person, and she can then also replace Moira as the soprano representative. However an alto representative will be required to replace Kirsty.

**LATER:** Annette Rogers has agreed to become the Alto rep.

### Future Dates

Carol Singing at The Smiddy, Blair Drummond (suggested dates Saturdays 1<sup>st</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> December) Colin has contacted the manager, who will be happy to host us, and he will confirm a date with her. A keyboard will be required and Mark will aim to be available to conduct.

CC

Monday September 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2018	Choir AGM and start of term
Sunday December 9 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Christmas Concert in Gartmore Village Hall
Friday December 14 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Christmas Concert in Killearn Kirk (Penny will not be available to play).
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Spring Concert

There will be no rehearsal during the school October holiday on October 15<sup>th</sup> 2018.

### **A.O.B.**

Due to changes in the General Data Protection Regulations which take effect on May 25<sup>th</sup> this year, a letter will be sent to Choir Members informing them of the need to opt-in to receiving any emails from the choir which do not relate directly to the core business of the choir. Judith will collate the responses and hold a separate mailing list of those who have opted-in.

JN

### **Date of Next Meeting**

This will be the AGM on Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018