



## Newsletter

Issue 4  
January 2020

Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> issue of Perth & Kinross Music Foundation's Newsletter.

This issue brings you up to date with what we have been up to over the last 6 months, and also gives you advance notice of what is planned over the next 6 months.

### **What have we been up to over the last 6 months:**

First up - on Tuesday **17 September 2019** we held a **Quiz Night**. Joint Quiz Masters for the evening were Jason Blyth and Dave Findlay who had set some very challenging, but fun, questions. The evening was sponsored by Errochty Financial Services, and 13 teams took part. The winners were a team calling themselves "The B Side" and they managed a score of 82 out of a possible 100. The final proceeds added to the Foundation's bank account after all expenses had been settled was £545, so a very successful and enjoyable evening on all sides was declared.

Following our earlier success in securing no further fee increases until after the next Council elections in 2022, we have also been successful (along with partner charity Perth Youth Orchestra) in securing agreement with Perth & Kinross Council that no child who applies for IMS tuition will be refused access due to their parents being in debt to the Council, provided that the family can evidence to the Council that they have applied to PKMF for funding support. This decision by PKC is based on the fact that in recent years, PKMF has fully funded all applications made to it for financial support, and therefore, by allowing such young people to access music tuition, will not result in any increased debt due by the family to PKC. It also supports our objective of "**letting all our children play**" and prevents potential exclusion from the IMS service due to family debt issues with PKC.

Over the last 6 months we have also continued our close work alongside IMS staff to promote greater inclusion in the participation of IMS tuition by children from disadvantaged schools where possible. This work will continue to promote awareness of the IMS Service, and the existence of the Foundation, to support applications from financially challenged households, towards the cost of fees associated with their children's music tuition. In addition, we will continue to work with IMS staff, to support the widening of the music tuition offer to the young people of Perth & Kinross schools wherever possible.

### **What are our plans for the next 6 months and beyond?**

Our next fundraising venture will be our **annual concert** at the North Inch Community Campus, in North Muirton, Perth on **Wednesday 4 March 2020 at 7.30pm**. This year the evening will showcase the musical talents of the Perth & Kinross Elementary String Orchestra, the Perth & Kinross Central Groups Choir, pupils from the new Bertha Park High School, individual pupils from other schools across Perth & Kinross, the Perth & Kinross Percussion Ensemble, and Perthshire Youth Brass. The aim of this evening each year is to give young people (some of whom will be receiving financial support from the Foundation) an opportunity to

perform in front of a keen listening audience of parents, relatives, family, and friends. For some of the youngest, this will be their first experience of playing in public. We hope to repeat the almost “full house” audience we had in 2019, so please do try to come along and support our children to play.

In May 2020 some members of Perthshire Brass, and hopefully some supporters of the Music Foundation, are taking part in a sponsored cycle ride from Perth to Ecclefechan in memory of the late George Annan, who as you know, was a founder member of both the Music Foundation and Perthshire Brass. The participants have agreed that the proceeds of this event will benefit both the Music Foundation and Perthshire Brass, so do visit the just giving website page [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/perth-ecclefechan-charity-cycle](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/perth-ecclefechan-charity-cycle) if you wish to make a donation and support both organisations.

Following the successful **Quiz Night** in September 2019, we have already got our 2020 Quiz Night booked for **Thursday 17 September 2020, again** in the Civil Service Club in Perth. Please put this date in your diary and get thinking about whether you and a group of your friends can make up a team. It promises to once again be a great fun evening. Further details will be in the next Newsletter in Summer 2020.

All charities are always looking at new ways to raise funds to support their objectives, and supplement their funds. If you have any fundraising ideas for us to try, do let us know and we will consider such an event in the future.

### **Our Finances**

In the current Foundation financial year to 30 June 2020 we have thus far been successful in securing £15,000 grant funding awards from a number of local Charitable Trusts, and there are still some applications outstanding, pending decisions of the Trustees of other Trusts. We have also had confirmation of future years' grant funding from a couple of Charitable Trusts which makes our forward planning for the coming academic years much easier in the knowledge of already having secured some funds (subject to us meeting the various conditions of the grant awards given to us in the current year).

A full copy of our final accounts for the 2018/19 financial year can be found on our website at [www.pkmf.org.uk](http://www.pkmf.org.uk)

In September 2019 we were delighted to receive a generous donation from Perth City Operatic Group. This donation was, however, tinged with sadness as it came on the back of that Group's Committee deciding to disband the Group due to a lack of members to keep it running. Whilst the Music Foundation gained financially as a result of this decision, the musical scene in Perth and Kinross will be much poorer culturally with the loss of such a long established group.

Around the same time we were also very pleased to receive a donation from local choir Encore, who have long been very valued supporters of the Music Foundation.

In December 2019, many of the the young people of Perth & Kinross IMS Service, supported by their IMS tutors, took part in the annual Childline Christmas Concert in Perth Concert Hall. As usual there was a packed house for this evening of happy and joyous music. At this time, we are still waiting to hear how much of a donation the Music Foundation will receive as a result of our partnership agreement with NSPCC signed earlier in 2019.

As you can see from the above information, the grant awards, our fundraising efforts, and other personal donations received from our sponsors, friends, and supporters, are very much welcomed, and indeed necessary.

We now have 24 “Friends of the Foundation”. These are people who have invested in the work of the Foundation by signing up to an annual/monthly subscription.

The Trustees would like to say a huge thank you to all our funders, sponsors and supporters. If you know of anyone else who might be interested in becoming a “Friend”, or simply make a one-off donation, please ask them to get in touch with either the Secretary or Treasurer via our website.