



## Newsletter

Issue 7  
July 2021

Welcome to the 7<sup>th</sup> issue of Perth & Kinross Music Foundation's 6 monthly Newsletter.

The Trustees hope that you and your families are all well, and have managed to stay clear of this global virus over the last few months. Hopefully, as we approach what is left of the summer, we will be able to see some further easing of restrictions and a return to a lifestyle that is more like what was normal before March 2020?

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 currently planned over the next 6 months subject to whatever COVID restrictions are in place in Scotland over the coming months.

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

Well the simple answer to that question is “not a lot” if you think about fundraising. Our planned participation in the joint sponsored cycle ride with members of Perthshire Brass, our annual Quiz Night, and the planned Sunday afternoon concert by Instrumental Music Service tutors all had to be cancelled due to COVID restrictions. The cancellation of the annual Childline concert in December 2020 also impacted on the Foundation as we have a joint agreement with NSPCC that means that we get a donation towards our funds from the proceeds of that evening. This is in lieu of staff tutors providing their services that evening free of charge.

However, we have been busy making grant applications for funds, and in 2020/21 have been successful in securing grants from The Gannochy Trust, The William Syson Foundation, The Thomson Trust, The Forteviot Trust, and Perth & Kinross Council. We have also been awarded £300 from the ASDA Foundation in lieu of not being able to participate in their Green Token Scheme as it has been temporarily suspended during the pandemic.

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

Whilst we are continuing to plan ahead with fundraising events, these will obviously be subject to constant review given the regular changes to COVID restrictions in Scotland.

We have rescheduled our annual **Quiz Night** to Thursday 23 September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Civil Service Club in St Leonard's Bank, Perth. It is hoped that this event can take place, and current indications are that gatherings such as this type of evening will be permitted by then. Please put this date in your diary and see if you can muster a team to enter what is always a great fun evening.

Subject to clarification of the position with Central Groups during 2021/22 we would hope to hold our **annual concert** in March 2022 at North Inch Community Campus. This is obviously dependant on these Groups being up and running from the beginning of the academic term, and we will work with the staff of the Instrumental Music Service once we know what the position is going to be in this regard.

Finally, we will also be discussing with IMS staff tutors the possibility of rescheduling the **Sunday afternoon concert** for sometime next academic year (possibly Spring 2022) but we will keep you posted in this issue as well.

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 financial year we have been successful in securing £15,300 grant funding awards from local Charitable Trusts, Perth & Kinross Council, and the ASDA Foundation. None of us can predict what impact the COVID pandemic situation will have on the number of applications we receive next year, but we have seen a considerable drop in the number of applications we received for financial assistance during 2020/21. However, we do know that there were only limited “new start” pupils accessing music tuition, as well as a number of youngsters dropping out of the Service during 2020/21 due to the model of teaching being undertaken during the last year. Hopefully, more new starts will be permitted to begin their musical careers and access music lessons in the coming months as the provision of education generally gets back to some degree of normality. The Foundation's Trustees have been very flexible and pragmatic this year in assessing the applications that we received, and have also been looking at our constitution to see how we can assist the Instrumental Music Service staff to continue to provide a first class instrumental music tuition service to all pupils of Perth & Kinross Council schools.

We now have 23 individual “Friends of the Foundation”. These are people who have invested in the work of the Foundation by signing up to an annual/monthly subscription.

## **Foundation AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Perth & Kinross Music Foundation will be held on Tuesday 31 August 2021 at 7pm at a venue to be decided (or by Zoom). Everyone eligible to attend will be advised of the final arrangements in due course, and the papers will be issued (as appropriate) by our Secretary in advance of the meeting.

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.

The Trustees hope that you have found this Newsletter informative, and will want to continue to support us so that we can continue **“letting our children play”**.

With apologies to those of you who do not have internet access, attached is a link to the final end of term virtual concert presented by our young musicians just as they broke up for the summer break last month. This concert lasts around 1 hour, and shows the level of commitment from both young people and their tutors to try to keep going with their musical activities during these difficult times.

<https://youtu.be/2uQQn71OEA4>