



Newsletter

Issue 12
January 2024

Welcome to the 12th issue of Perth & Kinross Music Foundation's 6 monthly Newsletter. The Trustees hope that you and your families are all well, and are managing to stay cosy during these cold days?

In this issue, we bring you up to date with what we have been up to over the last 6 months and give you some information on what our future plans are.

What have we been up to over the last 6 months?

Whilst colleagues at Perth & Kinross Council Education & Childrens Services have confirmed that all music fees were abolished as of August 2022, this matter has not yet been passed into legislation by the Scottish Parliament, so there is still the possibility of them being reinstated by a future Scottish Government – of whatever political hue!

Since our last newsletter, the Trustees have continued to support the IMS, whilst remaining within the terms of our OSCR approved constitution. During academic year 2022/23 we awarded the Service a grant of £20,000 towards the purchase of instruments, equipment, and other resources that were identified by Allan Young and his team. Due to supplier issues, it was only possible to spend £15,000 during the Foundation's financial year, so the Trustees agreed that the remaining £5,000 could be carried forward into our next financial year. At their meeting in September 2023, the Trustees also agreed to make available a further £15,000 to the IMS during 2023/24. We are currently waiting to receive an invoice for the spend of these grants from Perth & Kinross Council.

What are our plans for the future?

Even after paying out the 2023/24 grant mentioned above, the Foundation will still have some funds as, despite doing no proactive fundraising since the Scottish Government announcement in summer 2021, we continue to receive the odd financial donation from individuals/groups. We also still have in place the joint funding arrangement with NSPCC for a share of the net profits of the annual Childline concert held in Perth Concert Hall each December. This week, we have received confirmation that the Foundation's share of the proceeds of the December 2023 Concert would be £703.

Our Finances

As is mentioned above, we still have a reasonable amount of funds in the bank, therefore the Foundation's Trustees will continue to be very flexible and pragmatic going forward in supporting the IMS staff to continue to provide a first-class music tuition service to all pupils in Perth & Kinross Council schools.

And finally, the Foundation Trustees were delighted to hear that Allan Young, Coordinator of the IMS, had been awarded an MBE in the New Years Honours List 2024. This is recognition of Allan's efforts towards youth music activities in Perth & Kinross over the last 30 years. I am sure that you will all agree that Allan's efforts over the years are fully deserving of such recognition. This has been particularly the case in the post covid recovery period which has seen the number of young people seeking to learn to play an instrument increase considerably. Allan's leadership of his team during this time, and their combined efforts to come up with ideas to allow them to meet this increased demand from the same group of tutors, is testament to his passion for continuing to improve standards within, and access to, youth music provision in Perth & Kinross.

The Trustees once again say a massive thank you to all our funders, sponsors, supporters and Friends, for your support over the last 28+ years.