

NEW MUSIC MAKERS COMMITTEE MEETING - Minutes 10th June 2025

Present:

Eric Gerrey (Chairman), Eunice Deuchar, Sharon Thomas, Sarah Turl, Jerry Gamble, Naomi Holloway, Rebecca Williams

1. Apologies:

Margaret Ballard, Gen Marsh

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Agreed by all as correct.

3. Matters Arising

GM to talk to Keziah about what she needs to wear. Suggested white top and black trousers. **Action complete**

Hayling Island event – EG still to find out more details. **Action EG ongoing.**

John Lewis – Sunday 7th December afternoon as a possibility. EG to finalise. **Action EG ongoing.**

Haskins – 1.00 pm Sunday 14th and 21st December – to be confirmed. **Action ongoing.**
Application forms are not in printable format on i-pads. NH to redesign the form and EG will print some out. **Action NH ongoing.**

It was suggested an email be sent out to the members to ascertain who will not be available for the two concerts. **Action complete.**

Summer Concert- **Actions complete.**

Summer Spectacular – Fliers printed. Advertised in Summer Concert programme. **Action complete.**

Gospel concert 28th June – 25 people so far put their names forward. Pink tops for ladies. EG to meet up with the organiser. **Action EG ongoing.**

Website – Emmy to take photos of members not currently on website this week at rehearsal and remove those who have left. MD details updated. **Action EM**

4. Correspondence

None

5. Finance

Balances stand at £10185. Summer concert profit so far is £606, but expenses still to pay, and ticket money due from Sarah and Ticketsource. Estimate of £500 surplus. Two music stands for Chris and Keziah purchased £282.

6. Publicity

Summer Spectacular – posters not required as all tickets sold. Agreed that next year we do not have these printed until after our Summer Show. Report on Summer Show and a video clip have been put on social media. Tickets all sold out for Spectacular and this was posted on social media. Unfortunately, the comment resulted in an algorithm allowing a “hacker” to post that they have tickets available. Comment now put on to refer people to sales office.

7. Website and Facebook

Poster now on for Summer Spectacular.

8. Local Vocals

Two Christmas parties organized for Dementia group December 18th and 19th at Eastleigh and Fareham.

9. Forthcoming events

Summer Spectacular – uniform for ladies to be black trousers, white top with sleeves, and scarves/jewellery as preferred by the members, any colour. Black shoes with covered toe, and black tights. Men white shirts and black trousers.

Solos – agreed that Amelia be asked to play her violin and have four other solos. (Six people volunteered for solos so far.)

The ladies' group song is now on the website and music available from Tony. Agreed to use Galway Girl as an opener, and Shine to finish.

Tickets – STu had fifteen people still wanting tickets from the choir, even though event sold out. Committee agreed that two more tables should be erected in the hall. To avoid this resulting in people feeling “hemmed in,” it was also agreed that we would not do the draw.

This would prevent people from crowding together buying tickets where the board would be showing which table the audience had been allocated to. We would not be losing money as a result, as the ticket prices were increased by £2 this year, and there would be more of them. Helpers would be able to sit at the back of the hall.

Email to go out to those that still wish to have tickets advising them they must contact STu direct, and tickets will be issued on a first come first serve basis.

Committee agreed that next year the Spectacular would be kept for choir members to have first options to buy tickets before advertising.

ED commented that she had some draw prizes which were perishable (biscuits and chocolates) so it was agreed that we would allocate one draw ticket to each person free of charge, using those goods as prizes so that they were not wasted.

Kitchen help still required – Chris's wife Charlotte has agreed to assist, and it was suggested that Alison Baker's husband Bob be approached. **Action ST**

Lin Kellaway will do flowers for the tables. ST to check in unit for the vases and additional table number stands. **Action ST**

Decided to reduce selection of cakes to just lemon drizzle and chocolate, with the scones, jam and cream. Rebecca will put out a list at rehearsals for people to opt to bake/buy cakes. **Action RW**

Kitchen refreshments will be provided by ST, including milk for setting up in the morning of the concert. **Action ST**

A list of jobs to be done for setting up to be put out at rehearsals. **Action ST**

Serviettes to be purchased if there are not enough in the unit. **Action ST**
ST said she would label the boxes in the unit to show what is in them. This would make it easier when putting things back at the end of the concert. **Action ST**

Summer Concert date for next year – provisionally June 6th, depending on Keziah's availability and venue hire. **Action EG**

Summer Spectacular – July 11th, same proviso. **Action EG/NH**

It is still not known who has taken over the bookings of the village hall. ST offered to contact Hedge End Council for a name and let Eric and Naomi know. **Action ST**

10. Choir welfare

None

11. AOB

Wedding enquiry. Jason Brown, who used to sing with NMM, has asked if a group of twelve would be available for his wedding on October 18th at The Living Word Church, Titchfield. Chris is available – committee agreed on charge of £150, increasing if Jason opts for songs that we do not have music for. Need to know choice by end of July. Chris happy to liaise with Jason after ST contacted him. **Action ST/CA**

Summer Concert “wash-up” meeting with Chris Allison

Venue at Eastleigh considered successful. Videos taken of concert proved useful to CA regarding balance and acoustics, which were good. Better when drop-down mics were used. Isaac commented that he could have done with more time to check the sound.

Agreed next time we should start set-up earlier.

Two mics for soloists agreed as working well.

Comments from audience were that choir looked more relaxed and spread out. Happy with shorter programme.

The canteen only had one member of staff to serve – will ask if we can have two people next year.

Parking facilities adequate.

Need to move the choir further back, as the front row of the audience were having to squeeze through space between front row of Choir and the podium.

Sound engineers asked if someone could check with them that they are happy with the set up before the audience comes in. EG advised this was the job of the Theatre Manager, but he was otherwise engaged.

Choir entry and leaving was not very professional and looked messy. It was suggested that it would be better if the more physically impaired choir members could be persuaded to go to their seats 5 minutes before the choir came in. It was suggested that we have a rehearsal laying out the chairs in a similar way in the church hall to practice entering and leaving.

CA felt we still needed to work on tuning and entries – there are still some people who do not look up from their music and therefore miss vital instructions. Unaccompanied piece was not quite in tune – JG thought it might help if only one note was given from the piano at the start.

It was thought the soloists might look better if they were able to learn their pieces off by heart, but after discussion it was agreed they were probably happier having their music to hand. Would be good if soloists could have the opportunity to practice with mics.
Need to work on movement – some members get involved with the rhythms and sway, but others do not.
It was suggested that Amelia should have a light for her music, but CA advised that she knows it all off by heart.
CA very happy with our performance overall.

Meeting closed at 2010 hrs.
Next meeting AGM July