



Newsletter

Issue 1
August 2018

Welcome to the first Newsletter produced by Perth & Kinross Music Foundation. It is hoped that this will become a twice yearly publication to update our sponsors and supporters about our recent past, and forthcoming activities, thus keeping you informed of what we are up to as a Charity.

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

In the first 6 months of the year from January to June 2018, the Trustees were very busy in continuing to raise funds to support our objectives.

In **March**, we held our annual concert at the North Inch Community Campus, in North Muirton, Perth. This evening showcased the musical talents of the Perth & Kinross Elementary String Orchestra, the Perth & Kinross Staff Choir, Kinross High School String Players, 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 was their first experience of playing in public and was probably a daunting task. As always, this was a very successful evening both musically and financially, raising more than £750.

In **June**, we embarked on our first Quiz Night fundraising venture. This took place at Craigie Hill Golf Club in Perth and we had 14 very competitive teams taking part. Quizmaster for the evening was George Annan (Jr) and the evening was very successful raising £658. The winners were a team from Perthshire Brass (plus friends) but it was a closely fought contest as they only just pipped a team of staff from Perth & Kinross Council, Education & Childrens Services Department. The help and support from Craigie Hill Golf Club was very much appreciated, including their contributions to our raffle prizes. Feedback received has been very positive, so a rerun in our 2018/19 fundraising season will no doubt feature in the Trustees' discussions over the coming months.

What are our plans for the next 6 months?

As a Charity, we are always looking at ways to raise funds to support our objectives and supplement the generous contributions received from local Charitable Trusts, other Groups, and individuals, who are sympathetic to our aims and objectives of "Letting our Children Play".

Our next fundraising venture is a concert to be held on the afternoon of **Sunday 30 September 2018 in St John's Episcopal Cathedral Church in Princes Street, Perth**. The performers on the day will be Musicians and Tutors from the Perth & Kinross Council Instrumental Music Service. These are the very talented teachers and tutors of the young people who access music tuition in schools/through the Central Groups and Orchestras, and whom the Foundation was set up to support. This is a repeat of a very successful concert by the staff group which took place in September 2016 and which was widely supported and acclaimed. We look forward to having another successful afternoon and can assure all our supporters that this will be a concert worthy of a large audience – please feel free to come along and support us, and bring a friend (or 2 or 3!). All of the performers are extremely talented in their own rights, and this is one of only a few opportunities that music tuition service students and the public get the chance to hear these musicians perform personally in public.

In addition to the above event, we have had confirmation from **TESCO** that the Foundation has been chosen as one of their 3 nominated charities in Perth and Scone to participate in their “**Bags of Help**” fundraising scheme. This means that when customers pay for their shopping and get the wee blue tokens they can choose to support us by dropping their tokens into our section of the voting board. This means that we have the possibility of the Foundation getting somewhere between £1,000 and £4,000 depending on which charity gets the most tokens by the end of October. Please, please tell your friends and relatives by asking them to support the Foundation when they do their shopping at TESCO stores in Perth and Scone.

Over the next 6 months, we will also be making applications **to a number of Grant Awarding Charities and Bodies** (both locally and nationally) to try to secure additional funds to supplement our own fundraising efforts. As some of you may know, Perth & Kinross Council agreed that from August 2018, they would increase Instrumental Music Tuition and Central Group fees by 20% (with further considerable increases also approved for 2019/20 and 2020/21). The fees for 2018/19 are £295 for Instrumental Tuition and £97.25 for attending Central Groups. These increases will put additional pressure on the Foundation's funds as we already support around 75/80 young musicians who come from low income households each year. The Trustees expect the number of applications to increase in the coming year which, coupled with the increase in fees, will mean more money is needed to maintain our record of being able to meet all applications received from young people.

The Charity and Our Finances

During the last 6 months we received retiral/resignation notices from 2 Trustees:

- Mr Henry Neil, MBE (our Vice Chairman). Henry was a founder member of the Board of Trustees in 1997 and his knowledge, wisdom, and advice has been invaluable to Foundation Trustees for more than 20 years.
- Mr Hamish Steele (our Treasurer). Neil Copland (an existing Trustee) was appointed as replacement Treasurer at a meeting held in June 2018.

2 new Trustees were announced at the recent AGM meeting: Mr Gordon Murch (a retired Principal Teacher of Music within Perth & Kinross) and Ms Lynsey Paterson (a member of staff of the Instrumental Music Service).

The AGM held recently also approved the Foundation's annual accounts for 2017/18. These record that that we paid out fees to Perth & Kinross Council totalling £16,845. They also show that we raised almost £2,500 from own fundraising efforts, and received various donations totalling more than £12,000 from individuals, groups, and charitable trusts. We ended the financial year with just over £8,000 in the bank. Whilst this will give us a reasonable base from which to look forward to the next academic year, given the fee increases noted above, it is easy to see that we will need to do more over the coming months to raise funds/secure grant funding.

The Trustees hope that you have found this Newsletter/Update informative and will want to

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