

# **St. Ives Community Choir AGM 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Minutes**

## List of those present:

Alan Thomas	Alison Ashby	Barbara Warner
Chris Pearson	Christine Wheeler	Dave Brotherton
Don Stevens	Duncan Sykes	Gill Titchener
Heather Greaves	Judy Tremelling	Laura Underwood
Lesley Thomas	Lynda Thomas	Lynne Brereton
Marguerite Butcher	Maureen Bungay	Maureen Stevens
Mike Laramy	Nigel Morgan	Sandra Oliver
Sheryl Mylchreest	Stuart Greaves	Susan Pearson
Tricia Thomas	Vicky Taylor	William Thomas

## Apologies for absence

Alison Wyatt	Anne Bassett	Ann Stone
David Polkinghorne	Lillian Polkinghorne	Maggie Marr
Steve Bassett	Val Ollis	

## **Chairman's Report**

Vicky welcomed everyone and wished them a happy new year. Happy birthday was then sung to William. She said that the last AGM was in 2020 and was held at the Carbis Bay Methodist Chapel which was a very cold and damp place. It was decided to find another venue, which was frustrated by covid. In 2021 through Anne Bassett the Carbis Bay Memorial Hall was secured. Thanks were extended to Alan for the brilliant website which has extensive articles photos and videos and thanks to Bill for taking them. Thanks to Alison and William for their dedication and commitment. Also to Katrina who stepped in after William's operation. Alison and William don't take any fees for the considerable time and effort involved. We have to have a reserve in our funds as the situation can change very quickly especially if we had to pay for replacements for them, who would probably charge a fee. Thanks to Don and Maureen for organising previous trips. Thanks to Tricia who spends hours and hours researching songs and designing and producing posters to advertise our events. She is also our librarian. Lastly thanks to Lynda our secretary and treasurer again for the amount of time involved and for keeping us up to date. Last year was the first time that we designated a charity for the year. That charity was the Edward Hain Community Project. We also honoured our commitment from 2019 to provide a defibrillator for the Methodist Chapel. We lost 3 members of the choir last year: John Lander, Jane Perkin and Joan Symons all of whom had a great sense of humour. We have also got new members: Sheryl, Laura, Val, Nigel, Duncan and hopefully Alison and also 4 more who would like to join us. Vicky said that we are a very caring choir and if you are unhappy with anything to do with the choir talk to William or one of the committee. On a personal note she was very grateful for all the kindness shown to her when her partner Richard was undergoing treatment.

## Secretary's Report

Apologies for absence were given from 8 choir members.

Lynda read out abridged minutes from the 2020 AGM which were signed off.

Said that we have had a really busy year with 15 events and have had a few enquiries for events this year.

At the moment we have 44 choir members plus enquiries from 4 people which have come through the website and also through our advert in the St. Ives Local magazine. Also some people have come to our concerts and thought that they would like to join the choir.

There are sheets on the table by the door, as usual, to tick off to indicate whether you are able to attend future events or not. Often we have found that events have been ticked and a few weeks later the names have been crossed off. If you cannot later make these dates, please let us know. Don't just cross it off. William doesn't agree to do any events unless he knows that he has got a good balance of voices. We just ask that if you confirm your attendance at the various concerts, that you do make every effort to attend. We understand that illness can't be helped. Also, if you decide later that you will be able to attend, again let us know as William sorts out the seating and if people turn up that haven't ticked the list it throws this out.

As parking is very difficult for most of the events, if anyone would be able to offer a lift it would be very much appreciated

We have now purchased a defibrillator, which we agreed before the covid lockdown, and it will be fitted outside of the Carbis Bay Methodist Chapel in the next few weeks. I'll give the details in the treasurer's report.

## Treasurer's Report

- Going back to the defibrillator. It cost £1,514.10. We came second in the Tesco Token Collection which gave us £1,000. The balance has been made up from various donations.
- We started 2022 with £5,283.50. It may sound an awful lot, but as Vicky said if we had to get a pianist or William couldn't make it etc., it would soon eat into it.
- We have paid out £1,264 for public liability, equipment insurances, hall rent and music etc. £1,984.93 was paid in subscriptions. We have kept the subs at £2 at the moment, but due to copyright we are now buying our music which costs an average of £3 per song and we order 50 copies of each one, so therefore the subs will be kept under review. Any replacement for lost music will have to be paid for.
- The hall rental increased from £20 to £27.50 per week because of the energy crisis, but has now decreased to £25 per week as we have a regular booking.
- Some members prefer to pay subs in advance. You can pay by cash, cheque, bank transfer (I can give you our bank details) or debit/credit card.  
For those of you who have paid in advance I have a list of when you need to start paying again. Would you please let me know when and how much you have paid when paying in advance so I can adjust my list.
- Our nominated charity for 2022 was The Edward Hain Community Project. In total we raised £1,382.39 for it.
- The total amount we have raised throughout the year for charities is £4,084, which includes the cost of the defibrillator. I have the detailed list if anyone is interested.
- The final total in the bank to start 2023 is £5627.13, but we still have money to be paid out to Edward Hain and Prostate Cancer Research which would give an amended total of £5,267.13, giving a small loss of £16.37 on the year.

## Musical Director's Report

William talked about commitment and his role in getting the best out of the choir. Said that the choir is very caring and compassionate, which he experienced on a personal level last year. He encouraged the choir to learn the songs at home and said that the choir sounded so much better if choir members could sing without looking down at their folders.

Praised committee for their work. Would like to do a Coronation concert on 5<sup>th</sup> May. RNA has invited us at Christmas as has John Becks. Dave Brotherton mentioned the possibility of performing at the Gorsedd at Zennor in June in Cornish and that Dee would teach us.

Last year we did an open air concert on the Lodges Platt where we raised some money for the defibrillator. Maybe do the same this year or at Mousehole or Porthleven.

**Lynda:** Any weeks that you miss need to be paid for on your first week back. Sickness is accepted, but holidays must be paid for. Please fill out contact details sheet.

**William:** Other choirs charge a lot for subscriptions. The Rock choir charges £100 for 10 sessions

**Maureen:** If we wanted to go away for a weekend this year (Friday to Monday) it would be £199 each based on 40, but for less people the cost would increase. We would also need to find a venue to sing. Also perhaps we could go locally and she thought maybe a day trip to Mevagissey. Asked if anyone had any ideas where to go way for the first weekend in October to let her know. Also anywhere for a day trip to sing and then have a fish and chip supper.

## Webmaster's Report

Alan said that people look at the website from all over the world.

It was vital to get information in order to add to website. He gets the photos from Bill

And the money raised from Lynda. The site is a history book and had a lot of the earlier information from Lynda's scrapbooks. Said that the website was one of the best around and it was kept up to date.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The re-election of officers and committee was unopposed

### Committee

Chairman	Vicky Taylor
Secretary	Lynda Thomas
Treasurer	Lynda Thomas
Librarian	Tricia Thomas
Musical Director	William Thomas
Social Secretaries	Donald and Maureen Stevens

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Accompanist                      Alison Ashby

### Any Other Business

Susan Pearson: Was disappointed singing the same songs especially at Christmas. Would volunteer to pay for new songs. Lynda said that William & Tricia had both been ill and had had a bad fall and were unable to research new songs. Tricia is now researching these and does have new ones.

William said that we did do new songs: Nabucco and Dry Bones etc. He needs the choir's commitment to learn the songs before moving on to new ones. There wasn't time with all of the other concerts to learn new Christmas songs.

Lesley said that folders are very full now so could we know in advance what we will need at each practice. William responded that he would try to say which songs were needed before each practice.

Lynda said that you might think that she was being picky, but she has to put in the emails before each concert to have the songs in the folders in the right order.

Vicky closed the meeting.

**Date of Next AGM: 09<sup>th</sup> January 2024**