

Ipswich Hospital Community Choir

Annual Report 2022

The choir management committee is happy to present this report to the membership to cover the choir's activity from September 2021 to September 2022 and the financial report for the year ending 31st December 2021.

Management and operations

For the second successive year, the global pandemic of Covid-19 affected the choir activity in a major way. In addition to national restrictions, the considerations of meeting in a healthcare environment and infection control procedures have had a serious impact on rehearsals. The choir adapted to learning via on-line meetings, however the effectiveness of this was limited. However on resumption of live rehearsals, the pleasure of members in being able to sing together again, was noticeable.

At the 2021 AGM, two new posts were created and appointed, adding to the committee the posts of membership secretary and events co-ordinator. The committee has continued to meet regularly and minutes are published in the members-only section of the website.

The membership of the choir has diminished during the pandemic period, however several new members have been welcomed in recent months and further publicity work is being undertaken to attract new members. The current membership stands at 35. Due to many choir costs being fixed, in July, the committee took the decision to raise the weekly subscription. This should allow the accounts to reach a balance on a yearly basis.

Performances

Upon resumption of rehearsals in the autumn (2021), much time was spent preparing for intended Christmas performances, however re-imposed restrictions meant that the only appearance was at a shopping event in Kesgrave. However 2022 gave the choir the opportunity for three performances. A joint concert with The Ipswich Hospital Band in May was very well received with songs from our repertoire of film and musicals. This was followed by Suffolk Remembers for St Elizabeth's Hospice on the seafront at Felixstowe. A lovely, moving event where the choir managed to blend well with the atmosphere of the occasion. This was followed by Ipswich Music Day. The choir were given the honour to perform in Christchurch Mansion, and produced one of the best performances in the choir's history showcasing the choir's range of repertoire.

Future

2023 will see the 10th anniversary of the founding of the choir. The committee are planning on events to mark this occasion. Both to celebrate the past and build on the successes of 2022.