

SLO COMMITTEE MEETING

Broadford Hall, 21 January, 2017

Present: John Hockett (Chairman), Chris Manvell, Iain Roden, Laura Grisi, Satsuki Barnes,

Nic Bullivant, and Bar Purser

Apologies: Ilona Morison, Wendy Riva

The meeting began with discussion of availability of players for the April concert. Because we will have no trumpets, Iain has had to completely change half of the program, and he and Chris spent days choosing and printing the new music. Our thanks to them for their time and effort. An arrangement of Copland's Appalachian Spring, previously chosen and paid for, can be saved for a later concert. Other pieces were discussed - a revival of Warlock's Capriol Suite and Borodin's Polovtsian Dances, and Brahms' Variations on a Theme by Haydn.

We don't know if Janice Taylor (trumpet) will be back. Chris Watkiss is keen to get his trumpet going again, but we felt that he shouldn't play trumpet in the April concert on top of performing the Beethoven concerto. We are sorry Meg Rosher has moved away, and wish her well. Marie Louise Macdonald will be playing the Handel Harp Concerto, and is keen to be involved with our orchestra. We are hoping to reconnect with Sam Nicolson, at least to help Chris Watkiss learn the oboe if she is unable to play with us.

Extra string players for the April concert were discussed. Bar will contact the Cormaks and some Glasgow friends. Nic will see if any of the Highland Orchestra strings can help.

We have £250 in donations from Shona Burd's memorial service. The thought was to purchase cymbals or a bass drum. Nic said Judith could contact Alison Russell for advice on this. We also discussed the rental of the piano for the April concert. We will be getting some funding for this from SEALL - John will find out from Duncan MacInnes how much. The piano will be delivered to Sabhal mor Ostaig on Saturday noon the day of the concert, tuned, and taken away on Sunday. Our treasurer, Ilona Morison, was not able to be at the committee meeting - we will find out from her how much we have in the orchestra's funds too.

Iain was concerned about points of procedure, and it was suggested that a "to do list" could be put on the website, but that depends on people checking it. Better, it was thought, to contact members directly to get things done. We have been working through email most of the time, but this has presented many problems, solutions to which were discussed. It was suggested that we need a membership secretary. Claudia Knott was mentioned as the person with the most direct link to the Broadford Hall, as her

partner is caretaker. We also discussed publicity for the concert. Chris suggested a write-up in the Free Press, making a story about the fact that we had benefitted from Denis Briggs' legacy as well as Shona and SEALL's funding. Nic said he would take that on. Chris said he had some good photos of Denis which might be used for it.

Laura suggested the printing of concert tickets ahead of time, so members could buy them and give them to friends. Bar mentioned that Jenny Hey had suggested that children up to the age of 16 be admitted free to concerts, and had offered to connect with Broadford and Sleat Primaries about this. This was generally agreed on, as long as large groups of children weren't brought. Laura suggested that the pre-printing of tickets would help with this - if a group of children were coming, they would need tickets in advance, and we would have an idea of how many seats were needed for that. It was thought, though, that for the most part, offering children free admission would encourage more adults to come and bring their children, and hopefully inspire some older ones to join us. It was agreed that the price of tickets should be £7 at Broadford, and £8 at the college.

Updating the photos on the website was also discussed. The size of Sean Purser's photos has to be changed before his can be used, but this will be attended to. Chris has been working overtime for us, and hasn't had time to get to that. Our thanks yet again to him!!

As last year, the meeting came to a quick end when we realised it was after 2 pm.