

David Clover Festival of Singing – Friends and Sponsors

News Bulletin – no. 2, November 2023

Showcase 2023

Following the two singing weekends early in the year our next focus was on the 2023 Showcase which took place in St Andrew's Psalter Lane on 7th July. Six leading soloists from the Festival Weekend sang again two of the songs that had impressed the adjudicators, and Sheffield Music Makers (formerly the City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir) sang an attractive programme of Songs from the Shows to an appreciative if rather small audience. There was a raffle and refreshments. Graham Wilkinson and Nigel Gyte accompanied on the piano. To increase audience and possible revenue it has been decided to hold the 2024 Showcase in late September.

Reviewing David Clover 2023

The Committee was delighted that the two weekends had been able to take place with relative normality after two years of disruption with the ongoing repercussions of Covid 19; and in particular that the number and quality of entries had been maintained. That this was so and that we are able to continue successfully in an unfavorable economic climate, is due to the generosity of our sponsors, to whom we are most grateful.



Other Committee Matters

The Committee welcomed new members. Here is the full list:

Trustees:

David Heslop – Chairman
David Durrant – Vice Chairman
Vivien Pike – Music Coordinator
Georgia Hall- Treasurer
Georgina Hulse – Administrator
Kathryn Wells – Secretary
Anthony Trippett – Publicity
Val Littlelyke
Eric Barraclough

Advisors:

Brenda Birks – Sheffield Music Makers’ representative
Ann Fooks
Ralph Green
Janet Barraclough – Minutes Secretary

Minor adjustments were made to the Constitution to accommodate the new members and their roles.

It was agreed that retired committee member, Joy Bowler, should be presented with a framed certificate of her Life Membership of the DCFS.



Fund Raising

The Committee took part in an Arts and Craft Fair at Wadsley Church Hall on 21st October for publicity purposes and as a fund-raising exercise. The DCFS's apple-focused stall included Bramleys for sale, along with chutneys, sauces, crumbles, cakes, flapjacks, spiced apple bread and a history of the Bramley apple for interested customers. Browsers could also buy bead stars, bobble hats, greetings cards or take part in a Lucky Dip. This was a new venture for the DCFS and one we intend to repeat.

Arrangements for 2024

The New Developments announced in News Bulletin no.1 have been translated into new classes in the now published handbooks for 2024.

- 1) Singers' Platform performers may now compete in Class 7 (Repertoire by Mozart) presenting an Oratorio or Opera aria or a Mozart song.
- 2) There is also Class 8 (the Elizabeth Hampshire Award) for 14 to 19 year olds who having benefitted from Specialist Music School/Junior Conservatoire tuition but not yet gone to Senior Conservatoire, previously didn't fit easily into either the Festival Weekend or the Singer's Platform.
- 3) The Festival Weekend offers Classes 30 and 31 (Junior and Senior Non-Competitive Class and Workshop) for singers of little or no experience of performing solo who sing as a duet or in a small ensemble, and receive written feedback and an invitation to join a workshop with tips and ideas to improve.

Dates for 2024

Singers' Platform

25th to 27th January 2024 Classes in the morning, afternoon and evening at St. Andrew's Church, Psalter Lane, Sheffield S11 8YL. On the Finals Evening there will be a Presentation of Awards.

Festival Weekend

2nd- 3rd February 2024 Classes in the morning, afternoon and evening at Dore and Totley United Reformed Church, Totley Brook Road, Sheffield S17 3QS

4 February 2024 Morning and afternoon classes. Evening: Festival Finals with Award Presentations, all at Tapton Hall (Hallam Room), Shore Lane, Sheffield S10 3BU

We advertise our activities on Facebook, Twitter, on flyers, on the Classical Sheffield website and above all on our official website www.davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk which we recommend you consult. Further to that you can consult me, Tony Trippett, anthonytrippett5@gmail.com as publicity officer.