

## **CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**

### **Celebrity Concerts AGM November 10th, 2021**

As you know we held no live, in person concerts this season. We made no membership charge and carried forward the membership numbers from the previous season. It is hard to give an accurate figure given that we know we some longstanding members have sadly passed away, but notionally we have about 90 members.

Despite not being able to have live face to face concerts we took the decision to create a Virtual concert series on a YouTube platform. These took place from August through to May. There were 11 in all but split with Showcase. We provided 7 of them.

Sincere thanks are due to Mick Clarke, who found the artists, worked with them on suitable repertoire and developed a whole new set of skills in video editing and uploading onto the YouTube platform. Many thanks Mick

Number of views of each concert was as follows.

	<b>Artist</b>	<b>Views</b>
August 20	Alex Lomieko	242
Oct 20	Amy Green	147
Nov 20	Antonina Suhanova	599
Feb 21	Imogen Royce	563
Mar 21	Mithras Trio	253
May 21	Alkyona Quartet	101
		1905

Total views to 1.10.2021 was 1905 with an average of 317 per concert

Concerts are still available on line at

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF9-LQLYUIaL\\_A6OExRbPeg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF9-LQLYUIaL_A6OExRbPeg)

As indicated earlier, there were no membership fees payable in the season, but we did ask for donations to cover the societies fixed costs such as Public Liability and Piano insurance. Although each artiste who performed in our virtual concert series received a fee the CMS board made the decision to distribute any excess income from donations to the performers who had made recordings for us and had given talks and presentations in the CMS choirs series of Zoom meetings. We are pleased to say that we were able to distribute modest bursaries to 26 musicians. This is in line with our broad charitable aim to further the public appreciation of music; It's hard to appreciate music if all the musicians have gone!

Many thanks to all of you who were able to donate to the Society.

The committee met more frequently in the last season so that we could keep close to the changing covid position and plan for the future.

With have delayed the start of our new season until December and will run through until May. We have been able to secure 3 of the artistes who were scheduled for the

20/21 season and 3 others, some of whom are familiar to you through our virtual concert series. There are some restrictions on numbers at St Marys and we will increase services, such as refreshments as the season progresses and hopefully restrictions reduce.

Thanks to my colleagues on the committee for continuing to work together through the season to plan for the future safely and thanks again to all who were able to donate.

David Woods  
Nov 2021