

WORKSOP MUSIC and DRAMA FESTIVAL

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on July 2nd 2025 at The Crossing Church
and Centre, Newcastle Street Worksop**

Chairman's Report

Our 2025 Festival ran smoothly and according to BL, the East Midlands rep on the Festivals Council, on her 3 yearly visit to Worksop, it is a festival she doesn't have to worry about. This is nice to know and entirely due to the loyalty of the Committee and its unfailing reliability and commitment. We have been very glad to welcome two additional volunteers, who have both made significant contributions to the running of the Festival.

We are fortunate to be able to hire the Music Department Recital Room at Worksop College and acknowledge the support of the Director of Music and the Music staff. We have also enjoyed the support of the Headmaster and his wife who have always come to listen when time has allowed. We were sorry that he was leaving at the end of the Spring term to take up a new position. A card was sent from all of us to wish him well in the new job.

Our adjudicators were NH from Nottingham, making a return visit for the woodwind and piano classes, and BH who adjudicated Schools Day and the vocal classes. We had an exceptional and enjoyable Grade 8 Piano class on the Sunday evening. We have never had such a large number of entrants for this class. The standard of all thirteen pianists was very high and in the end two first places were awarded as NH couldn't separate them. The audience, and we, had a wonderful Sunday evening concert. The Musical Theatre classes were again very popular and did overrun. BH suggested some ideas of how we could better manage the large number of entrants, which we will be working on in the autumn.

Our technician MW very generously presented a cup in lieu of his fee for Schools Day. He presented it to the school which he considered would be most encouraged by the presentation. Now that headteacher PA has retired, he is able to join us for Schools Day and announce the classes and entrants – another willing volunteer.

The Celebration of Music Concert was again held at Outwood Academy Portland. The additional awards were presented by HL, a former piano entrant himself many years ago. The Worksop Rotary Club awards were presented by the President. The Club continues to support two financial prizes to the most promising instrumentalist and vocalist. The interest and generosity of the Club is much appreciated.

Worksop continues to thrive where some of our surrounding festivals have ceased to exist, either due to lack of entrants or volunteers to run the event. There is a lot of talent and dedicated teachers, along with parents, in this area of the East Midlands. We are keen to encourage the musicians of the future and provide opportunities for them to perform. Thank you to all of you for giving your time and interest to help make this happen.

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