

## LINLITHGOW FOLK FESTIVAL ASSOC - AGM 22/03/22

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Notes

**AGM** due on 25/11/21 – delayed (Covid) till 7/02/22 - then till 22/03/22

Covid 19 also wiped out 15 scheduled sessions.

11 sessions did go ahead at Newall's Farm, the Rose Garden, Black Bitch and Star and Garter with a few held on Zoom.

#### EVENTS –

- On-line Matt McGinn Tribute on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021
- Festival Zoom concert with the Twinning Assoc and another by Ross Miller Band.
- Excellent Sept. Festival outdoor performances at the Burgh Halls café.
- Superb concert in the Rose Club by the duo THE SORRIES.

#### CHALLENGES –

The fluctuating **Covid-19 Restrictions** made all planning ahead unpredictable.

The actions of **Greene King** management re the Black Bitch pub saw lots of our time given to campaigning. In view of the LFFA connections to the pub this was absolutely necessary, but an unexpected drain on our time and effort.

Similarly, the alterations to the **Academy Theatre** which threatened our future use of that venue saw LFFA, and particularly Murdoch K to the fore in seeking to see the damage remedied.

The **small number of Committee members**, the loss of Christine and Peigi during the year, unfortunate illnesses, and the changing working patterns of two of our group sometimes made it difficult to be quorate.

## SUCSESSES –

The 2 festival days of **open-air events at the Burgh Halls** (whose staff were superbly supportive).

The **concerts** involving the Sorries, the Twinning Association, and the Ross Miller Band.

The long-overdue **review of our Constitution** which highlighted the success of using a specific sub-committee, reporting back to the full Committee, and then to the members.

The donation by Ken and Maire of their **garage as a Store** for our gazebo, stage and other equipment is saving the LFFA over £800 per year. We are extremely grateful for their generosity.

Outdoor Sessions held in the open air of necessity – worthy of repeating even in “normal” times.

## MANY, MANY THANKS to –

To our **members** who entrust us with their Association.

Our **Partners** at venues and in local groups who, like LFFA, make this a special town to live in.

The **Volunteers** who take on roles when required as stewards, gazebo-erectors, raffle ticket sellers, performers, etc.

Thanks also to all the great people who served us over the past 22 years and set the standards and the tone of how “**friendly folk**” operate.

Your (far too small) **Committee** of extremely able, interested and hard-working individuals who were a pleasure to work with.

Thank you and congratulations to **Murdoch, Jonathan, Susan, Robert, Rab and Stephanie**.

Neil Macdonald

Chair LFFA

22/03/22