

BCAC Chairman's Report for 2019-20

2019 was a busy year for the BCAC with 6 music events and the start of the Bamford Murals project.

The first event was Jess & Richard Arrowsmith's singing workshop and concert. Unfortunately we underpriced the workshop and overestimated the audience size for the concert which resulted in us making a loss but all the attendees enjoyed themselves and our substantial reserves were not significantly reduced.

In March we welcomed the superb fiddler Peter Knight and melodeon player extraordinaire John Spiers who gave a superb concert to a packed house.

This was followed, in April, by a fascinating presentation of 600 years of musical history in 90 minutes by Sophie Matthews & Chris Green,.

The following month Granny's Attic (George Sansome, Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne and Lewis Wood) entertained us with their blend of traditional English and original folk music.

Following a lengthy summer break we had a double bill featuring The Rosie Hood Trio and Alex Cumming & Nicola Beazley. Due to a booking mix-up this concert was moved to St John's church where these rising stars gave us a wonderful evening's entertainment.

The final concert of the year was by perennial favourites Lady Maisery. Once again Hannah, Hazel & Rowan did us proud with their superb harmony singing and thoughtful arrangements of both traditional repertoire and original arrangements.

Sadly the concerts planned for 2020 have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Bamford's Rich Tapestry: A Community Folk Art Heritage Project:

In April, with considerable assistance from Rebecca McIntyre and support letters from the Parish Council, the BCS and the Bamford History Society, Liz Marshall successfully applied on behalf of the BCAC to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant to enable us to produce 4 panels painted by village residents depicting the history of Bamford and this part of the Derwent valley. Kath Hearnshaw used her personal knowledge and the Bamford History Society's information base to construct an initial village history timeline, which formed the basis of an Open Weekend in November. Over 200 villagers came along to add their own information. Following finalisation of the timeline, Sue Prince (the folk artist we had commissioned to lead the artwork) painted outlines onto the panels and residents came along during 2 weekends in March to add colour to them. Sue has completed the panels and they are now ready to be hung in Bamford Institute when the Covid-19 restrictions allow.

The BCAC flourishes due to the energy and enthusiasm of our Committee and other helpers. In particular: Cath does wonders in raising the profile of our events through articles in the Bamford News, the newsletters of other Hope Valley villages, the Peak Advertiser, and our website and Facebook page; Jonathan is our Treasurer and PA manager; he and David Hughes are our regular barmen and organise the provision of bar stock, Liz has provided excellent B&B accommodation and Marika has become a firm favourite with our performers through her provision of delicious meals for them between the sound checks and the concerts. All the committee and other helpers get stuck into all the on-the-night tasks that make up our successful events. Thanks to you all for your time, support and commitment; without you the BCAC would simply not function.

David Allwood
Chairman, BCAC

May 2020