

## Chairman's Report Leicester Music Society AGM 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019

As we come to the end of another interesting and wide-ranging series we can look back on some great speakers who both entertained and enlightened us. As in previous series, our musical knowledge and understanding in a diverse set of subjects has been greatly increased. I am pleased to say that appreciations of all the talks are on our excellent website designed and maintained by Ron Mitchell our indefatigable secretary who does so much for the society - not just keeping minutes or proof-reading the brochure. I do encourage you to send links from our website to friends and acquaintances in the hope that we can increase our membership - both permanent and in terms of our visitors, many of whom come frequently. You have already heard from our redoubtable Hon. Treasurer how we are maintaining our financial situation and in many committees in which I have served over the years I have never been more impressed with the way David Saunders maintains our accounts. The fact that we can keep our speakers varied and on budget is due in no small way to Derek Mear's knowledge and administrative skill. We work together very well and with David overseeing our deliberations we are sure to maintain that value for money in our choices of speakers whilst ensuring a broad spectrum of topics. All members' suggestions for speakers are taken on board and some of the names submitted have been incorporated into recent seasons.

Thanks are due to Mary Whittaker for ensuring that we are organised at our venue and for opening up to allowing David to set up, the refreshments to be laid out and to give the speakers to prepare themselves. Thanks too to the volunteers who do the teas. It isn't an onerous task but it does help the smooth running of the interval. The rest of the Committee offer wise counsel when required for which I am grateful - no more than our President Neil Crutchley whose vast knowledge and experience with the Society I never underestimated and always appreciate. It is a joy to be Chairman of such a great team although we are always keen to have volunteers to be co-opted onto the Committee, as fresh voices with new ideas are always welcome.

We have two great seasons ahead of us as we have speakers planned well into 2021-2022 so I hope that with your help we can build on our innovative and exciting programming to increase our membership and let more people aware of what a good thing we have in Leicester Music Society as we build on our current success towards our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in four years time.