

## Chair's Report for the 2023/24 Season

(Season 46)

I hope that you will make the most of the opportunity the AGM affords; a platform for players to hear about the workings of the organisation and to offer up comments on past work and articulate thoughts about the direction of travel for the Society in the future. Solutions to problems are always welcome as well as creative and/or innovative ideas!

I am sure the new committee will be equally keen to hear your thoughts, as in the past.

On that note, I hope you are excited, as I am, by the programming for the 47<sup>th</sup> Season; nine different composers, and eleven works. I am particularly looking forward to Yu Zhou Zhang joining us to perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No 23 in St Margaret's church in May; one of 3 soloists for the season. So much to stimulate and inspire performers and audience alike!

Please note carefully the Treasurer's Report regarding Waveney Sinfonia's financial position, any thoughts about how we can generate greater income via additional audience members or other methods would happily be discussed at one of our committee meetings. We need to plan for the future! Friends are having a positive impact on our finances so please do let Caroline know of anyone whom you think might like to join this 'merry throng'. Cecilia has done a fantastic job keeping us all 'in touch' via the Newsletter, conceived in the depths of Covid; a great addition to our communication with players! I am sure she would be delighted to receive any suitable content for future editions and indeed any feedback.

Other committee members continue to undertake sterling work, which mostly goes unnoticed but very much 'oiling the cogs' to ensure rehearsals and concerts are planned and delivered effectively; so many strands, too many tasks to list here in this Report. I am also grateful to those who have 'stepped up to the mark' on concert days to help with venue set-up, which is considerable! If you are fit and able, please do consider offering up a willing pair of hands.

It has been great to continue to develop our relationship with the Trinity Playgroup. A relationship which is mutually beneficial; always a good thing. This past year the same was true of our link with the Waveney River Trust. We hope that such links help promote Waveney Sinfonia in a wider orbit and potentially broaden our audience base.

Adrian, as always goes above and beyond, for which I am sure we are all grateful. His energy and commitment to Waveney Sinfonia is outstanding, helping to keep high quality, varied classical music-making alive in the Waveney and Lowestoft areas.

I always enjoy our committee meetings which blend serious and creative thinking, problem solving and good humour. The Covid Pandemic necessitated the introduction of Zoom Committee meetings; these have been retained since they are not only much more time efficient, but help to significantly reduce our carbon footprint. Win win!

Thanks to all involved in the family that is Waveney Sinfonia. Onwards and upwards, stronger together with a positive looking future. Please do promote our concerts with family, friends and acquaintances, if they don't know about the concerts, they can't make a choice! The more 'bums on seats' the happier I will be!

Keep well, keep safe,

Michael

Chair – Waveney Sinfonia