

CHAIRMANS REPORT 2020

Well what a strange year 2020 has been so far. A global pandemic and the country in lockdown, people working from home and teaching taking place online using various platforms. The arts and entertainment sector being almost completely shut down with no live performances and no end to this in sight as yet. How lucky we were that our Worthing Festival took place before lockdown began – many other festivals have not been so fortunate and have had to cancel their events.

Our festival in 2020 was a great event with memorable performances throughout the sections. Many thanks to all involved for working so hard to make the festival such a resounding success.

Looking forward to 2021 the Speech and Drama and Piano and Instrumental sections are intending to run during February. The Executive Committee and the Sub-Committees are making sure that the events will be as Covid safe as possible. The syllabi have been slimmed down too as some classes would not be able to occur safely at this time. There will be other measures in place nearer the time in accordance with government guidelines. The Dance and Singing sections will be taking place later in 2021 during October. Your current membership of the festival will entitle you to entry into all WMAAF events throughout 2021.

My thanks to the executive committee, the sub-committees and our administrator, Andrea Martin who all work hard to keep WMAAF functioning during this difficult time.

My best wishes to you all

Helen Emery

Chair (WMAAF)