



Life in Lockdown News Letter 12 February 20th 2021

Hello Everyone

It seems a long time since we had a News Letter to catch up with orchestra news and indeed the situation continues to be one of restrictions and lockdown but at long last the advent of the Covid vaccinations do provide that glimmer of hope for some return to life with family and friends as we all enjoy.

News of our Friends

As many of you may know, **Ray Southcott** (trumpet) has been very poorly having undergone a heart operation and suffering a subsequent stroke. He is now in respite but has recently tested positive for Covid, which has delayed some aspect of his treatment assessment. Ray, understandably is quite frustrated and his wife Jenny is unable to visit him and phone contact is quite difficult. Please keep Ray and Jenny in your thoughts and we do of course send our love and best wishes for his recovery and return home.

Roy Miles- a trumpeter with WCO for many years- has reported that they have at long last sold their home here on Wirral and all being well with the sale will soon be moving closer to their daughter and family – hopefully by the middle of May. We thank Roy for his years of support for WCO and will miss him greatly but wish him and his wife happiness in the new home down south. Perhaps there will be a southern version of WCO to enable him to continue to enjoy playing.

Christine Newmarch- also played flute with us for some years before taking time out for the birth of her twins is also on the move – but just to a bigger house to accommodate her family of 5 boys!! Those who watch the News Bulletins on TV will perhaps have seen Christine – pulling a curtain across in the ITU at The Royal Liverpool where she works as nurse. One of WCO's many keyworkers doing a great job under very difficult circumstances. A big thanks to all who have helped in this way.

For those of you on Facebook, Tricia keeps us entertained with her daily walks around Wirral and the photos uploaded to FB for us to enjoy and see that Spring is on the way with flowers and sunshine.

Vaccine Jabs

The very successful roll out of the vaccine has meant that many of our members have already had their first jab. Tom

Miller (flute) emailed to say he is well and having had his first jab and, like so many, is raring to go – when we can again do so!!

Owen Family News

January we welcomed the arrival of another grandson – Daniel born to Judith and Jon (some of you know her from WSWB and she joined us for the Play Day in the flute section). It's been a busy time for Ted and I as we "bubbled" to be able to help with the other two children Emily aged 6 and Alex aged 2.5yrs during Judith's few days in hospital after the caesarean birth and again for a few days when baby had to return to Manchester childrens for minor treatment and scans. Thankfully both Mum and baby are doing well. Emily and Alex had a wonderful time - but Felix the cat threatened to leave home!

As for me, thank you to all who have contacted to check up on my progress, I'm well on road to recovery now and back playing flute. I am due to start physio at the end of the month – not sure about this – I'm not into exercise of this type. However, a bit like playing scales – if you want nimble movement it has to be done!

West Kirby Church Halls

As you may expect, these remain locked with no immediate plans for reopening. I suspect like many we have to watch and wait the effect of the vaccine and for cases to fall to a manageable number. However, the instruments etc remain safely locked away in our store cupboard.

WCO AGM and FINANCE

We have not been able to hold our annual AGM and review the financial accounts and usual WCO business. However our tanks go to Tricia our treasurer who has had the accounts checked over for audit purposes – a copy of which is enclosed. If you have any queries or questions regarding the accounts or the orchestra in general, please do email them to me. We hope to have a committee meeting and a full AGM at some point when we can meet again. Till then keep safe and keep playing!

Lesley

Chair Wirral Community Orchestra
Contact: Lesleyowen21@gmail.com