**Music at St John’s**

Our charity continues to support the musical life of the church and its local community.

In 2018 we completed our fundraising for the organ at St John’s which allowed the Parish to repay the loan early.  We now expect to respond to specific requests from the church – for example to help with financing potential choral scholars.

**Music Festival 2019 (10 to 12 May)**

Plans are well under way for our annual Music Festival. This year we are again holding it in the Spring instead of the Autumn. It will begin with a lunchtime concert on Friday 10th May featuring a brass quintet named “J50”. If the weather is good we may be able to hold it outdoors! This will be followed by the very popular concert on the Saturday morning by the Dacorum Music School.

In the evening on that Saturday the Dacorum Youth Orchestra will give a concert to include a concerto with visiting soloist and this will be conducted by Claudio di Meo.

It is also hoped to hold another Festal Evensong on the Sunday – watch out for further news.

**Lunchtime concerts (17 May to 19 July)**

The Spring/Summer Series of Friday lunchtime concerts will continue from the week after the Festival. Look out for details of these concerts which will be displayed on the Music at St John’s noticeboard at the West End of the church.

**Your say in running this charity**

In order to increase awareness of the nature and objectives of Music at St John’s, we are planning to hold our Annual General Meeting immediately after the lunchtime concert on 4th October (over lunch!). This concert will take the form of a piano recital, given by Nicholas King, as part of our Autumn Series. We hope that more music lovers will attend and take an active part in the running of the charity.

**Music Bursaries**

We have widened the geographic area covered by our Music Bursary Scheme to cover the whole of Dacorum.

If you know of anyone under the age of 21 who is a music student that could benefit from some financial assistance, then do get them to contact us. They only need to have achieved a pass in Grade 3 or above (of the ABRSM or Trinity London examinations) and be either living or studying in the Dacorum area or offering their musical talents in one or more of the churches, schools or other musical bodies in Dacorum. See the brochure in the church.

**Music School educational events**

The Dacorum Music School continues to make good use of the facilities at St John’s by holding their UniSound, UniSong and ‘WOOFYT’ days in the church.

Thank you for your continuing support of ***Music at St John’s***.

Paul Davies, Chairman