

## Chair's Monthly Report- July 2020

Since my last report in May the orchestra committee has met and the weekly tea break meetings have continued a pace with generally twenty members popping in each week.

The virtual performances have been difficult but effective and instructive. They are hard work to get right and unlike in ensemble playing each player has to effectively play solo for all to hear in order that Sophia can then meld the total together via her digital wizardry.

Clearly although the online playing is helping us stay together as an organisation, the purpose of the orchestra is as a live ensemble making music together in the moment. As I write this piece the situation around live music is changing by the day and hopefully we are moving towards a position where the orchestra, perhaps in small groups, can begin to think about some outdoor performances to be recorded and shared on line. Here's hoping.

We were not successful in our emergency arts council bid. The Arts Council bid round will reopen in August 2020 and as an orchestra we will need to consider how we see our future delivering music over the next few years and make decisions as to where future funding bids should be targeted.

If you have any ideas that you would like the committee to consider please get in touch with me at [ged.mccormack@ntlworld.com](mailto:ged.mccormack@ntlworld.com) and I will see that it is raised at the next meeting.

Ged McCormack  
SSO Chair