



Sad News: As most of you know, we lost one of our Tune-Agers this past week. Carol French had been a member for many years; she sang Alto, and she was often part of a small group doing fun songs in concerts. Caring for others, helping those around her, always a friendly smile, that was Carol. And for many years, she was living with cancer, doing so with a quiet courage. We loved her and we'll miss her. Sing on, Carol. Our love to Jim and to all their family. (Peggy Whitley)
A big thank you to all those who came up with the idea of a song for Carol and Jim and to all who participated. It brought them great joy.

Virtual Choir: I just want to add to our news on the Christmas virtual choir pieces. It takes a village to raise a child and that is truly the case with those pieces. There are several people who played a part behind the scenes besides Nick, David and Katie I hear Liz also helped the sopranos and I apologise that she has not been thanked before. If I missed anyone please know you are thanked and appreciated. We have received more comments from our latest pieces as well as our first one "Waters of Babylon" and Judi has put these on our website. If you have received feedback please send them to me so that I can pass them on to Judi. On that "note" I would like to encourage people to go to our website <https://www.pentictontuneagers.ca> and check it out. We are starting to put more information under the Members section. Again, thanks to Judi for this work as it is time consuming but I know she loves doing it.

I know there is still some anxiety around participating in the virtual choir pieces and if you have any questions please contact Nick who can help you overcome any difficulties you may have.

Feedback: *Received this from Julie which I found helpful and she gave me permission to copy to everyone. If you have any thoughts or comments you would like to share please just let me know.*

"For me, even though it was daunting taping my own voice and listening to it (at least 100 time per song (well that might be a bit of an exaggeration but that is what it felt like) before I had the courage to send them in to Nick, I felt that the experience made me grow as a choir member. It forced me to listen to my vowel sounds and to try and get a warm alto quality into my voice. (and also, to remember to smile) Not sure if I succeeded but I became more aware of those things during the process. It by no means replaces singing side by side with your choir family, but I hope that when we all get back to normal, I will be a better chorister and

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look forward to our next projects. I hope more choir members will join us for the future virtual songs.



Dues: These are difficult times and we want to thank all those who have contributed. Some are taking part and some are just wanting to support us financially. If you are paying per session a reminder that the \$50.00 is due now. Thank you to Ron Oates our Treasurer for keeping the books up to date for us.

Orchestra Update: I have heard that the orchestra is trying out Zoom practices which is great news. I hope you will be able to do a virtual performance and/or join us once again in the choir songs.

Choir Update Well we are “back in the saddle again” and more people are going to try it out. I realize that one feels a little isolated singing to yourself and some weeks you wonder if it is helping but I find that I am learning a lot. Nick is great waving his arms and hoping that somewhere out there, people are singing. What a life of faith we lead these days!

Tote Bags there are 9 left and only \$15.00 so call Nora (250-462-3080) to get yours before they are all gone! and maybe you know a past Tune-Ager who might like one.

These are now collectors' items!!



Pandemic Wisdom: *We have had some response to the question of what have we learned during this pandemic.*

Judi writes: 2020 - The year that changed everything, the year everything changed. What COVID taught me was how important connectivity is, even when we can't get together. It gave me permission to be "sad" because I know "joy" and "smiles" will come again; without the dark the stars cannot shine. I have discovered that I have the 'grit' and the 'grace' to stay above COVID water. So, CONNECT, CONNECT, CONNECT.

Sarah: “I am amazed at how resilient we are. We come up with new ways of being and making things happen.” Please keep your “wisdom” coming.



Thank you: So many of you are helping in both big and little ways. Our leaders and those attending the choir and orchestra virtual practices and our “techies”. One other person is Norma who faithfully sends out cards to those who need to know we care in their time of need, to express our sympathy and get well wishes. Thank you, Norma.

You are probably seeing a new look to the newsletter and that is thanks to Judi who takes the information and by magic this newsletter format appears.

As you may know I have moved into town and my new phone number is 778 622 0762. Keep on singing there is light at the end of this tunnel. *Sarah*