

Monthly Update

We've found our first Library Management team

The search is over. We are delighted to announce that Neil Collins has been appointed as the first Library Manager of the New Surrey Performing Arts Library.

Neil has a wealth of experience, in both music and business, and has many strings to his bow. A professional tenor choral singer, he has also worked for Boosey & Hawkes in their retail and lending library operations, and set up his own music retail business in Woking. More recently he has been working at a major UK and International music retailer in Surrey as a Key Account Manager in their publishing and retail operations, including supervising part of the John Rutter music hire library. He has also set up his own choral music reference website, www.choralmusicpages.com. In his spare time Neil enjoys volunteering and supporting non-league football in his home town, Woking.

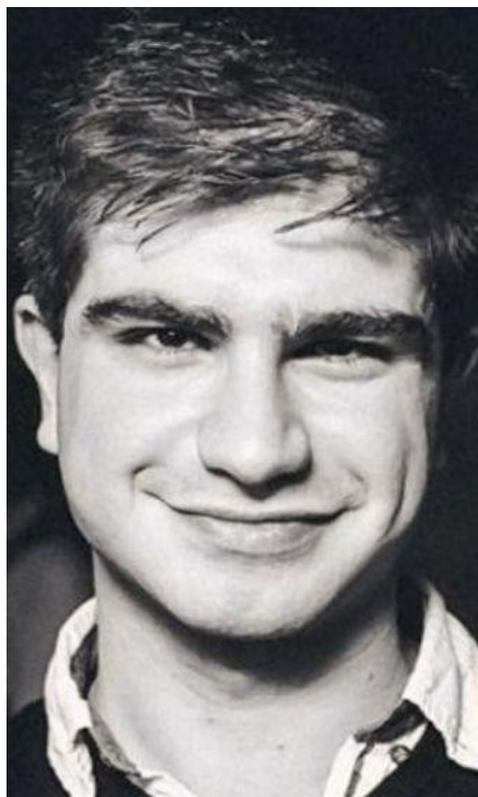


Neil has taken a keen interest in NewSPAL from the beginning and volunteered as a team leader, helping with cataloguing the collection in the early stages of the project. He is looking forward to taking on the challenge of opening the library to users and ensuring all our groups benefit from an uninterrupted service. We are really pleased that Neil has joined the team as a member of staff and will be working with the Trustees and all our wonderful volunteers.

We are equally excited to announce the appointment of our Deputy Library Manager, Dimitri Chrysostomou.

Dimitri is a freelance professional conductor, music editor and Manager of the London Conducting Workshop. He conducts Stoneleigh Choral Society and other leisure music groups, both orchestral and choral, as far apart as Reading and Bristol. Some of his past activities have included organising massed choir events and performances for the John Lewis Partnership. He holds a BMus degree from Birmingham University and is a trained classical saxophonist. In his spare time, Dimitri enjoys arranging music, and also playing video games, which he considers a supreme collision of art and science.

Dimitri is looking forward to working with the NewSPAL team and getting to know the extensive collection. He will be working part time and keeping up with his busy schedule of other musical activities. <https://www.dimitrichrysostomou.com/>



We'll be opening for business soon

Now that our new staff are appointed we can begin to plan for opening in earnest. Neil and Dimitri will be joining us in July and August, but the library will be a flurry of activity over the new few weeks as we rearrange shelves, get our new signage in place and generally get the space ready for borrowers and browsers, both physically and virtually.

If you would like to volunteer and offer practical help with this (we could do with some more muscle!) please get in touch with our Start Up Manager, Gabe: gabrielle.gale@newspal.org.uk

News of how groups can register to borrow will follow soon, so we ask for your continued patience. We really want the transition from Ewell Library to be as seamless as possible, so we will be working hard to ensure you get the sets you need over July - September, and beyond. Watch this space...

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