	Questions from the webinar on 22nd May have been grouped	
	into some broad categories, and answers from the panel have	
	been put in as below. Apologies if yours did not receive a	
	specific response - but it is a great deal of material to work with.	
	Sections are:	
	Technology	
	Science	
	Organs	
	Music	
	General	
	Choirs	
ł	Question	Answer(s)
	One of the things which I'm sure I am not alone in believing that	
	why people attend church & which encourages people to attend is	Therefore, we will easy to address
	participating together, and singing together Attending for said	Thank you - we will seek to address
	services are likely to be much less appealing - we need to bear this	this question
1	in mind. Thanks :)	
	More about technology/licensing	
	What can we do with technologies to help this happen in	We will help with this as best we
	'ordinary' parish churches as well as those with a wealth of	can
93	resources?	
	I was prompted to set up a choir newsletter using Windows 10	
	Sway. The choir love it instead of too many emails. I intend to open	
	the newsletter to the choir to edit with a password. Already	
	members are starting to send me information and comment and	
	advice. The choir are advised what the Sunday streamed music will	Thank you for the helpful suggestion
	be so they can rehearse and sing it at home I included some music	
	theory and training and link to RSCM RCO and other on-line	
	resources. One RSCM Durham Committee member runs a weekly	
015	on line hymn practice.	
_+J	for my fellow Roman Catholics, OCP has just offered free licensing	
252	for its material until Christ the King Sunday	That's helpful - thank you
	What can we learn and apply in the future to develop greater	New guidance from CoE will include
	connectivity with the wider community of each parish through the	ways of keeping online streaming
	connectivity with the wider community of each parish through the application of technologies, new kinds of service and teaching	
3		going DP
3	application of technologies, new kinds of service and teaching	
3	application of technologies, new kinds of service and teaching	going DP
3	application of technologies, new kinds of service and teaching	going DP The RSCM website does have

#	Question	Answer(s)
		We have some further webinars
		being designed at the moment to
	Virtual choirs are only effective if there is someone with expertise	help people with practical
19	and about 80-100 hours of editing time available	suggestions and help with this
	Some of our congregation worry that we will lose our vicar to be	
	replaced by virtual worship! , don't forget, live streaming from the	
	vicar's study is technologically easy compared to streaming a love	
	service with the need for mutliple camera angles and, probably, a	
20	dedicated operator.	
	Could we perhaps move to the implications for church musicians,	
	science behind when and where it's safe to sing in the church	
	building, what technology is best for synching individual singers	
	recording remotely, what copyright issues affect us on different	
	streaming platforms, how a choir or individual cantors can continue	
27	safely?	
		Do see the RSCM website advice:
	Re licensing, check out the CCL website - there are new multi-	https://www.rscm.org.uk/live-
28	faceted licences available here and elsewhere.	streaming-of-church-services/
		Do see the RSCM website advice:
		https://www.rscm.org.uk/live-
31	One License is a good place to start	streaming-of-church-services/
	Adding to the comment about virtual choirs: while these can	
	produce good results, the experience of contributing is nothing like	
	that of singing together properly. I worry that if the virtual	
	experience is all we can do, we will lose some of our younger	
36	musicians in particular.	
	We do not have internet coverage at our village church so any	
37	streamimg of a live service would not be possible	
	Our age profile is high. Many of us are over 70 and will not go	
	anywhere until we have a vaccine. Could we incorporate recorded	
41	items into services much as I prefer live music?	
	Can the KSCIVI advice be enhanced to build understanding for	
	musicians and clergy on the additional pressures of livestreaming	
	music, especially if the recording is then available for listening after	
	it is live.	
	Would a mixed aconomy of worship in shursh and live stressing in	
	Would a mixed economy of worship in church and live-streaming in	We will look into this.
	the future reduce or increase the people prepared to participate in	
	church music?	
<b>F</b> 4	Advice over implications for fees will probably be needed for some	
54	churches too.	

ŧ	Question	Answer(s)
60	Advice on using Zoom to stream services Churches using Zoom to stream services need both the CCLI Streaming Licence and the PRS for Music LOML [Limited Online Music Licence]. This is because Zoom doesn't currently have an agreement with PRS for Music as YouTube and Facebook do.	Yes, see the RSCM page for more info,
61	This is all very well, but there is huge gulf emerging in terms of abilitity to invest in technology/kit required; and the skills gap. We see lots of fabulously professoinal output, but that demands hours of work in editing. Not every parish church has the money to do this - are grants going to be available to support parishes?	We will help with that as best we can in terms of advice; but the RSCM does not have funds available to give financial support in this way.
69	Clergy need help with technology to incorporate home items.	We will be running more support webinars soon, with teach-ins on Tech.
72	Not everyone has technology!	
75	John Hall - for most parish choirs, the expertise for virtual singing together is not there AND having tried it, is truly awful	It's a very valid point; we will be delivering sessions on how to help people understand the best things they can do
76	Any one able to say which specific technology works best as zoom is not useful for choir or group singing.	Any technology platform has a problem with latency on the web - though we understand that people are working on ways to combat that. We will share information as soon as we can.
77	Snging together over Zoom is _really_ not the same as singing together. You have to mute, the differing lags mean you can't listen to other people, just the conductor/accompaniest	Yes: and so it is important to keep working forwards to get live music making possible
	Any recommendations of applications that enable singing in sync from multiple locations?	Any technology platform has a problem with latency on the web - though we understand that people are working on ways to combat that. We will share information as soon as we can.
81	Is there now a programme which will allow people to sing simultaneously which has overcome the timing difficulties?	We understand that there is something still in preparation. We wil share information about that as soon as we know about it!
83	People are not rehearsing 'together' because of internet latency. Can we hear from someone who has coped with such online rehearsals in a way that they think was satisfying for all parties involved?	We will supply some more webinars and teach-ins on this.

#	Question	Answer(s)
86	Creating music for service s with referecne tracks and individual recording of singers indiviudal is presently very time consuming What can we learn from best practice in rehearsals to apply in parish churches to maintain quality but reduce production times?	Sessions coming
	I would love to be able to rehearse my choir remotely, but both I and they would need detailed instructions from a technical perspective as to how actually to go about this. Can the RSCM help here?	Yes! We will do what we can - more webinars coming up soon - in the next week or two. Keep alert to our news streams!
-	We need to help people to feel comfortable to sing out loud at home, especially congregation members. otherwise hymn singing will not be experienced over several months. i am offering people support in this and also recor\ding music with voices to sing a long to. things like copyrights and licneses have an impact on what you can use though.any advice on this?	Sorry that there wasn't time to cover this one.
96	Very interesting comments about streaming but in many churches musicians have contracts allowing for broadcast fees which would be prohibitive. What advice can be given under those circumstances?	
101	Are there any quick guides to putting together, not the high production video-focused virtual choir, but a simple audio virtual choir - and for those of us with organists who don't have an instrument at home, recorded organ tracks with permission to use in streaming? I'm familiar with simple online tools for combining audio tracks and making simple adjustments, where we're struggling is the simple matter of getting good enough, in-sync recorded singing!	Some information here: https://www.rscm.org.uk/recording- your-choir-by-andrew-moodieronny- kripner-nicolas-moodie-and-sachin- gunga/ And we will be offering further training sessions soon
109	Keeping in touch is very important. A chat via Zoom like St Mary's Harrow on the Hill for a chat is very helpful	Yes
	Still very confused about all the copyright and licensing arrangements needed for music. I would do more live streaming if I knew how we could cover the copyright. Without people able to play live or record for us we need to rely on pre-recorded music but I understand that is not covered by CCLA streaming license? Finding appropriate backing tracks is difficult.	I will get this topic aired very shortly
117	When rehearsing choirs who are singing from their homes, using Zoom, for example, is everyone putting the singers on mute for most of the time, so avoiding time-lag and other problems, or is there a way to listen to the choir you are rehearsing?	Yes, that is the most common solution.
120	Weekly Zoom meetings with the trebles in the meantime has been really well received at Mellor. I'm finding singing on Zoom VERY difficult!	

#	Question	Answer(s)
121	Thats a useful point now David last night we tried singing a hymn together on Zoom - hilarious but couldn't keep in time- updates you mention Hughwill be great thank you !! :))	keep staying in touch though ;)
122	Rehearsals over video technolgy has been mentioned. In my own work with choristers, I've found that social meetings and theory teaching by zoom are useful, but rehearsals, or anything musical is very difficult, given the limites of zoom. Is there any technology more adept for real time musical back and forth?	
126	As part of the Church's preparation is there a possibility of music being made available centrally, sheet and guitar and other instruments? Also as we're unlikely to be able to use hymn books and song sheets could the resources include hymns and songs in say PowerPoint form?	COVID and remote services cannot shortcut exisiting copyright arrangements
129	If live streaming or some kind of live broadcasting is going to be the way forward - can the RSCM work with Facebook or YouTube to sort out their bogus copyright claims on original content? Content ID is hindering some of what we're trying to do (now)	yes - agreed - more work needed - the job has started though
130	Those who have gone into social media services for the first time need to know about licences for streaming music; will there be any mention of this? CCLI is the obvious place to go to check 'legality', but I've found that it's not that straightforward.	see above
131	it's the wifi provision that's the problem and I doubt you can address that! We need practical info on what is possible to sing together, not just virtually	We will probive input on this as soon as we can - we need more information from the Church(es) first
	the latency is not good enough to rehearse amatuer choirs together even with good tech. one has to rehease voice parts seperately. i have adpated many things but find it takes 3 times as long and think these time needs support. I would like rscm to involve those of us at a local level. we have to miss choir visitng tours, we cant get organ accompaniment etc.	We are working to develop support for this.
	What are the copyright implications of streaming music? I rehearse with my choir via the choir Facebook page and an iPhone so it need not be a costly excercise and most people have Facebook. If they don't I put my rehearsal online with a link so it	See the RSCM webpage
155	can be accessed. members can rehearse at any time other than the alloted time.	

#	Question	Answer(s)
162	Mnay who lead music in local parish churches are both vulnerable due to age and not confident in the use of technology. They are often the ones who maintain and develop music in the their churches and play the organ (in the absence of 'proper' organists - many of whom apparently do not wish to take on the commitment of regular practices and services.) There has been no live streaming from many churches, but at the best a newsletter via e mail. There is nobody who understands the use of the technology needed. How can such churches be helped to carry out any of these ideas?	
204	Just from a personal and practical point of view, if we're ready to say that "good enough" is fine, nobody needs to spend a lot of money or a lot of time. I feel very sad that a lot of clergy are giving up because they look at big and whizzy systems that depend on expensive equipment and skilled volunteers giving much time. How can we help churches find a path to "good enough"? I have a parish choir of 10 to 12 members aged in their 70s and 80s. The weekly practice and Sunday services are a lifeline for many of them. I have held Zoom rehearsals each work with the muting spoken about. Is there any way of getting sounds Together. Thanks	
	you Bryony Rees Felsted With live streaming how does one stand with regard to the law ie	See previous answers
234	copyright and performing rights. I eventually got it right! Here's a shortened link to what looks a	
247	really useful article! https://bit.ly/record-your-choir	
260	Thank you Charlie - really great contect and responses. Lots of singers can't bear doing Zoom recordings - whether professional or amateur - as all it does is highlight the feeling of isolation.	
	SCIENCE	
2	Will the specific issue of proper distancing when singing, and that it may need to be greater than 2m, be addressed? Will we be following Germany's lead in 'cancelling' singing?	Charlie - I believe we covered this during the seminar. At present the risk assessment from Freiburg suggests 2m is adequate and we are unlikely to cancel singing to the best of my knowledge
5	I hope the evidence on BOTH sides of the debate re singing will be discussed, and not just the anecdotes that are becoming thought of as "fact" in the general psyche	Charlie - I hope we did just this. The science is unclear, so it's now all about 'best possible risk assessment'

#	Question	Answer(s)
17	I think we should be giving consideration the possibility of the epidemiological 'second wave'. I.e. what can we learn from our experiences from the beginning of the lockdown to now, and how can we prepare for a possible return to our current restrictive state towards the end of 2020?	CB thank you for raising this and I agree. This is why flexibility and an attention to changing evidence is so important. A risk assessment is not going to be once and for all.
21	The Government advice regarding re-opening primary schools contains: ,'Sharing stories, singing and playing outdoor games will help all children to socialise and resettle into familiar everyday classroom routines.' Is this based on scientific advice, and does it affect children's choirs?	
25	This could be very unpredictable(!), but I would love to hear any science or thoughts on the idea of whether sung worship might be possible outdoors given that the virus seems much less able to be transmitted outdoors?	CB please see above
30	Has there been discussion of the short and medium term possibility of singing by the UK government so far? I am not aware that in discussion of schools returning, there has been discussion of a ban on singing there (?) - unless that is taken for granted?	CB only in the context of schools so far - and that is limited.
34	I am a teacher and I have not been told I cannot sing with the kids in schoolhow is that different to singing in church?	CB - good question. There are possibly concerns about the capability of a church to manage risl in the same way as a school, but the underlying science doesn't change - just the risk assessment
40	Music. In terms of production, would instruments other than ones blown be safer to use?	CB - the Freiburg risk assessment now suggests that wind instruments may not pose a greater risk. There is still limited evidence.
44	In my choir the Director is a Chartered Nuclear/Chemical Engineer and a bass an Emeritus Professor of Mechanical Engineering who has operated in the medical field. We are currently "privately" in discussion on modelling and considering the options and issues including singing, management, logistics and handling of music in the choir. Will this information be useful for those working out solutions and how can it be taken into account? Having been involved in radiological protection - there are some lessons to be learned in contamination control!	

#	Question	Answer(s)
50	How safe is it to have just a solo singer for hymns with no congregation? Is that not an option at this point?	CB - one thing I might add would be if that solo person is celebrating the Eucharist, the elements would need to be covered
55	We're a household of a priest and a cantor/instrumentalist - we're already able to be in the church livestreaming Mass on Sundays - but what precautions should we take if another household is allowed to join us?	CB - this should be covered in church guidance, but from a purely generic point of view government guidance is available on the gov.uk website for public shared places
66	Will these models be peer reviewed by scientists or thsoe involved in public health?	
85	If we have to be 5 meters apart not many churches will be able to have 4 parts and a congregation!	5 metres apart is not part of guidance I have seen to this point: it comes back to the question of meaningful risk assessment
140	i suspect we will all need to get immunity tests?	CB the point on immunity is complicated, and at the moment the evidence on whether you become immune, and for how long, following infection is limited.
	Charlie, speaking as a scientist too, thanks for a calm, considered approach	Thank you for your positive reply.
	Is a soloist close mic'd likely to transmit the virus?	
164	Can you clarify why congregational singing would be safe before choral singing? That seems to be contradictory. Or, do you mean that once we're finding safe socially distanced ways to sing chorally that it can also apply to the congregation at the same point of time?	CB essentially the point you're making, yes. So either singing in large numbers is OK or it's not although bearing in mind different dynamics and requirements for congregational vs choral singing
	<ol> <li>What is the source for saying that congregational singing is safe?</li> <li>I'm hearing the opposite in the US.</li> <li>Is singing any different from projecting when speaking? Is proclaiming scripture during service also dangerous?</li> </ol>	Hi Dana - it's the current thinking from risk assessment by the University of Freiburg. It's risk assessment though - it's not definitive.

#	Question	Answer(s)
		CB just to follow up my earlier reply, it's not clear whether it's safe, but risk assessments are moving towards allowing it rather than not allowing it as the underlying science isn't robust enough to suggest that it's a big enough risk to ban it
173	I'd love to know the basis of the more positive view expressed on congregational singing, can studies and articies be linked to?	Sure - it's part of the current risk assessment from the University of Freiburg. Tiresomely, the website is currently down - but you should be able to find it later! Sorry to be a pain.
178	Charlie Bell was very helpful. He didn't mention the possible additional factor with singing of the more powerful inhalation that is (should?!) be being used to sing.	CB sorry yes you're right. Essentially the same points remain when we think about aerosols - until we know that it's aerosol, then neither inhalation or exhalation are evidenced as causes.
	Thanks so much Charlie- that was some of the clearest advice about modes of transmission I've ever heard during this entire crisis.	
188	If contamination lasts up to 72 hours, then would one household going in every 3 days eliminate the need for cleaning?	
195	The Biorisc project at my College (St Catharine's) that Charlie mentioned is here: https://covid-19.biorisc.com/ Thank you to Dr Charlie Bell, most helpfuldroplets v aerosols very	Aha! I hope you don't mind me mentioning it - it's cracking!
	useful indeed. Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida is advising 12 ft distancing of singers! It is all to do with increased and stronger air-flow, singing, projection of speech - and that it is the asymptomatic person in a group from whom those group members need protection. I'm thinking masks	That does sound a challenge
259	Question for Charlie: with so many choirs primarily made up of over 65s can you foresee any circumstances under which these can meet before the arrival of a vaccine?	Very tricky indeed. This is going to be a challenge - and one we haven't really been dealing with. The reality is that probably a lot of older people won't be in church in the first place - but yes, thank you for raising this. I will think further on it.

#	Question	Answer(s)
267	In a previous seminar in the US, I heard that breathing sends forth a certain amount of aerosolized droplets, speaking sends ten times as much, and singing sends forth 60 times as much.	not yet proven
	Charlie, from a fellow student at St Augustine"s, thank you so much for your calm and measured approach. It is much appreciated. Your many hats, past and present are so helpful in this context.	
_,,		Sorry - I should have. They should be
273	Have we asked about use of hymn books - paper worshipsheets	single use.
	ORGAN(ISTS)	
6	Does the church organist's practice count as private prayer?	No
23	Is the pipe organ a wind instrument?	CB I think I covered this but in short, it's not considered a risk in the way that winc instruments had been (the feeling on this is also possibly shifting anyway)
	Are we allowed in Church, by ourselves, to play the organ for an hour occasionally ? As an instrument with moving parts the pipe organ needs to be played occasionally just to keep it ticking over. I have heard conflicting advice about this matter.	There is CofE guidance which allows technical playing of notes on the organ; but practice is not permitted. However there is strong awareness that this needs
	Can the panel say something, please about the care of our organs that have sat silent for weeks now, often in unheated churches.	to be changed There is very specific guidance on organs on the CofE website.
		Not at present in the CofE - though other denominations may have other policies
	Can organists access churches to practice the organ? Our organists are practising alone in church with cleaning precautions. Surely no issue with this?	It is not currently within CofE guidelines - see their website which has very specific information
175	With the organs not being played, this is going to cause deteriation of mecahnical parts. Can an organist not going in to start the organ up and play scales to ensure all keyboard contacts are kept servicable?	This is allowed - see the CofE website
179	The PM has said people should get back to work. Organists practice is work. They just need to be sure that they clean the console and keys before and after practice. The church does not need to be open for public worship for that to happen	See points about CoE guidance
	CofE regs already allow organists especially with complex instruments to enter churches and play them in order to keep them functioning. Organs do not thrive neglected in unheated churches. The organist of a Cuity church told me yesterday that she had gone in to try her organ after two months - several ciphers appeared but were fixed after 20 mins of playing. the point here is that this is definitely allowed. So practice can be viewd as a maintenance activity. Is organ teaching going to be allowed?	

	Question	Answer(s)
	Can't see the harm in the organist going in on their own. it's hardy less	
	safe than 10s of people together in a small supermarket is it? why make	agreed
187	the church more problemmatic than anywhere else?	
	Re organ practice: it's not just a question of practice, we also have to	
	consider the instruments themselves. If elderly pipe organs are not played	
189	regularly, damage to bellows, action etc will surely follow.	
		current advice says that they should be
	Pipe organs need to be played if they are not to become unplayable. Is	turned on and off and 'played' regualrly
194	there any advice on how best to do this in current circumstances? It might be useful to have some guidance on what kinds of cleaning	
	products can be safely used on organ keys and consoles, especially for	The RCO has advice about how to clean
107	historic instruments.	organs on the iRCO part of its website
197		
	On Matthew's comment - IF weddings are permitted sooner that "larger	
	gatherings" I wojld not expect there to be an organist. Before lockdown	
	this was only bride, groom, 2 witnesses and priest. Not sure you'd get	
98	away with barring teh bride's mother but letting in teh organist"	
	'- Should organ restoration work by say two or three engineers now be	
	allowed. We have an essential rebuild planned and would like to go ahead	
	asap. There would be no other people present during the work apart from	
202	asap. There would be no other people present during the work apart from myself when needed! Thank you.	
202		
202	myself when needed! Thank you.  Musical considerations	
202	myself when needed! Thank you.          Musical considerations         There are many opportunities for music without singing. Good and	
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•	Question	Answer(s)
	Ne wont know that about the choir until the resereach in the US by Nats	
â	and other professionals worldswide are conducted. inside singing will be	
1	ess likely than outside singing.	
٦	The demographic of the parish church choirs is very at risk. I think the	
5	inging praise will need to be spred out in the congregaton but the	
5	inging of choirs will have more time to get back to the status quo.	
	Norldwide from curricula in education to choirs in church, there are a lot	
c	of universities and so on doing the research to make it safe and doable	
	rom the many vocal and performance professional communites I am a	
	nember of as a Director of music and a singing teacher and musician. I	
	hink the most important thing is to keep a global connecton for all the	
	ndo needed.	
	think that the numbner of upcoming funerals is an isuue and the music	
	or those may be something to help people focus on creating remotely. and for cancelled weddings.childrens singing is likly to be the first allowed	
+∠ c	and for cancelled weddings.crilldrens singling is likty to be the first allowed	
		David is trying to answer this now: the
1	No-one doubts the importance of maintaining musical practicies and	emphasis is essentially that sensible,
t	raditions, but we really need hard suggestions on what the practical	locally-based risk assessment is gong to
48 s	afegaurds we need to put in place. We nave been included two or three musical items in our 200m worship	be a useful thing to do
e	each Sunday. We have included psalms, hymns and solo items as well as	Do email me more details if you like
5	mall family ensembles. This has been very well received by the Zoom	about that: we can look at at sharing
C	congregation who have also enjoyed singing along at home. (St Michael's,	good examples of 'the possible'
	CofE, Bishop's Stortford)	good examples of the possible
	'm the Director of Music at the Anglican Cathedral in Montreal, Canada	
(	RSCM affiliated). We are very keen to act as a supportive musical hub for	
	other churches in our city and diocese, especially as we've been producing	
	number of musical sources based around hymnals and practices in use	
	nere. I know the RSCM's presence in Canada, and especially Quebec, is	
	quite small, but are you able to help and advise us how best to provide	Hi. Great to hear from you - may I
	nore localised and specialist support? We are blessed to have a well-	suggest you send me a separate email?
	unded and staffed music programme, and the Cathedral is committed to	hmorris@rscm.com
	supporting that as much as possible, and it strikes us that now is the time	innoms@rscm.com
	o find ways of sharing our resources with other churches who are	
	truggling more right now. I appreciate that this might not be the	
	appropriate forum for this so if not maybe you can suggest how best to	
	direct this query. For when we're back in church but socially distance: Doing rounds in	
	church can be good socially distanced, as people probably realise!! Have	
	ried this in happier times with people leading from the 4 corners of the	
	hurch. Antiphonal singing also great. Nind intruments are as much a problem as singing - in terms of air used,	
	so we need to be careful with what instruments we use.	
	wy worry is that all these digital choral developments are all very well it	
S	you are a volunteer choir director, or at a cathedral/abbey where the staff	
ā	are still being employed, but what would the pannel suggest for a smaller	We will supply some more information
C	athedral which has furloughed all its staff, and would now struggle to pay	about this soon to help people in this
ā	anyone without a significant cash injection before we can start to think	situation
	about the way forward?	

#	Question	Answer(s)
98	Suggestion: the "organ Mass" as an interim solution (for organ, read, any instrument with suitable repertoire available).	This is indeed a positive contribution - and should form part of the patchwork of possibilities going forwards
104	Not any extra question Hugh: What about participation by members of congregation in singing - as mentioned above. Choirs are one thing but they are part of the congregation. Essentially our singers could manage sat away from the rest in our ancient (but large building)	Yes - this will be part of the models in preparation
	I would like to think that, even if singing is disallowed for the time being, live organ music will be encouraged in church services to help with creating atmostphere in a worshipful style?	Guidance on organ music is coming, l believe.
153	I have a full-time job in science and work also as Director of Music at my local church (it usually takes about 8 hours a week). We have an older demographic in the choir; many cannot use Zoom and internet technologies - even accessing the YouTube RSCM service was too hard for some (excellent as it was). This is the reality where I am, and I don't have the bandwidth to build up online singing resources for my singers. They are very keen to get singing again - how can the RSCM help?	Maybe we can look at phone possibilities in a future webinar?
	It's good to be positive with ideas. How can we realistically support many of our parishes where there are no choirs, additional instrumentalists or organists and access to technology is limited?	We will be offering a simple set of solutions very soon.
	Congregational singing when the congregation are 2m apart??? Not sure I can visualise this!!	
171	Appreciate the practical contributions so far. Noone is talking about demographic, which for us, and many churches, makes everything riskier. So many people who come to church are relatively old or sick. We will have to consider the congregation's needs, which are aligned with, but not always identical to the (largely younger) choir's. As a primary school music teacher as well as organist & choirmaster, at	
	school we're planning not to be singing for now, until some more coherent guidance becomes available.	
	'Congregational singing is probably fine' Dr John Hall said that from 1 June it may be normal to have choirs in schools. The school where I work has concluded that we will have singing, but only in the 'bubble' or constant group of children in a class. They will have singing in that group, but a school choir involving selected children from several classes would not be acceptable.	
	I am very pleased to hear some talk of the practicalities for parish churches (not just cathedrals, etc), can RSCM please think carefully and creatively about possible solutions for diverse contexts, including black majority congregations like ours (RSCM affiliated) where passionate congregational singing is often a huge and essential part of people's spirituality, as well as physical movement during singing, etc.	Modelling of possible, creative solutions is in preparation
	Maybe some of the Lift Up Your Voice material is particularly helpful at the moment? (see the Webinars)	Indeed!

#	Question	Answer(s)
	Perhaps organists can revive alternatim, that splendid technique of	
	liturgical musical performance which inspired, for example, the Italian (eg	Yes! Great.
	Frescobaldi), and French (eg de Grigny) manner of liturgical	
261	accompaniment. Singers could be zoomed in. I feel sure a lot of singing teachers who train choritsers in a lot of the	
	cathedrals and large parish churches would be willing during this	Vec. were read the weekt
	lockdown to help their local churches choirs to seek good healthy singing	Yes - very good thought
266	and stay together and feel cared for	
	GENERAL	
	I am just being paid for the facebopok live rehearsal I give. but there is a	
	lot of more work to be done for the live sessions. As musicians who now	
	have no income, is the church and rscm in a postion to help with grants to	The RSCM does not have the funds to
	fund musicians for their time to create all the new demands of online	support this kind of need. The best place
	sessions.	I can suggest is the IAO Benevolent fund.
	re the risk= its risk versus wellbeing re singing in the choir too and trying	
59	to keep both live music and online going with grace and faith.	
55	Hello Hugh. Thanks for all the marvellous work you are doing with RSCM. I	
	agree that we need to look forward to practical music-making again -	
	virtual not being a long-term solution.	
	As we at Melbourne visit several Cathedrals over a year, I'm in touch with	
	several for future and current bookings. The responses seem to vary	We are working with the CofE to
	enormously from those who are taking no bookings to those who are	formulate what we can. I think that the
	happily pencilling in dates as soon as October. There seems to be different	
	guesses about when choirs can restart. Do you think this will be a	sensible patterns of risk assessment - to
	CofE/RSCM directive or are we likely to be at the whim of the Diocese or	sensible parameters.
	indeed individual parish. My concern is that neighbouring parishes could be interpreting guidance in a more or less risk adverse way! What we need	
100	is directives for different situations as the usual guidance is so open to	
106	considerable variance!	
	Thank you for comments. Church leadership will need some clear guidance	
	in a summary sheet on copyright and streaming. this is sometimes a grey	
113	area - even streaming common worship moves into copyright	
	One great concern is that without live music in churches congregations in	
	the building itself will diminish - along with the revenue which is needed.	
	We are concerned that virtual attendees at online events will not donate as	
143	generously as those who are physically in the building.	
	how is the church and rhe rscm keeping contact with the voice scientific	
	research worldwide for example to keep knowledge as factual as possible.	
	There was a bus symposium in the USA last week from NATS with	There are groups mosting which involve
	scientists at the for front.	There are groups meeting which involve
		musicians, scientists, and the church itsel
	I think it will take time so developing a plan for the older congregant	RSCM is one of the attending
		organisations.
	singers add choroal singers who appear most at risk so they can keep	
	singers adn choroal singers who appear most at risk, so they can keep singing safely is VERY important for their wellbing and continuing their	

	Question	Answer(s)
216	'Congregational singing is probably fine' here in Canada we are not having any congregational singing for a long time. All the evidence we have seen suggests that congregational singing is probably not at all fine.	Thank you for the helpful comment from Canada.
242	Two of my choirs are due to sing at Cathedrals within the UK this August (as visiting choirs), neither Cathedral has cancelled as yet. Is it likely that we will be able to sing services in Cathedrals this August ?	It seems not likely that a full visit would be possible - but you should contact each 'host' cathedral directly.
253	please can we hear about churches with no paid musicians or technological expertise? music has also been at the heart of their worship, but sometimes the RSCM seems be for the more priviledged. Even voice for life often feels as if it directed towards those who already play instruments and have a lot of musical knowledge.	Hugh: The RSCM is definitely working to make sure it is for all. We are changing and evolving very fast - in what I hope will be perceived as a good way!
4	FROM THE USA: Churches are opening up NOW - with State/County/and Municipal permission and guidelines. The Diocese of Central Florida, for example, has suggested opening on Pentecost - the guidelines are extensive in refernece to social and hygiene practices.	
0	I believe that the various countries of the UK are different in their re- opening according to the different countries of the UK. It is also worth remembering that the RSCM has people across the world! So the rules are varying.	We are very pleased to be in close contact with our International Partners: we are also well aware of the divergences in approach across the country; and
	efforts to return to pre-virus type services. Hopefully we will place more emphasis on what we each do as Christians during the week and become 7 day a week Christians rather than 1 hour a week "Christians". How can we use this current time to become more involved with our wider	indeed the world
	communities? Perhaps we should explore having services in the open air during the Summer months do it differently and special. Until we know it is safe to move back into buildings with all the challenges of deep cleaning after every service especiallin trad churches with pews etc many congregations have established digital channels to our communities	CB I think I covered this in the seminar but outdoor services do seem to be a reasonable suggestion
	and so doing reached many more - including those who are unable to attend in person for a range of reasons. Do the panellists think we are now called as a church to provide digital means by default even after this season is over? What do we offer to this wider community when we do	Currently being answered, in part, I think!
	regain full access? Please stop the pontificating and whinging. Tell us some stuff encouraging and how we can best serve our congregations. We all wish we weren't in this situation, but we are. So where do we go from here safely and effectively?	Postive suggestions coming!
	So, why can't church buildings be opened for live-streaming WITH musicians even now? Suitable distancing can be maintained especially in the absence of a congregation. City/town centre cnurches and catheorais nave more people attending and	
	some full! There are others in many areas in the UK where the congregations can meet in a socially distanced way and hopefuly sing. Is	

•	Question	Answer(s)
	Before we get to optimistic about numbers "tuning in" to live streams, do consider what facebook and youtube count as "a view".	
	Facebook, I believe, will count "a view" as 3 second of the video playing. Videos also auto-play on people's home-feeds. This is not the same as sitting in your seat in church for an hour, remaining, engaging, and contributing.	
	I would hazard a guess that this is not be what the majority of "viewers" of live stream will be doing.	
26	Perhaps quality vs quantity of engagement could be discussed by the clerics?	
	Not everyone, particularly choristers from poorer backgrounds don't have	
	access to technology to be able to take part. Will church and church music	
33	become more exclusive?	
25	will it be possible to get a copy of the recording so i might share with my	Yesit's on the RSCM news feed on the
35	Dean if he is unable to join? May I ask how broadcasting services with congregations will comply with	website homepage
20	GPDR regulations?	I think this is a question for the CofE to
50	Further on the singing thing, if churches are not likely to be able to	issue some guidance on.
	encourage corporate singing in our buildings for some time, how do we	
	encourage singing as a key part of our recovery and healing? E.g. more	
	outdoor worship? Learning to get people singing at home through online	
39	worship and webinars.	
	Justin Senneff from Los Angeles, California, USA. July 4th is also the projected date the County of Los Angeles hopes to be re-opened (we are one of the largest in the Country, if not the largest, Pop 13 million). No word from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles, except there are talks that Parishes will be open soon for private prayer	Do share your experiences with us.
	To what extent do you think that the current crisis will accelerate the	
52	ongoing alarming decline in regular churchgoers?	
	The past few weeks have been a complete gift to the disabled and elderly who were always told they couldn't have services streamed from their churches because it was too hard. Suddenly it all became possible and their lives have been transformed. We cannot go back on this for them -	
	they are members of our church just as much as those who can gather. Given the Archbishop of Canterbury's approach to clergy praying in their own church buildings, and the fact that he is the Church of England's representative on the Government Task Force, how confident can we be that his input, and the Church of England's guidance, will be as permissive as possible?	I was encouraged that the meeting of which I was part last week was actively looking at 'the possible', not defining th 'impossible'
	I don't think it's just the issue of the church service - choir rehearsals are usually far more confined for most churches	Guidance coming from (a) the church an (b) then the RSCM as soon as it is available.

#	Question	Answer(s)
82	While this isn't our direct subject today, it's related: is any work being done on the issues around various heating systems? I've just moved from one church with an air-blown system to another big perpendicular church with an even bigger air-blown system (both of them recycling air). It's not music, but it has the same "breathing" questions!	One for the church authorities to think about - we will pass it on!
94	I do wish people would stop referring to "the Church" - state which one, please! Hugh - hurrah for factsheets etc!	Thank you for your helpful observation - we will keep referring to different denominations and I will make sure that the Archbishop has a chance to respond, too We're on the case!
97		
	Hearing all. Can we have another webinar when we know a bit more please kecognising the spiritual dimension and ritual dimension of our music making, how will these dimensions come into play as we honour our tradition but also engage our assemblies to best to join their hearts and minds to the liturgical action regardless of any contraints that might be in place?	Yes
	In the Church of England is it not the case that it is for individual priests and parochial church councils to decide what to do, rather than being told what to do by bishops or the 'central church'?	This is a question for the central CofE - we will pass it on.
107	Obviously the safeguarding aspects of online contact with children needs guidance as well.	Yes. Your Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor ought to be able to help with this.
108	will there be a published risk assessment, similar to that provided to schools by local authorities for us to use prior to returning?	I will try to get some model proformas produced and shared
	Many choir directors may be furloughed. Any scope for allowing some time to keep contact as Dr Price suggests?	It's probably something for a conversation with your vicar in the first instance.
118	How aware are the congregations of the health implications and risks of singing when buildings are reopened and that liturgies may well need to be without singing for a considerable time	When the parameters are better known, we will try to help share that.
119	As well as the "normal" services there are lot of other informal services like Play and Praise mainly 0-4 year olds + grandparents, Messy Church 6-14 plus adults. Will there be separate criteria for these types of group? Also a large number of schools in our parish visit our church.	We will make sure that the church authorities are aware of this.]
	Bravo RSCM- really leading the field here in resourcing and enouraging during this time. Thank you- proud of the organisation!	We are certainly giving our all to it.
	I see this session is being recorded: will it be available on the RSCM website for a wider audience?	Yes
	The RSCM webinars tend to be during the day, are recordings available for those of us part time organists who have to hold down a full time job during the day?	Yes; all webinars are recorded and on the webshop. The next set of webinars are currently being scheduled, and will take account of the fact that many people are now back at work.
	Guides will be very useful What can we learn from best practice from places like RAM and BBC Singers?	Collaborative dialogues are ongoing
138	The new normal is going to be different. It would be good if the Bishops can be postive over local solutions within CofE and in HofL.	

#	Question	Answer(s)
	Interesting that it has been said live services are important and yet all the	
	National CofE services are precorded and professionally edited. When are	We will pass this on to the CofE
	we going to see the Bishops dealing with what we're dealing with in	we will pass this on to the core
146	parishes, real live worship online.	
151	What timescale are we looking at for national church guidelines?	I will keep asking - and we will share this
	Excellent PDF from the US multiple national singers organisations webinar	
	on May 5, with an analysis of the Skagit Choir Situation that resulted in	
	death and transmission:	
150	https://www.nats.org/_Library/COVID_19_Resource_Docs/Milton_COVID-	
156	19_Singing.pdf so listening to this current speaker, are we likely not to have	
157	congregational singing for sometime?	We all await guidance on this!
157	Comment: if streaming out own services, we can reach further in the	
	apostolic task than if waiting for the BBC to allow it. Also, sacramental	
	participation is not the same as viewing in the future life of the church	
	(whilst I 100% endorse the need for now, and the benefit to	
159	housebound/sick).	
	At the moment, outdoor services would be a 'public gathering' and until	
	we're allowed to meet up beyond one-to-one 'socially distanced'	
165	arrangements: so it may be a solution, but not yet!	
	The current bishop guidelines limiting access to buildings seems to behind	we are advocating for this as I type!
166	the times, are they liekly to catch up soon?	5
167	Quote of the day - an organist is no more dangerous than a priest - wonderful,	Amen
107	Our bellringers are ringing alone with sensible precautions as well. We	
176	only have one bell though!	
170	We were going to interview for a new director of music just before	
	lockdown. We have candidates waiting do we wait for 'normality' or	Normality' is going to be quite a way of
	interview in a different way??? Not all may have technology. How might we	so you may prefer to conduct any
177	go about doing it safely?	interviews by phone/video call?
	I just would like to congratulate a good number of Portsmouth churches	
	for using locally pre recorded hymns and Clergy, Readers and +	
	Christopher for using them in live services. So many parishioners have felt	
180	encouraged and involved by being able to sing along in this difficult time.	
	Our church seats 80. With social distancing we will only need to have 8	
181	individual congregation members or 16 couples	
186	Funerals are happening in the RC church in Ireland - in church.	
	Thank you Hugh for offering to provide the information sources, much	
192	appreciated.	
100		It is hoped there will be something in
193	for us all?	next 2 weeks.
196	also need to think about those for whom music is their way of worshipping	
	There is reference on several occasions about children going back to	
	school. I have a year 6 going back to school on 1st June. The information I	
	have is that it will be very far from 'normal' including the fact that only a	
	few teachers will be in, only around half of the pupils, and I can't see music	
	staff (I am a peripatetic teacher) being into schools before September, if	

#	Question	Answer(s)
210	does rscm or the C of E have a hardship fund for church muscians? wen done san for acknowledging that stan (musical and other) also need	The IAO has a benevolent fund
	pastoral care. I don't say this snarkily, I have seen it pass clergy by in	
	countless environments and I agree the more erratic are currently very	
	vulnerable.	
217	So thank you. Much appreciated.	
	Furloughed musicians, in particular, are experiencing anxiety because they	
	want to do what they love, but as a condition of the CJRS, they cannot	
220	'work'. They feel helpless.	
	We need to recognise the ministry of music in our parishes. Many of us	
221	have been cut off from exercising that ministry, and that is painful and has	
221	an impact on mental health. Musicians and furlough. I guess that our professional musicians cannot	
222		
222	actually perform if they are furloughed. Any thoughts?	
	Church musicians who feel that they have " lost their identity" in the	The RSCM is a Christian charity - and the
	current situation might do well to remember that their identity lies in	Christian faith is at the heart of our
	Christ and serving him in whatever situation they are in. Many of us, RSCM	mission. We do try to keep that central to
	or not, need to realise that whatever we may think, music in worship,	our thinking!
224	important though it may be, is not the be all and end all.	our trinking:
	Maybe the C of E, and others, will have to increase the emphasis on	
225	tithing! MAJOR part of how US churches support themselves	
	Not all of our Churches pay singers and musicians, it is seen as a ministry.	
	We still attract volunteers and manage to have excellent music in our	
227	Churches.	
	Churches may have lost income but they are also making considerable	
	savings, especially where the government has taken over the salaries of	
	furloughed employees. Musicians are used to being at the bottom of the	
	pile in society generally, but we have the right to expect that churches	
	emerging from lockdown will accord them the respect - and the ongoing	
228	financial recompense which is their due.	
	"The loneliness factor" is a form of GRIEF. We - especially professional and	
	amateur "serious" musicians - are bereaved of so much that gives meaning	
232	to our lives.	
	Certainly for the CofE - I don't know if it works ecumenically - but "Parish	
	Giving" will help you set up a donate button on your church website	
233	and/or facebook page	
	Even with a Stewardship/Planned giving scheme we were already finding	
225	paying our parish share in full impossible. What else can we rely on to pay	
235	our way?	
	I am concerned about the issue of professional musicians being replaced	
	by either volunteers or clergy while in furlough. Some organists are saying	
	that decisions about their choirs or performances of their choirs have been	
	made while they are furloughed but without their input. This may be	
	temporary in some cases, but either way, it may be a major factor in their	
236	mental health or stress.	

ŧ	Question	Answer(s)
238	Some of us are in areas of deprivation, there hasn't been a transfer from cash to cashless donations - however well we try to communicate: I worry that there will be a greater digital and financial divide at a parish level. Some parishes will struggle with parish share let alone music/tech. In a larger proportion of church moves online, does this not put pressure on the CofE (and perhaps other denominations) to consolidate parishes together, - it seems peculiar to have hundreds of churches producing poor quality offerings (no reflection on the effort involved), rather than a	
220	handful of high quality offerings, if geographical limits are no longer a problem.	
	It's not complicated for churches to set up direct debit, contactless transfers etc, and congregations on the whole are very easily convinced. This isn't really an issue for the RSCM however, any online musical offerings could be used to encourage donations, and these mechanisms are pretty easily established on platforms like Facebook. Musical offerings tend to get far more views and engagement on platforms like Facebook (no offense to all the kitchen sermons), so it's disappointing to hear of directors of music being furloughed.	yes - we see more than ever before how important music is in our lives
242	just because a service is shorter does not mean there is less work plus the added pressure of broadcasting and teh perfection one feels that reuqures. I think these should be taken into account in these stressful times for	
243	musicians losing income. people have done a lot for very little. What might the HR thinking be when those church musicians who are furloughed, are to be found redundant as volunteers have taken over the	
246	paid musicians. an easy solution for some churches.	
210	Please can those working on imminent guidance ensure that Christmas is there from the outset.	yes. only 215 sleeps :)
249	Are you looking to models from other (continental) countries who have	
250	opened churches again about what has (not) worked?	yes
251	i am slighty dispppointed that you dont have an even mix of men and women on your panel for the reflection balance that might give. perahps it refelicts the opportunites for woman in church mujsic which I have always found to be challenging. perhaps this is an area that can be adapted in the future too? This has been very helpful in giving time and space to think about the topic outside of preparing and planning services. Looking forward to	We do not seek anything other than equal opportunity for gender; you will note that many of our recent teaching webinars have, for example, had female teachers. We were simply looking to provide a range of input from available people covering a range of skills.
254	seeing the post-webinar Q&A. Also encouraging in that we are doing some things already. Also good to know we 'we' are in conversation with	
	authorities. Thanks. Work sheets. Great unless your fuloughed musicians are those who deliver these	We need to help make sure that the information can still get to choirs - we will do what we can with that
		Good to have you with us.
270	Thank you from St Paul's Anglican Parish in Port Elizabeth South Africa	Good to have you with us.

#	Question	Answer(s)
272	Churches are starting to re-open in the US with certain restrictions. Our bishop has specifically prohibited singing from a gallery, because aerosolized particles are sent wafting over the entire congregation.	Thank you for the observation
	actosonzed particles are sent warding over the entire congregation.	
	CHOIRS etc.	
	Any idea whe the voice for life exams will restart? Any thoughts about	We are looking at the possibilities - more
258	doing them virtually?	information when we can.
	Tom - thank you, glad to see you recognising the need to keep our children engaged and how, and practical thought on bringing music in to	
17	services safely	
47	services safety	Guidance coming from (a) the church and
	How do we get back to singing together in one space? that is the main	(b) then the RSCM as soon as it is
49	issue	available.
	Consideration of different one encours in the instance have sight a statutent	
	Consideraton of different age groups in choirs, from boy, girl to stalwart adult members presents a problem, in my opinion, since the various age	There are models for various
	groups vary in the risk of catching the virus, dependant on age. Do you	circumstances in preparation and we will
51	have any thoughts and guidance on this?	share them as soon as we can.
51		Guidance coming from (a) the church and
	Will we be able to go into church soon to have socially distanced choir	(b) then the RSCM as soon as it is
62	practice even if we can't sing in services?	available.
		Guidance coming from (a) the church and
	what do we think about singing spaced out - eg along the back row pew -	(b) then the RSCM as soon as it is
63	rather than in a choir loft - our s is too small for a 2m distance to work	available.
		I will ask David to pick this up as I can.
	Hi Hugh,	David here - this will very mich depend
		on local circumstance - it may be that
	I'd love some more clarity on the future of the lay clerk.	MORE services are needed to cope with
		demand alongside fact that smaller choirs
	Choir wages vary of course, but they are a vital part to most of our	only permissble. I hope this will be the
	incomes. We need total honesty as to whether we should be looking to	case and that livelihoods will therefore be
68	top up our income elsewhere or hope for 12 strong back rows again.	ok
		I think this will come down to local risk
	We have a gallery in our church. MIght the choir, or a small section of the	assessment, based upon the frameworks
	choir be able to sing from the gallery?	coming to us from the Church(es)

¥	Question	Answer(s)
	what about a parish church 'choir' with a 90 year old, an 86 year old, a 78 year old and 70 year old, (men) and then early 70s, late 60s, one vulnerable lady of late 50s, one less vulnerable . And a terrific organist who isn't tech literate?? So not much chance to sing together, and probably not much going on at home.	
	And then back in church, keping our very elderly members safe - is it discriminatory to ask them not to be in the choir??? etc.	We will be putting together models to help with this.
	I'm thinking we spread ourselves down one side aisle, so we are nearish to a members of the congregation whi can sit socially distanced across the rest of the church.	
136	No party pieces for quite a while, just support to the singing of hymns and service music, sinmce everyone will be rusty unless they are singing at	
163	For the sake of one's own - and the choir members' - sanity, focus on the art of the possible. Some standards will have to be re-thought, but the important thing is to keep going at this stage. As has been said, stay in touch with your members. If they can do a bit of singing together great. If they can record it and send back to you even better, it doesn't need to be any more than a fun experience for most choirs. The difference between singing in schools and churches, is surely that the congregation of many churches is almost all over 70. Indeed, I have only one choir member, who is under 70. Whilst Zoom might not be ideal for services or for rehearsals - it is proving a very valuable tool for the fellowship aspect of being in a choir - we meet every week on our usual practice night and have a social time rather than a musical one!!	
	loss of church choral singing for some of us is akin to a bereavement There is a considerable difference between schools returning and childrens choirs. Our choir has 24 children from 9 different schools - if we are concerned about bringing children together in school, how can we bring all these children, together with adults, some of whome are elderly and at risk to sing?	we may need to plan for 'bubbles' and limiting how these groups mix for the time being
223	How are cathedrals handling their back rows? Since choral singing is not possible at this time, are choral foundations still paying their professional singers?	many back rows are furloughed. some just laid off sadly. hopefully they might be some of the first to return
241	Furloughed directors CAN communicate with their choirs. Just not on a formal basis. They can communicate socially, they can take part in Zoom rehearsals that someone else volunteers to run. They just can't do any 'work'.	Yes! This is an importat point. Keep talking socially
244	At Sheffield Catholic Cathedral my choir is recording remotely every week for the Sunday mass which is live streamed. They feel still connected and despite the amount of extra time this takes me, it is the most valuable work I do at the moment. It is a great way of keeping them involved.	

#	Question	Answer(s)
262	My choristers at All Saints' Church in Marlow are using Showbie at all three Award levels, and I am running regular sessions using your resources. Thank you very much indeed, Hugh Morris, for RSCM's excellent work in this area!	
263	working on theory and some of the practical tests for their awards. We have three ready for their light blue medals and full admissions to the choir and another two who have completed their dark blue medals. This has been so successful, we will continue with theory sessions, one to one, using face time as it allows those who are a little slower on the uptake, to achieve success which they can't do in a group as others always get there first, or they are put off from answering as they know others know more than them. Over 65s (should be >70s?) - surely that should be ONLY a matter of personal choice? They are not at more risk of spreading the virus, but of	Everyone appreciates one-to-one tuition - it is worth the effort.
275	the consequences	
215	I think sharing best practice on financial means of support might be a useful thing to share with the summary of this session - church musicians will in most cases need moral support, but many of them have also lost their 'reason for being' as well as all of their income. Could this instigate a forum for sharing best practice and resources - an online one, obviously!	Yes; it is now on the list for some future sessions