

Charity Registration No. 1044507

Company registration No. 3020834 (England and Wales)

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees/Directors

Ian Stephenson - Chair
Robin Happé - Secretary
James Piercy - Treasurer
Arabella Stuart - Concert Manager
Irene Clugston
Jane Corkill (co-opted w.e.f. 20.09.22)
Sheila Labatt (elected 01.03.23)
Irene Ilias (elected 20.04.22)
Melissa Marshall (resigned 20.04.22)
Sharon Pierson (elected 20.04.22)
Victoria Ware MBE
David Willingham

Charity number

1044507

Company number

3020834

Registered office

c/o GMAK Services Ltd
5/7 Vernon Yard
Portobello Road
London
W11 2DX

Independent examiner

Angela Ktistakis ACA, FCCA
GMAK Services Ltd
Flat 1, 26 Lansdowne Road
London
W11 3LL

Bankers

HSBC UK
The Helicon
1 South Place
London
EC2M 2UP

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Goldsmiths Choral Union (hereinafter referred to as "GCU" or "the Company") is a company limited by guarantee, number 320834, and registered with the Charity Commission, number 1044507. It is governed by its Articles of Association and is managed by a committee whose members are elected annually by the membership. The Committee meets regularly throughout the year, normally with the Music Director in attendance. The Company has no paid employees and relies heavily on the voluntary support of its members to carry out its programme and objectives.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Company's objectives are to promote the study, practice and performance of choral works and other music, including contemporary and little-known works; and to foster and broaden the knowledge and appreciation of such music among its members and the public at large, through public performances and other activities. The Company's principal activity is the operation of an amateur choir of which membership is by audition.

Bearing in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and particularly on public benefit in relation to fee charging, the Company is committed to enabling as many people as possible to benefit from its activities through choir membership, participation in workshops, concerts and other choral events and the Friends' network. The choir's varied programme of music is intended to appeal to a wide and diverse audience, as well as giving performance opportunities in major London venues to members, guest singers and up-and-coming professional singers.

While the Company aims to make its concert and workshop activities self-financing through ticket sales and other performance-related income, generous sponsorship, legacies and donations help it to keep ticket prices affordable to the general public and to offer concessions to special groups. To cover its non-concert operating costs, the Company relies primarily on membership subscriptions and the choir's own fund-raising activities. In setting subscription levels and payment schedules, the Management Committee is very aware of the need to remain accessible to members on low incomes and younger members.

RESUMPTION OF NORMAL CHOIR ACTIVITIES

As previously reported, in the previous financial year the Government's pandemic restrictions precluded the Company from engaging in rehearsals or performing any concerts. Therefore, as a way of maintaining choir cohesion and providing some continuity of income to its professional musicians during the 2020/21 season, the Company continued to organise the hour-long online "singalongs" that had been introduced in the previous Summer term, adding recording sessions for the production of virtual performances with the help of a sound recording engineer. Although these sessions fulfilled their objectives and proved reasonably popular with some members, they were considered by most as a poor substitute for physical rehearsals. It was therefore with considerable relief and enthusiasm that rehearsals at Baden Powell House (renamed 'Queen's Gate House' by its new owners) resumed in September 2021.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

The arrangement introduced at the beginning of the 2020/21 financial year under which the annual subscription was reduced to a nominal £10, allowing members the option of paying additional termly subscriptions entitling them to participate in the choir's activities of specific terms, was continued in the 2021/22 season.

CHANGE OF MUSIC DIRECTOR

After a career spanning 50 years of conducting GCU (initially as assistant conductor), our Music Director Brian Wright stepped down at the end of 2021 and the Company, which is hugely grateful for his distinguished service over that period, wishes him well in his remaining activities and retirement. In these circumstances, the Company was most fortunate that Jack Apperley, who had been strongly recommended to us, was available at short notice to replace Mr Wright as Guest Conductor for the Spring and Summer terms of the 2021/22 season, pending the appointment of a permanent Music Director.

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

CHANGE OF MUSIC DIRECTOR (CONTINUED)

In Spring 2022, the Trustees commenced a recruitment and selection process by appointing a panel from amongst their number. Following an advertising campaign, the most suitable applicants were identified with the help of Neil Ferris (Chorus Director of the BBC Symphony Chorus and Music Director of Wimbledon Choral Society) – who also took part in the subsequent interviews – to determine which candidates should be invited to demonstrate their skills to the choir at audition rehearsals. Members in attendance at these rehearsals were asked to complete ballot papers ranking the candidates in order of preference, the result of which was that Jack Apperley was duly invited to take up the position of Music Director with effect from 1 September 2022, which he accepted.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the year, GCU's 89th season, the Company performed and promoted various concerts and other singing events to further its objectives, including the following:

2 November 2021 at Cadogan Hall. GCU promoted its own performance of Mozart's *Solemn Vespers* and *Requiem*. The programme proved particularly popular and was close to breaking even financially (before charging a conductor's fee which at the time was an unspecified part of the Music Director's annual remuneration).

12 December 2021 at the Royal Festival Hall. GCU was engaged by Raymond Gubbay Ltd to lead a chorus of some 300 voices in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*, affording opportunities for other choirs and extra singers to join us in singing this magnificent and much-loved work to a capacity audience of some 2,400.

17 December 2021 at Holy Trinity Sloane Square. GCU's intended presentation of 'Carols for Choirs and Audience' in support of the charity Crohn's in Childhood Research Association UK unfortunately had to be cancelled at short notice due to a surge in Covid-19 infections at the time.

28 December 2021 at Barbican Hall. As in previous years, GCU was engaged by Raymond Gubbay Ltd to join other choirs in a performance of Beethoven's 9th Symphony.

25 March 2022 at Cadogan Hall. GCU promoted its own performance of Haydn's *Mass in the Time of War* and Cecilia McDowall's *Da Vinci Requiem*. This was the choir's first concert under our then guest conductor, Jack Apperley, and we were privileged to have Ms McDowall in the audience. It was therefore disappointing that the audience amounted to a little under 200.

9 June 2022 at Battersea Power Station. GCU was invited by promoters Mazzolini Arts Ltd to provide a small group of singers to perform a few short pieces at their out-of-doors 'Afterglow' event close to the River Thames.

24 June 2022 at Holy Trinity Sloane Square. GCU promoted and performed a concert entitled 'An Evening of English and French Composers' containing Gounod's *St Cecilia Mass*, Vaughan Williams's *Five Mystical Songs* and *In Windsor Forest* and Faure's *Cantique de Jean Racine*, together with some keyboard music.

Summer Sings: These informal sing-throughs, open to members and guests, took place on 29 June and 6 July 2022 at Holy Trinity Prince Consort Road, the works studied being Handel's *Acis and Galatea* and Chilcott's *Little Jazz Mass*, respectively.

Choir numbers: On the basis of the number of £10 annual subscriptions received, the membership during the year was 96, an increase from 91 in the previous year (although not all members took part in the online sessions in that year).

Audience numbers: Some 550 persons attended the concert on 2nd November, perhaps reflecting relief at the lifting of the pandemic restrictions, but audiences at the remaining GCU-promoted concerts proved disappointing.

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

POST YEAR-END

In September 2022, Jack Apperley duly took up his appointment as Music Director, conducting a performance of Haydn's Creation at Cadogan Hall in November and the choir's annual Christmas concert at Holy Trinity Sloane Square in December.

A campaign to recruit new – and especially younger – members has been particularly successful and augurs well for the future.

The temporary arrangement for paying membership subscriptions, introduced during the pandemic restrictions and described on page 1, has reverted to annual subscriptions for the 2022/23 season.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Company ended the financial year with a deficit of £25,060, including a net loss of £13,619 on concerts.

Restricted funds: In compliance with stipulations of the donors to the effect that these funds may only be used to support GCU-promoted concerts at certain major London venues, the Trustees have authorised £12,000 of the £30,000 balance brought forward to be transferred to Unrestricted funds in recognition of the £13,381 deficit incurred on the choir's Haydn/McDowall concert at Cadogan Hall in March 2022, leaving a balance of £18,000 carried forward.

Unrestricted funds: After the above-mentioned transfer from Restricted funds, the deficit for the year was £13,060, reducing Unrestricted funds from £107,945 at the beginning of the year to £94,885 carried forward. This remains comfortably above the amount specified in the Company's reserves policy (reviewed annually), which is designed to ensure that sufficient Unrestricted funds are maintained to protect the Company against any unforeseen financial demands. As a result, the directors are confident that the Company will remain a going concern for at least the next 12 months.

Total funds: The Company's total reserves at the year-end, being the sum of Restricted and Unrestricted funds carried forward, amounted to £112,885.

TRUSTEES

The members of the Management Committee, who served as Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Charity during the year and up to the date of this report, are listed on page 1.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Management Committee to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the Company and of surplus or deficit for the period. In preparing these accounts the Management Committee is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Follow applicable accounting standards; and
- Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will remain in business.

The Management Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose the financial position of the Company with reasonable accuracy at any time and enable the Committee to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The Committee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Public benefit statement: The Management Committee confirms that it has complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

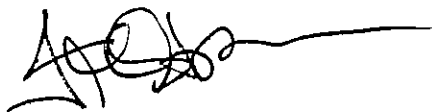
REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102 (2015), its update Bulletin 1 (2016) and the Special Provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

The Company has taken advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing this report. In line with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011, these accounts are subject to Independent Examination by Angela Ktistakis of GMAK Services Ltd. The Directors declare that they have approved the report.

Signed on behalf of the Company's Trustees/Directors:



Ian Stephenson

Chair

Date: 15.7.23



James Piercy

Treasurer

Date: 15.3.23

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

I report on the financial statements, together with supporting Notes 1 to 14, of Goldsmiths Choral Union for the year ended 31 August 2020, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective responsibilities basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

It is my responsibility to:

- (i) Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) of the 2011 Act; and
- (iii) State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- The accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A. Ktistakis

Angela Ktistakis, ACA, FCCA
GMAK Services Limited
Flat 1, 26 Lansdowne Road
London W11 3LL

Date: *17 March 2023*

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022			2021		
		Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income from:							
Subscriptions and donations	4	31,268	-	31,268	42,310	5,000	47,310
Charitable activities	5	37,260	-	37,260	1,701	-	1,701
Investments and miscellaneous	6	179	-	179	6,312	-	6,312
Total income		<u>68,707</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,707</u>	<u>50,323</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>55,323</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	93,767	-	93,767	14,466	-	14,466
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended		<u>93,767</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,767</u>	<u>14,466</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,466</u>
Net deficit for the year /net movement of funds		(25,060)	-	(25,060)	35,857	5,000	40,857
Transfer between funds	14	12,000	(12,000)	-			
Fund balances brought forward		<u>107,945</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>137,945</u>	<u>72,088</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>97,088</u>
Fund balances carried forward		<u>94,885</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>112,885</u>	<u>107,945</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>137,945</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All Income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

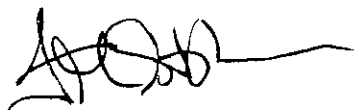
	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Stocks		-	492
Debtors	12	20,502	14,035
Cash and bank balances		96,401	132,095
		<u>116,903</u>	<u>146,622</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors	13	(4,018)	(8,677)
Net current assets		<u>112,885</u>	<u>137,945</u>
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds		94,885	107,945
Restricted funds	14	18,000	30,000
Total funds		<u>112,885</u>	<u>137,945</u>

The Company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 August 2022. No member of the Company has deposited a notice, pursuant to Section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring that the Company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees/Directors on 15 March 2023 by:



Ian Stephenson
Chair



James Piercy
Treasurer

Company registration number 3020834

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Goldsmiths Choral Union is a private company limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 5/7 Vernon Yard, London W11 2DX.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements, which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Company's monetary amounts in these financial statements, rounded to the nearest £. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Directors in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in Note 14.

2.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations and legacies are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Company has been notified of the donation unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donations.

Membership subscriptions and donations are shown grossed-up for tax recoverable.

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, net of discounts. The Company is not registered for VAT.

2.5 Resources expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Governance costs include the independent examination of the statutory accounts.

2.6 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

2.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the estimates and associated assumptions that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

	2022			2021		
	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Un-restricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Membership subscriptions	28,398	-	28,398	18,246	-	18,246
Donations	2,870	-	2,870	4,064	-	4,064
Legacies	-	-	-	20,000	5,000	25,000
	<u>31,268</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,268</u>	<u>42,310</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>47,310</u>

Donations include £1,000 from the Sir Edward Lewis Foundation.

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Concerts	33,809	-
Other	3,451	1,701
	<u>37,260</u>	<u>1,701</u>

All the above income was derived from the Company's sole activity of operating an amateur choir.

6. INVESTMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS INCOME – UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable on deposit account	179	5
Interest on bank current account	-	6,307
	<u>179</u>	<u>6,312</u>

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

7. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Former music director	17,477	13,093
Concert expenditure	47,428	-
Rehearsals expenditure	24,705	7,222
	<u>89,610</u>	<u>20,315</u>
Support and governance costs (Note 8)		
Support costs	3,122	(6,884)
Governance costs	1,035	1,035
	<u>4,157</u>	<u>(5,849)</u>
Total	<u>93,767</u>	<u>14,466</u>

The total fees paid to the former music director in 2021/22 included a settlement of £9,144 in recognition of his contractual notice period.

8. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Support costs	Govern- ance costs	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Marketing	569	-	569	122
Insurance	137	-	137	132
Bank fees refunded	-	-	-	(8,474)
Administration	2,416	-	2,416	1,336
Data protection fee	-	35	35	35
Independent examination	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total (Note 7)	<u>3,122</u>	<u>1,035</u>	<u>4,157</u>	<u>(5,849)</u>

9. TRUSTEES/DIRECTORS

None of the Directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year.

10. EMPLOYEES

The company had no employees during the year.

11. TAXATION

The Company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities under Ss.466 to 493 CTA 2010.

12. DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	-	18
Tax recoverable under Gift Aid	15,897	9,543
Other debtors	171	7
Prepayments and accrued income	4,434	4,467
	<u>20,502</u>	<u>14,035</u>

GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

13. CREDITORS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade creditors	1,214	-
Accruals and deferred income	2,380	8,493
Other creditors	424	184
	<u>4,018</u>	<u>8,677</u>

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Balance brought forward	30,000	25,000
Legacy received in the year	-	5,000
Transfer to Unrestricted funds	<u>(12,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance carried forward	<u>18,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>

The donors specified that these monies were to be applied solely to support concerts promoted by the company and performed at major London venues, including Cadogan Hall. On this basis, the Trustees have agreed to the transfer of £12,000 of these funds to Unrestricted funds in recognition of the deficit of £13,381 arising from the concert performed by GCU at Cadogan Hall on 25 March 2022.