

Registered Charity Number
1057242

Registered Company Number
3220578

London Concert Choir
(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Accounts

31st July 2022

**London Concert Choir
Annual Report and Accounts
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London Concert Choir
Charity References and Administrative Details

Registered Charity	Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital Company No 3220578 Charity No 1057242
Management Committee	J A Finlay (Chairman) E L Cowie C J Finch M D Goodwin J M Greenway S C Rickett
Company Secretary	S L Livesey
Registered Office	7 Ildersly Grove Dulwich London SE21 8EU
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Ave Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner	Andrew Wells Counterculture Partnership LLP Unit NH.204, E1 Business Studios, 7 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1DU

Note:

*The Management Committee are the Directors of the company for company law purposes.
The Trustees of the charity for charity law purposes consist of the Management Committee and the Company Secretary.*

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

The report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st July 2022

Introduction

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2022 which comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's governing documents and SORP FRS 102 Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The financial statements will be submitted to the Charity Commission and Companies House after the AGM. The annual report and accounts help to provide timely and regular information on the charity and its funds, to help understand the charity's objectives, structure, activities and achievements and to gain appreciation of the financial transactions during the year and of its funds at the end of the year.

Trustees

Trustees who served during the year were the undermentioned members of the Management Committee and the Company Secretary.

Management Committee

J A Finlay (Chairman)
J M Greenway
S C Rickett
E L Cowie
C J Finch
M D Goodwin

Company Secretary

S L Livesey

The appointment and induction of new Trustees is reviewed regularly to cover areas of expertise required by the charity. The training requirements of current Trustees are reviewed regularly at Management Committee meetings. Trustees do not receive any benefits.

Objectives and Activities of the Charity

The Company is a registered charity formed to advance aesthetic education for the public benefit in the art and science of music. It usually undertakes choral concerts principally at Central London venues and performs by arrangement at concerts for the benefit of the public and other charities.

The Trustees of the Choir have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the choir believes it generally impacts on people's lives in these ways:-

First, participants are involved in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing them with opportunity to develop vocal technique and musical repertoire. This is supported by workshops where members can develop their abilities.

Secondly, for audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high-quality performances which should always be a pleasurable cultural experience, but will sometimes challenge and educate as well, by extending their musical knowledge.

In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audiences mentioned above, the Committee is conscious that its activities must be affordable, so concessionary rates are available for membership subscriptions and a wide range of ticket prices is offered to allow the concerts to be available to all. We continue to offer discounted membership to students and under-25s: any other member with financial difficulties can discuss a reduced subscription arrangement with the Treasurer.

When it is practical, we invite other charities to hold a collection at the conclusion of our concerts and assist them with free publicity.

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

Review of Achievements and Performance of the Charity during the year

It was heartening to be able to meet again in person in September 2021 with 100 members, and on 21 October, we were finally able to celebrate 60 years of music making, with a musical event and social gathering at St John's Smith Square, London. The choir sang sacred music from Europe, English church music, and – as a demonstration of the choir's eclectic repertoire, and maybe of the lockdown experience – 20th century classics: *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Over the Rainbow*, and *Let's Do It*.

We had planned to hold two Christmas concerts with carols on 20 and 21 December at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, in aid of St George's Hospital [Tooting] Charity. Unfortunately, as a result of the rapid spread of the Omicron variant of Covid-19, we decided that it would be too risky to go ahead, and reluctantly cancelled the concerts at a very late stage. Our finances suffered by some £10,000 as a result.

We followed this in March 2023 with a highly- praised performance of J S Bach's *St John Passion* at Cadogan Hall. We were well served by *Counterpoint* orchestra and an impressive line-up of soloists.

Our final concert was another well-received performance of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* at the Barbican, with Southbank Sinfonia and an excellent group of soloists.

While the season was a musical success, financially it was very difficult. We had budgeted for a small (£5,000) deficit but were adversely affected by the aftermath of Covid-19. In addition to the £10,000 lost from the cancellation of the Christmas concerts, it was clear that we had underestimated the reluctance of audiences to make an advance commitment. Audience numbers suffered accordingly, at a cost of £11,000. While it was heartening to welcome back so many members, we were some 30 short of pre Covid numbers, and this affected income both in subscriptions and in donations and tickets purchased.

Chairman's statement and plans for future periods

After the last few turbulent years of health and finance for the nation, London Concert Choir is still together after 62 years. Our reserves decreased due to last minute national health announcements requiring the immediate cancellation of planned gatherings - announcements coming within a week of booked LCC performances which left no option but to cancel performances and refund ticket sales. Also too late for pre-paid professional bookings and other elements, irrecoverable under insurance. The biggest losses came from the loss of forecast income beyond our control.

Such nationally enforced cancellations hit the performing arts sector financially hard but LCC are back to rehearsing and planning in their 63rd season and beyond. LCC expects to recoup the unexpected loss of income and reserves back to pre Covid levels over the next two choral seasons through to 2024-25.

We are quickly back into the rhythm of rehearsals and performances, progressing with our rolling 5 year creative plan with input from membership, and rolling 5 year financial plans to match. Through these plans we are able to confirm and book venues a season ahead allowing time to maximise, not just musical preparation, but also engage new members to join seeing ahead what they will perform. Plans that also allow us to raise awareness of LCC and forthcoming performances for needed ticket sales through social media and other communication channels.

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

Chairman's statement (cont'd)

We have managed to retain some adventurous music plans and music tours in the 5 year plan but have pushed them back a year or two while we raise our reserves to achieve these goals for LCC audiences to enjoy and its membership to achieve the full experience through musical preparations and final performance.

LCC have a positive and productive output to look forward to in the seasons ahead.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have given due consideration to Charity Commission published guidance on the operation of the public benefit requirement and are satisfied that the charity meets these requirements.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution of the Charity

The charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee without a share capital. The registered company number is 3220578 and the registered charity number is 1057242. The charity's Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission regarding the public benefit test.

Organisational Structure and Governance

The organisational structure of London Concert Choir consists of a Management Committee who meet regularly to consider and review the charity's activities, general progress and current financial position. Decisions are then made on matters such as the programme for the year and the level of expenditure to be incurred.

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

Reserves Policy

The choir has reviewed its reserve policy during the year.

The choir requires reserves for several reasons:

- To enable payments in advance to be made, for example, deposits on the hire of halls for future years.
- To ensure there are sufficient funds in the bank to provide for potential cash flow issues during a year.
- To hold a contingency for unexpected expenses which may arise during the season.
- To cover a shortfall in income compared to budget. This is particularly the case with ticket sales.
- To cover uninsured risks, for example if a concert had to be abandoned. Insurance is available up to £10,000 per concert, and many risks are not covered.
- To enable planning for at least two years ahead to be made with the assurance that funds are available.

In the committee's opinion, reserves in the range £40,000 to £60,000 would meet the above requirements. On 31 July 2022, the choir's reserves totalled £19,044, a decrease of £29,825 during the year. The reasons for this are explained in the review for the year. The reserves represent less than three months of the expenditure which is budgeted for 2022/23. The trustees are actively considering raising funds in order to increase reserves to an acceptable level.

Transactions and Financial position

The financial statements are set out on pages 10 to 15. The Trustees confirm that the charity's assets are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations.

A majority of the expenditure is spent on charitable activities.

Risk Assessment

It is good practice for charity trustees to set a framework to identify and respond to risk and to provide a methodology for risk management and its reporting. The risks considered relate to the operational performance of the charity and the achievement of its aims and objectives, and are summarised as governance risks, operational risks, financial risks, external risks and compliance with law and regulations.

The Committee will continue to take account of risk management in all future planning, for example when finalising the 5-year plan. It will be updating its risk management register.

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

Statement of Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Committee has elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing the financial statements the Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.


The Trustees and Management Committee are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and that enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Method of preparation of accounts

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

Approved by the Trustees on 16/1/2027

and signed on their behalf by:



.....

Print name:

James Finlay

.....

Member of the Management Committee/Director

London Concert Choir
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 31 July 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 July 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The charity Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, 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 accounts of the Company 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 your charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

In carrying out my examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the 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
4. the accounts 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.


..... 16/1/2023

Andrew M Wells FMAAT Counterculture Partnership LLP
Unit 115 Ducie House
Ducie Street
Manchester
M1 2JW

London Concert Choir
Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31st July 2022

		Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Prior Period Total Funds
	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
Income from:					
<i>Donations & legacies</i>	3a	34,857	34,857	-	24,512
<i>Charitable activities</i>	3b				
Concerts		35,096	35,096	-	0
<i>Investments</i>	4	19	19	-	3
Total income		69,972	69,972	-	24,515
Expenditure on:					
<i>Raising funds</i>	5a	3,018	3,018	-	615
<i>Charitable activities</i>	5b				
Virtual programme and concerts		93,590	93,590	-	12,689
Workshops		2,649	2,649		0
Governance costs		540	540		540
Total expenditure		99,797	99,797	-	13,844
Net Incoming/(outgoing) resources		(29,825)	(29,825)	-	10,671
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		48,869	48,869	0	38,198
Total funds carried forward		19,044	19,044	-	48,869

The company made no recognised gains or losses other than those reported in the Statement of Financial Activities.

All activities derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 11 to 15 form an integral part of these accounts.

London Concert Choir
Balance Sheet
as at 31st July 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets	7	0	0
Current assets			
Debtors	8	4,999	2,874
Cash at bank and in hand		17,268	50,641
		22,267	53,515
Creditors:-			
Amounts due within one year	9	3,223	4,646
Net current assets		19,044	48,869
Total assets minus current liabilities		19,044	48,869
Net assets		19,044	48,869
The funds of the charity :			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted revenue accumulated funds		19,044	48,869
Total unrestricted funds			
Restricted revenue accumulated funds		-	-
Total restricted funds			
Total charity funds		19,044	48,869

For the year ended 31 July 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:


 Signed

James Finlay

Member of the Management Committee/Director

Date 16/1/2023

The notes on pages 11 to 15 form an integral part of these accounts.

London Concert Choir
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31st July 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the accounts and accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value, and the revaluation of certain fixed assets, and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

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

Incoming Resources

Grants and donations are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. Such income is only deferred when the donor specifies that the donation must only be used in future accounting periods or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Resources Expended

Liabilities are recognised on the accruals basis in accordance with normal accounting principles, modified where necessary in accordance with the guidance given in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Items of expenditure of £1,000 or above (on an aggregated basis) are capitalised, and are written off over the period of their expected useful lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment

Straight line basis over 3 years

Stock of choral music is not valued at year end but is charged to the accounts when purchased.

Cash Flow Statement

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption applicable to small companies and not produced a cash flow statement.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only.

2 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or benefits were paid to trustees or persons connected with them during the year.

3 Income

	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Prior
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Period
	2022	2022	2022	Total
	£	£	£	Funds
				2021
				£
3a Donations & legacies				
Donations and gift aid	12,198	12,198		8,231
Membership subscriptions	20,999	20,999		14,791
Friends' subscriptions	210	210		110
Companions	1,450	1,450		1,380
	34,857	34,857	-	24,512
3b Charitable activities				
Concerts				
Ticket sales	30,330	30,330		0
Programme sales	1,160	1,160		0
Music score sales	3,606	3,606		0
	35,096	35,096	-	0
Workshops				
Workshops/Event income	0	0		0
	0	0	-	0
4 Investment Income				
Bank interest	19	19		3

	Total Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2021 £
5 Expenditure				
5a Raising funds				
Ticket commission	628	628		0
PRS commission on sales	1,878	1,878		150
Programme commission	147	147		0
Subscriptions and donations	365	365		465
	3,018	3,018	-	615
5b Charitable activities				
Virtual programme and concerts				
Professional Fees	13,273	13,273		0
Orchestra	23,257	23,257		0
Concert venue hire	18,070	18,070		202
Staging and seating	3,717	3,717		0
Instrument hire/tuning	210	210		0
Music hire incl orchestra	5,603	5,603		0
Refreshment costs	1,204	1,204		0
Other concert costs	508	508		0
Programme print design	1,707	1,707		0
Flyers including distribution	1,515	1,515		0
Advertising	2,829	2,829		180
Rehearsal room	4,483	4,483		0
Rehearsal fees	10,150	10,150		0
Virtual programme	0	0		9,010
Stationery/Insurance, accounts software	812	812		656
Finance costs	850	850		597
Office, software & consumables	4,873	4,873		1,011
Audit and accountancy fees	530	530		1,034
	93,591	93,591	-	12,689
Workshops				
Workshops/Event costs	2,649	2,649		0
	2,649	2,649	-	0
6 Staff costs				
The charity did not employ any staff during the year.				

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
Cost		
At 1st August 2021	2,255	2,255
Additions	-	-
As at 31 July 2022	2,255	2,255
Depreciation		
At 1st August 2021	2,255	2,255
Charge for year	-	-
As at 31 July 2022	2,255	2,255
Net Book Value		
As at 31 July 2022	0	0
As at 31 July 2021	0	0

The capitalised assets represent a recording system and staging.

8 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts owing to choir	350	-
Prepayments	4,649	2,874
	4,999	2,874

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	£	£
Trade creditors	3,073	544
Accrued expenses	150	4,102
	3,223	4,646

10 Related party transactions

There were no transactions with related parties in the year.

11 Restricted funds

There were no restricted funds in the years 2020/21 or 2021/22.