

THE ENGLISH ARTS CHORALE ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No. 1153599

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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THE ENGLISH ARTS CHORALE ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

for the year ended 31 August 2021

CHARITY TRUSTEES

Peter Entwistle	Chairman
Susan Rees	Secretary
Geoff Whiffin	Treasurer until 7 September 2020
Edward Marston	Treasurer from 7 September 2020
Leslie Olive	Artistic Director
Rosemary Scott	
Nyren Scott-Malden	
Nigel Green	
Catherine Nasskau	Resigned 16 December 2020
Christine Arnold	Appointed 7 September 2020

PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Charities Aid Foundation
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

5 Birds Hill Rise
Oxshott
Leatherhead
Surrey
KT22 0SW

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 of the accounts and comply with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting by Charities'.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The English Arts Chorale Association (EACA) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered on 30 August 2013. It was created as a result of a formal agreement between The Music Trust, a company registered by guarantee and a registered charity (No. 1071501) and The English Arts Chorale Members and Friends Association, a former registered charity, (No. 1076164) each of which dealt with different aspects of the operation of the *English Arts Chorale*.

The transfer of assets to the EACA from The Music Trust and The English Arts Chorale Members and Friends Association was effected on 31 August 2014. The year to 31 August 2021 was therefore the seventh year of operation for the EACA.

The EACA operates under a constitution dated 30 August 2013 which includes regulations for the appointment of trustees. This requires there to be at least 8 trustees and no more than 12 and that the trustees will include the Artistic Director. Two trustees are appointed each year by Leslie Olive, whilst he is the Artistic Director. One third of the trustees (excluding the Artistic Director and appointments made by him) will retire each year (and be eligible for re-election) and elections will be made by and out of the Association membership.

OBJECTS, PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC BENEFIT

The objects of the EACA are to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals. This is achieved through the activities of the *English Arts Chorale*, a voluntary choir. Great importance is placed on encouraging people of all ages to join, provided they are able to pass a simple audition. The activities of the EACA are structured to provide choral training to its members and for these members to demonstrate the skills learned through a series of public concerts and activities both for the community of Reigate and across the south-east of England. Membership subscriptions are reviewed annually and no-one is precluded from membership simply on the basis that they are unable to pay the annual subscription.

The aim and ethos of the English Arts Chorale is to share with everyone the profound human and spiritual experience of great music. In shaping the activities each year, the trustees have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. In setting the level of ticket prices for concerts, the trustees give careful consideration to accessibility for those on low incomes. Prices are kept as low as possible to maximise the number of members of the public that can afford to attend.

At certain events, non-members of the Chorale are invited to participate in both rehearsals and performances, so as to widen the experience, learning and enjoyment which come from understanding and singing great choral works.

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees have considered the setting of a formal reserves policy. They have concluded that reserves should be maintained at a level which would provide resilience in the event of a failed large-scale concert, but that the level should not be so large as to disqualify the EACA from making applications to grant making trusts.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR

The Covid-19 pandemic and the national lockdowns that started in March 2020 continued into this season, resulting in a year where most events had to be cancelled. Despite the disrupted plans, online rehearsals continued for much of the year, and two live-streamed events were planned and delivered, enabling us to maintain some contact with its audience during this challenging time.

Our traditional September Open Singing Day, which was to have explored Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, was cancelled.

The millennium celebrations for the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds were due to start in October, and we were scheduled to participate in a concert in St Edmundsbury Cathedral, featuring a piece written for the occasion, *Into the Light*, by Paul Carr. This concert has been postponed until May 2022.

Our Come and Sing *Messiah*, open to all singers, followed by an evening concert for all participants with orchestra and a set of young soloists, was postponed until 17 April 2021, exactly forty years to the day since the fledgling EAC's inaugural concert in the same venue with the same work. This postponed concert was subsequently cancelled.

Our two performances of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, in St Mary's Church, Reigate, in December and in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, on London's South Bank, in February were both casualties of the pandemic.

Last season's aborted tour to Prague had been re-arranged for April 2021, with Dvorak's *Stabat mater* as the central piece instead of Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*. This had to be cancelled.

In December a reduced choir performed a Christmas concert that was live-streamed on YouTube from St Mary's Church, Reigate. Donations, taken online, were shared with St Catherine's Hospice.

Our sponsor, KMG Independent Ltd., had planned a fund-raising concert in the Hawth Theatre, Crawley, for the benefit of Cancer Research and St Catherine's Hospice this also was cancelled.

Gavin Carr, brother of the composer and a well-known choir director, was to lead a singing day in May, exploring Paul Carr's *Four New Seasons* - this too had to be cancelled.

We had a concert planned for June in Reigate, in which we hoped to be able to give the world première of Paul Carr's *Four New Seasons*, one movement of which is dedicated to the EAC, and Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*. This turned out not to be possible, and in its place we live-streamed a rehearsal from St Mary's Church, Reigate, of *Autumn*, "our" movement from *Four New Seasons*.

For the most part of the season, we held rehearsals on our normal evening via Zoom – not perfect, but beneficial in many ways. When guidelines allowed, we moved to rehearsing "outside" in a marquee, and then back at Wray Common Primary School. We retained the majority of our members, although not all of them participated in online rehearsals, and we even attracted some new members, one or two who not being local were able to join us for online sessions, and some of whom sang as visitors until such time as auditions could be held again.

PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS

In spite of the current uncertainty not only about the future path of the pandemic but also about the impact on potential audiences, the EACA has formulated plans for concerts and other activities in detail for the current year 2021/2022, the Chorale's 42nd season. These plans are under constant review and revised as appropriate from time to time in the light of changing circumstances.

We have been able to hold our September Open Singing Day, exploring Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. This was an opportunity for inviting singers to participate in our Elijah Challenge, whereby non-members could join us for our performance in November in the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

In October in St Mary's Church, Reigate, we will be giving the world première performance of Paul Carr's *Four New Seasons*, based on Vivaldi's classic. "Autumn" is dedicated to the EAC. Each season has three movements, with texts from twelve poets, including Whitman, Rosetti, Shakespeare and Housman.

We return to the Queen Elizabeth Hall on London's South Bank at the end of November for a performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, a choral favourite.

Dvorak's *Stabat mater* was to be the work we performed in our collaboration with Eye Bach Choir and the Orchestra of the Prague Conservatoire, in concerts in the UK and in Prague. The tour has been cancelled, but we have retained the *Stabat mater* in our concert programme in March 2022.

The millennium celebrations for the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds were due to start in October, and we were due to participate in a concert in St Edmundsbury Cathedral, featuring a piece written for the occasion, *Into the Light*, by Paul Carr. This concert is now scheduled for May 2022.

In June and July we will be giving two performances of Thomas Tallis' 40-part motet *Spem in alium*, originally planned as part of the EAC's 40th anniversary celebrations. These concerts are in collaboration with the Ripieno Choir of Thames Ditton, with whom we have several members in common, and will also include selected movements from Rachmaninov's *Vespers*.

A *Sea Symphony* singing day is planned for July, in preparation for two performances in the Autumn of 2022, either side of Vaughan Williams' 150th birthday on 12 October. The venues for these concerts are the Dorking Halls, built to accommodate the Leith Hill Musical Festival with which Vaughan Williams' name will forever be associated, and St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

TREASURER'S REPORT

At the start of the year, the total net asset position (after allowing for creditors, debtors and net current assets) was £36,411. At the end of the year, this figure had increased to £42,045. This increase of £5,634 was made up of a £2,519 deficit from the abbreviated concert programme, a £1 increase in the value of the Foundation Fund due to interest and £8,152 raised by donation, sponsorship, subscriptions and other fund-raising efforts, less administration and rehearsal costs. Included in Debtors are two deposits for the use of the Queen Elizabeth Hall for concerts which were subsequently cancelled – these will be put towards the November 2021 QEH concert.

Perversely the pandemic has resulted in an improved financial position for the Chorale, and our increased reserves mean that we are able to undertake a full programme of activities with confidence.

The Foundation Fund is currently in a CAFBank "Gold" interest-bearing account. The interest earned is negligible, and an operation is in process to find an alternative and more productive investment vehicle.

The postponed tour to Prague and collaboration with the orchestra of the Prague Conservatoire Tour had to be cancelled due to travel restrictions. The hotel booking, which had been fully paid for, was cancelled in time to qualify for a 100% refund, which was paid back to us in several tranches. Final refunds to tourists were made in May 2021. No loss was suffered by the EAC.

STATEMENT OF THE TRUSTEES

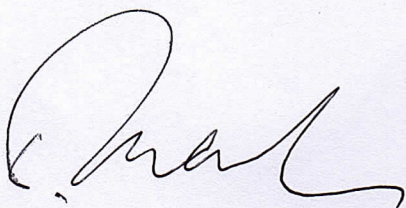
Legislation applicable to charities requires trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the financial activity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with The Charities Act 2011. We are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The accounts have been verified by an independent examiner.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Edward Marston
Treasurer

Date:

19/01/2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ENGLISH ARTS CHORALE ASSOCIATION, A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 August 2020, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met.



17 January 2022

Andrew F Wilson

8A Ringley Park Avenue, Reigate RH2 7DN

Statement of Financial Affairs

For the Year Ended 31 August 2021

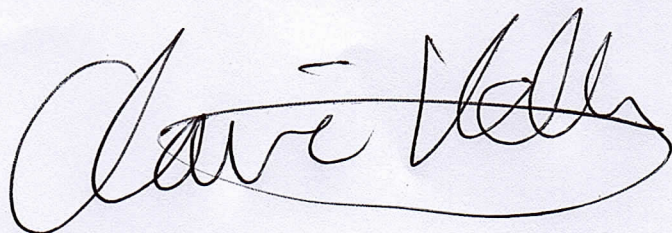
	Unrestricted Funds £	Endowment Fund £	2021 Total All Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Endowment Fund £	2020 Total All Funds £
Income						
Donations, legacies, grants & Gift Aid	9,590	-	9,590	16,120	-	16,120
Member subscriptions	13,992	-	13,992	15,101	-	15,101
Other membership income	1	-	1	2,673	-	2,673
Charitable Activities	400	-	400	12,271	-	12,271
Fund-raising Activities	366	-	366	1,111	-	1,111
Sundry income	23	-	23	1,400	-	1,400
Bank interest	2	1	3	14	13	27
Total income	24,374	1	24,375	48,690	13	48,703
Expenditure						
Donations to charity	282	-	282	0	-	0
Rehearsal costs	10,734	-	10,734	15,367	-	15,367
Other membership costs	139	-	139	543	-	543
Concerts	2,934	-	2,934	17,166	-	17,166
Insurance & professional subscriptions	497	-	497	522	-	522
Sundry expenses	4,155	-	4,155	2,341	-	2,341
Total expenditure	18,741		18,741	35,939	-	35,939
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year	5,633	1	5,634	12,751	13	12,764
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	27,770	8,641	36,411	15,019	8,628	23,647
Total funds carried forward	33,403	8,642	42,045	27,770	8,641	36,411

There are no other recognised gains or losses.
All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Current Assets:					
Stock	3	354		373	
Debtors	4	5,955		25,707	
Cash at bank and in hand		36,368		31,403	
Total Current Assets		<u>42,677</u>		<u>57,483</u>	
Current Liabilities:					
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	5	632		21,072	
Total Liabilities		<u>632</u>		<u>21,072</u>	
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>42,045</u>		<u>36,411</u>
Funds:					
Unrestricted Funds	6		33,403		27,770
Designated as Foundation Fund			8,642		8,641
Total Funds as at 31 August 2020			<u>42,045</u>		<u>36,411</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees and were signed on their behalf by



Claire Kelly
Chairman of the Trustees

Date **24.01.2022**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General information

The EACA is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, incorporated in England and Wales. The address of its principal place of business is disclosed in the company information.

The principal activity of the charity is to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art of music in all its aspects.

The company meets the definition of a public benefit entity in accordance with FRS 102. The financial statements are presented in Sterling and this is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These accounts have been prepared under the Historic Cost convention and on the accruals basis in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014.

These accounts have been prepared on a going-concern basis. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Association will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Turnover

Turnover comprises income from the following revenue streams: membership subscriptions, ticket sales and sponsorship of concerts, donations and legacies including gift aid and other income, all excluding value added tax.

HMRC's rules on claiming Gift Aid on members' subscriptions require us to estimate the value of any personal benefits that members receive in return for their subscription. We are not able to claim Gift Aid on this value. The trustees estimate the current value of tuition benefits received to be £24 per member per year.

Funds structure

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in the furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds may include designated funds where the Trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are funds which must be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed.

The EACA has a single restricted fund, the EAC Foundation Fund. This was originally established by The Music Trust in order to produce an annual income from invested capital which will enable the *English Arts Chorale* to perform an annual celebratory concert with the support of a professional orchestra and soloists. It was also intended to apply the income, to the extent possible given the above purpose, to support membership of the *English Arts Chorale* for those with appropriate musical ability who could not otherwise afford the annual subscription. As part of the original transfer agreement, the EACA committed to maintaining the EAC Foundation Fund under terms similar to those originally adopted by the Music Trust. A formal resolution confirming the basis of the Foundation Fund as an expendable endowment was confirmed at the first meeting of the Managing Committee following the transfer of assets.

Stock

Stock consists of CDs, Christmas cards and refreshments which are held for resale. Items have been valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to sell.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term instruments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction values and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in currencies other than pounds sterling are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At each reporting end date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the reporting end date. Gains and losses arising on translation are included in the Income and Expenditure Account for the period.

2. TRANSACTIONS WITH MEMBERS AND CONNECTED PERSONS

The Trustees are required to confirm whether any member of the committee, or any person connected with them, received or is due to receive any remuneration for the year, directly or indirectly from the Charity's funds.

Leslie Olive received £6,401 (2020:£8,601) in professional fees and expenses during the year for rehearsals, concerts, singing days and other work for the choir throughout the year. This remuneration has been made in respect of his responsibilities as Artistic Director and as a professional musician serving the objects of the Association and not in view of his position as a trustee. This is in line with the requirements of the constitution. These payments are included in the financial statements.

3. STOCK

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
CDs	273	292
Other stocks	81	81
	354	373

4. DEBTORS

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Gift aid receivable	2,859	4,355
Prepaid Tour Expenses	-	16,934
Other prepaid expenses, deposits, accrued revenue	3,096	4,418
	5,955	25,707

Financial assets carrying amounts included in the above are £5,955 (2020: £21,352). There were no impairment provisions at the year end (2020: £nil).

5. CREDITORS AND CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Deposits for 2021 choir tour	-	19,527
Deferred income	638	-
Other accrued expenses	-6	1,545
	632	21,072

Financial liabilities carrying amounts included in the above are £632 (2020: £19,527).

6. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

The Special projects reserve shown below represents funds that the Trustees, at their discretion, have allocated for a specific purpose.

	2021 (£)	2020 (£)
Special projects reserve	7,000	6,000
Other unrestricted funds	26,403	21,769
	33,403	27,769

This page does not form part of the examined accounts

**DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2021**

	Association	Concerts & other charitable activities	TOTAL 2021
INCOME			
Ticket & programme sales	-	-	-
Subscriptions	13,992	-	13,992
Advertising	-	-	-
Donations & Sponsorship	6,122	609	6,731
Grants	-	-	-
Gift aid	2,859	-	2,859
Fundraising	366	-	366
Music hire/sales	1	-	1
Refreshments	-	-	-
Sundry income	23	400	423
Bank interest	3	-	3
Total Income	23,366	1,009	24,375
EXPENDITURE			
Orchestra	-	-	-
Conductor	5,803	728	6,531
Soloists & other artists	-	575	575
Ticket sales commission	-	16	16
Programme costs	-	-	-
Publicity	59	99	158
Rehearsal costs	4,931	-	4,931
Venue costs & staging	-	1,372	1,372
Music hire & royalties	10	77	87
Donations to charity	-	282	282
Music hire/purchase	100	-	100
Refreshment costs	-	-	-
Commissioning Fees	3,000	-	3,000
Insurance & professional subs	497	-	497
Other costs	813	379	1,192
Total Expenditure	15,213	3,528	18,741
Gross Surplus/(Deficit)	8,153	(2,206)	5,634