

## **St Donats Chorale CIO : AGM 25 April 2022**

### **Trustees Report for the Year - 1 September 2020 - August 2021**

For a second year the choir's activities have been disrupted by the Covid pandemic. No public performances and no face-to-face rehearsals or meetings could take place.

Contact with members continued online and the Trustees held online meetings to keep the charity's position under review. The 2020 Annual Meeting was held online.

The choir was without a Musical Director at the start of the year and, again due to the pandemic, no progress could be made towards appointing to the post. With the aid of the Accompanist as Acting Musical Director a number of Zoom rehearsals were held through the winter and spring which were attended by up to 24 choir members. Choir social events were also arranged online.

The Trustees agreed that the choir's financial position was such that members' subscriptions would be suspended while the choir remained inactive, so no subscriptions were required for the year. Despite this the Accounts show that the choir's financial position remained healthy at the end of the year.

The following served the Charity as Trustees for the 2020-21 year:

Richard Bayliss	Chris Samuel
Peter Dickson	Rosemary Samuel
David Ephraim	David Watson
Judith Goldsmith	Adrian Woods
Graham Price	Jane Woods

Four Trustees are retiring at this AGM and the remaining Trustees thank Jane and Adrian Woods, Judith Goldsmith and Richard Bayliss for their major contribution to the work of the charity. We look forward to the election of new Trustees to follow in their footsteps.

The Trustees are conscious of the continuing support of members during this difficult period and look forward to activities being restored in some form, it is hoped soon into the succeeding year.

Graham Price, Chair, on behalf of the Trustees

# ST DONATS CHORALE INCOME & EXPENDITURE

## ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2021

Opening Bank Balance as at 1st September 2020 £ 5,511.61

Closing Bank Balance as at 31st August 2021 £ 9,003.42

**Net Gain for the year**

**£ 3,491.81**

### Income

**Subscriptions** £ 508.00

Gift Aid on Subscriptions - 4 years £ 4,420.22

Tea/Coffee Float from previous year £ 84.31

**Total Income** **£ 5,012.53**

### Expenses

#### Miscellaneous

Making Music -£ 132.00

Performance Rights Fees -£ 47.29

Webservices & Zoom -£ 128.76

Auditor Gift -£ 23.98

Flowers -£ 25.00

Committee Expenses -£ 28.78 -£ 385.81

#### Concerts

None

#### Rehearsal Fees

Via Zoom

-£ 1,134.91

**Total Expenses**

**-£ 1,520.72**

**Net Gain**

**£ 3,491.81**

*David Watson - Treasurer 17th September 2021*

## **St Donats Chorale - Notes to Annual Account for Year 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

Our previous year ending August 2020, saw the Covid19 pandemic disrupt our choir for 6 months. For the whole of the 20/21 choir year, we were not able to meet as a group in person. During this period with James help, we did invite the choir to sing online via Zoom, but this had mixed success. Some people struggled with the format and some could not get online. During the year your choir committee still held meetings but again via Zoom.

Eighteen months ago it was obvious that we would not be able to recommence indoor rehearsals any time soon, so it was decided to ask members to cancel their standing orders until further notice. We recommenced rehearsals in November 2021 and asked members to restart their Standing Order with us from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 for the higher amount of £12 per month. The choir's income is generated from members' subscriptions and concert receipts, so our income this year has been low. However, with help from Chris Samuel, we managed to claim back 4 years of gift aid on eligible member's subscriptions. This amounted to £4,420.22, which has made a huge difference to our bank balance. It has meant that we were able to fund the online Zoom rehearsals and cover our running expenses (see below).

The choir's expenses are usually rehearsal fees to the MD, Accompanist, the rehearsal venue and any subsidy to performing concerts. Again this has been almost non-existent this year apart from paying James Bull for the Zoom singing sessions and Zoom services. The total for this was £1,134.91 and included the months of September, October, November and December 2020, when we furloughed James Bull and paid him £430 for these 4 months. There have been other expenses for the committee (mainly Zoom costs), Making Music membership, Performing Rights charges and Web services.

At the end of our year to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 the Income totalled £5,012.53 (includes gift aid) and the Expenses totalled £1,520.72. This gave us a net gain on the year of £3,491.81. Our closing bank balance was £9,003.42.

Last autumn we were fortunate to engage Conal Bembridge-Sayers as our new M.D and James Bull has continued his role as Accompanist. It has been a few years since we increased the fee we pay for these positions and it was thought an appropriate time for an uplift would be when we recommenced the rehearsals. This was the main reason we have had to increase the monthly subscriptions to £12.

At the start of the previous year in September 2019, the total number of members we had was 60 and because of lockdown, this fell to 51 at the start of September 2020. The number of paying members we have has a huge influence on our finances. Currently (as at April 2022) we have 34 paying members. Ideally, we need a minimum of 40 members paying their subscriptions to break even. I am confident that gradually more members will return and we will gain new members as well.

You will have received this report & accounts prior to the choir's AGM. I would be grateful if you could read through these documents and contact me, if you have any queries. My telephone number is 01446 79444 or email to [anneanddavid1@btinternet.com](mailto:anneanddavid1@btinternet.com).

There will be members that cannot attend the AGM on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 @ 7pm, so please contact us if there are any points you wish to raise or have answered.

**An audit has been carried out in accordance with the Charity Directives and I would like to thank Geoff Timms for auditing the accounts for us.**

*David Watson Treasurer 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022*



# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Donats Chorale

I report on the accounts of the St Donats Chorale for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 which are set out on the Income & Expenses Account with accompanying notes.

## Respective responsibilities of the 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 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

## Basis of Independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Trustees 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 the 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 statement below.

## Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - i. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - ii. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met: or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature: 

Date: 20 - 9 - 2021

Name: G R TIMMS

Qualification: .....

Address: MORANNEDD

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