

CITY OF LONDON CHOIR
COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 JULY 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY N°: 1164955

CITY OF LONDON CHOIR
COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023
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CITY OF LONDON CHOIR**31 JULY 2023**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:	1164955
PATRONS	Lady Brewer OBE Humphrey Burton CBE Lord Chartres GCVO PC
TRUSTEES	D G Mansfield – Chairman J J Robinson – General Manager G P A Banner (retired 07.09.23) C L Clark M S St G Hill C T Matthews C Rayson A P Thompson M J White (retired 07.12.22) J Withington (appointed 13.09.23)
CONDUCTOR EMERITUS	Hilary Davan Wetton (From 01.08.23)
MUSICAL DIRECTOR & PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR	Hilary Davan Wetton (until 31.07.23) Daniel Hyde (from 01.08.24)
PRINCIPAL GUEST CONDUCTOR	Mark Williams
ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR	Stephen Farr
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	20 Highclere Road New Malden KT3 3HJ
BANKERS	Royal Bank of Scotland plc 4 th Floor, 1 Hardman Boulevard Manchester M3 3AQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jason Hargaden, BSc, ACA
WEBSITE	www.cityoflondonchoir.org

**CITY OF LONDON CHOIR
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st July 2023.

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

These accounts are prepared for the full year including the combined results of the Charity and its wholly owned subsidiary, CLC Orchestral Promotions Limited.

Constitution and Objects

The Charity's Governing Document is its Constitution which was last amended on 30 November 2015.

The objects of the CIO are to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in the application of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and by such other ways as the trustees shall determine from time to time primarily in and around the City of London.

In pursuing such objects, the City of London Choir aims to provide exciting musical experiences for members and audiences. In particular, it seeks to:

- Encourage amateur singers, especially those based in the City, to develop their musical expertise and enjoy singing together;
- Provide increased opportunities for audiences to hear both established and less well-known works;
- Demonstrate that music of the highest quality can be achieved by amateurs and professionals working together;
- Celebrate and share the fun of music-making and to encourage more people to experience choral music, whatever their age, background or previous musical interest; and
- Support charities and worthy causes.

Development, Activities and Achievements

The City of London Choir is busy and versatile, regularly performing in ensembles from 20 singers to our full strength of around 120. We have provided music for a wide range of social and corporate events and we are particularly pleased to support events organised by our sponsors.

During the year the Choir promoted or co-promoted four concert programmes. In October 2022, at Cadogan Hall, in the second in a series of programmes linking the music of Vaughan Williams with his mentor Maurice Ravel (and related French composers), performing Vaughan William's *Serenade to Music* and *Dona Nobis Pacem*, with the RPO and Anita Watson, Maya Colwell, John Cuthbert and Ashley Riches as soloists. In December we had our annual Christmas Carol concert at St. John's Smith Square. The high point of the season was a performance of Verdi's *Requiem* at the Barbican in March with the RPO and soloists Rachel Nicholls, Rosie Aldridge, Alexander James Edwards and Stephen Gadd.

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The season ended during in a co-promotion with Kestrel Music as part of Summer Music in City Churches. The choir performed at St. Giles Cripplegate; with the London Mozart Players and soloists Rachel Nicholls, Marta Fontanals Simmonds, Mark Wilde, James Cleverton and Ileana Ruhemann Haydn's *Nelson Mass* and Bliss's *Pastoral*, conducted by our Musical Director, Hilary Davan Wetton, in his final concert before retirement after 34 years in post.

The choir was engaged by external promoters on several occasions: firstly by the RPO at the Royal Albert Hall for Mahler's 8th Symphony conducted by Vasily Petrenko, along with The Philharmonia Chorus, Bournemouth Symphony Chorus, the Tiffin Boys' Choir and the Schola Cantorum of the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School; then by Raymond Gubbay Ltd for a concert of Dickensian Carols with London Concert Brass at the Royal Festival Hall and also for Carmina Burana, again at the Royal Festival Hall with the RPO; for a Christmas concert for the Carers' Trust at St George's Hanover Square and The Garrick Club for its annual carol service at St. Paul's Covent Garden. The choir was also engaged for two professional recordings: God Save the King and other anthems following the death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and a number of songs with baritone Colin Schachat and soprano Camilla Kerslake, both with the RPO at Henry Wood Hall.

In addition in July 2023 we made recordings of three new Christmas Carols written for the choir by Ben Morales Frost, and in addition we were delighted to be joined by Roderick Williams OBE as our soloist in a recording of Flanders & Horowitz's "*Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo*". Both recordings were for commercial release in 2023/24.

In March 2022 we announced the retirement of Hilary Davan Wetton as our Musical Director and Principal Conductor, effective from August 2023. In March 2024 we were delighted to announce the appointment of Daniel Hyde, Director of Music for the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, as our Musical Director and Principal Conductor effective from 1 August 2024.

The Choir is a member of Making Music, previously the National Federation of Music Societies.

Reserves Policy

The Choir needs to hold reserves for a number of reasons: to provide a cushion against losses in the course of a year, to enable it to commit to expenditure up to a year ahead and to give it flexibility in its long term planning. The Choir's policy is to hold a level of reserves that is broadly equivalent to between one and one and a half year's worth of planned future expenditure.

**CITY OF LONDON CHOIR
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

We choose under the constitution of the Charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities for the period. In preparing these financial statements we:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They 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.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf:

30 May 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D G Mansfield', written in a cursive style.

D G Mansfield, Chairman

CITY OF LONDON CHOIR

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the City of London Choir

I report to the Trustees of the City of London Choir on my examination of the combined accounts of the Group, comprising the City of London Choir and its subsidiary CLC Orchestral Promotions Limited, for the year ended 31 July 2023 set out on pages 6 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner

As the Trustees of the City of London Choir you are responsible for the preparation of accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act") and you have chosen to prepare combined accounts for the Group. You are satisfied that the accounts of both the City of London Choir and the Group are not required by charity law to be audited and you have chosen instead to have an Independent Examination.

My responsibility is to report to you on my examination of the combined accounts. I have carried out my examination under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In so doing I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's Report

An Independent 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. An Independent Examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently it does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving an opinion on the accounts. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an Independent Examination can provide. Consequently, I express no opinion as to whether the consolidated accounts present a 'true and fair view' and my Report is limited to those specific matters set out in the Independent Examiner's Statement below.

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 give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records, with respect to the City of London Choir, were not kept as required by Section 130 of the 2011 Act and, with respect to its subsidiary, were not kept as required by Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jason Hargaden, BSc, ACA

Signed:
Date:


30 May 2024

CITY OF LONDON CHOIR
COMBINED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

		UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
		FUND	FUND	FUNDS	FUNDS
Notes	2023	2023	2023	2022	
	£	£		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Subscriptions and Gift Aid refund	29,865	-	29,865	20,525	
Friends	1,590	-	1,590	2,116	
Concerts 3	40,943	-	40,943	74,734	
Performance and other fees 8	8,580	-	8,580	7,691	
Music hire and resale	3,998	-	3,998	6,122	
Sale of CDs 9	60	-	60	155	
Recording income 9	6,118	-	6,118	1,500	
Donations	56	-	56	2,038	
Sale of folders	575	-	575	400	
Fund raising 10	624	-	624	480	
Tenor Bursary Scheme	-	-	-	-	
Bank interest	2,394	-	2,394	210	
	<u>94,803</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,803</u>	<u>115,971</u>	
EXPENDITURE					
Rehearsal expenses	26,857	-	26,857	22,212	
Making Music- insurance	634	-	634	622	
Concerts 3	46,221	-	46,221	85,591	
Music hire and resale	4,887	-	4,887	5,080	
Recording & CD expenses 9	13,227	-	13,227	512	
Singing Day	1,095	-	1,095	-	
Cost of folders sold	575	-	575	400	
Audition costs	2,012	-	2,012	1,108	
Tenor Bursary Scheme	-	-	-	-	
Vocal Coach	-	-	-	-	
Committee expenses	90	-	90	-	
Bank Charges	370	-	370	403	
Concert Management	2,520	-	2,520	2,520	
Sundry Expenses	2,948	-	2,948	740	
Total resources expended	<u>101,436</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101,436</u>	<u>119,188</u>	
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS FOR THE YEAR	<u>(6,633)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,633)</u>	<u>(3,217)</u>	
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	<u>113,592</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>115,292</u>	<u>118,509</u>	
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>£106,959</u>	<u>£1,700</u>	<u>£108,659</u>	<u>£115,292</u>	

There are no recognised gains and losses in 2022 and 2023 other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

CITY OF LONDON CHOIR
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET
AT 31 JULY 2023

		UNRESTRICTED FUND	RESTRICTED FUND	TOTAL FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS
	Notes	31/07/2023	31/07/2023	31/07/2023	31/07/2022
		£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	4	657	-	657	1,232
Debtors	5	25,927	-	25,927	21,752
Cash at bank and in hand	7	87,822	1,700	89,522	94,458
		114,406	1,700	116,106	117,442
Creditors: amounts falling due within one years	6	(7,447)	-	(7,447)	(2,150)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		106,959	1,700	108,659	115,292
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		106,959	1,700	108,659	115,292
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds		106,959	-	106,959	113,592
Restricted funds		-	1,700	1,700	1,700
TOTAL FUNDS		£106,959	£1,700	£108,659	£115,292

The financial statements on pages 6 to 11 were approved by the trustees on 30 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



D G Mansfield
Chairman

This balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

CITY OF LONDON CHOIR

NOTES TO THE COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 JULY 2023

1. Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and 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 (FRS 102) revised in October 2019; the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom (FRS 102) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Fund Accounting

The Charity's Unrestricted Funds consist of general funds which the Charity may use for its purposes at its discretion.

Restricted Funds are those where the donor has imposed restrictions on the use of the funds.

Income arising on restricted funds and expenditure incurred in respect of these funds are reflected through the Statement of Financial Activities with any surpluses or deficits being appropriated to/from restricted funds.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

2. Income

Voluntary income and donations are accounted for as received by the Charity.

3. Concert Account

		Income	Expenditure	2023 Profit / (Loss)	2022
		£	£	£	£
Cadogan Hall	Ravel/RVW	2,909	7,513	(4,604)	(4,435)
St. John's, Smith Square	Carols	2,792	2,464	328	1,782
Barbican	Verdi	31,522	26,515	4,907	(4,408)
St. Giles Cripplegate	SMICC	3,720	9,629	(5,909)	(1,505)
Cadogan Hall	Ravel/RVW	-	-		(2,415)
Other					123
		<u>£40,943</u>	<u>£46,221</u>	<u>£(5,278)</u>	<u>£(10,857)</u>

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4. Stocks	2023	2022
	£	£
Folders held for resale	657	1,232
	<u>£657</u>	<u>£1,232</u>
5. Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
H M Revenue & Customs	19,815	21,752
Other debtors	6,112	-
	<u>£25,927</u>	<u>£21,752</u>
6. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Concert account	825	946
Other creditors	6,622	1,204
	<u>£7,447</u>	<u>£2,150</u>
7. Cash at bank and in hand	2023	2022
	£	£
CCLA Deposit account	82,330	79,969
Metro Bank accounts	692	190
RBS accounts	6,500	14,299
	<u>£89,522</u>	<u>£94,458</u>

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8. Performance and other fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net surplus per engagement		
Raymond Gubbay Ltd	4,435	2,954
The Garrick Club	450	1,135
RPO	2,250	486
The Carers' Trust	750	450
Weddings	675	1,996
Kestrel Music	-	390
The Walk	-	280
	<u>£8,580</u>	<u>£7,691</u>

9. Recording & CD account

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income	<u>6,118</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Expenditure	<u>13,227</u>	<u>512</u>
Net income	<u>£(7,109)-</u>	<u>£988</u>

10. Fund raising

	2023	2022
	£	£
Easy Fund Raising	418	320
Amazon	84	71
Royalties	<u>123</u>	<u>88</u>
	<u>£624</u>	<u>£480</u>

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11. Trustee remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2023 nor for the year ended 31 July 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2023 nor for the year ended 31 July 2022.

12. Related Party Disclosure

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2023 nor for the year ended 31 July 2022.