

THE PURCELL SINGERS
Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 31 March 2021

Charitable objects

The objects of the choir are:

- to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects, by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and, if possible, by the making of recordings;
- and other solely charitable objects as defined by The Charities Act 2006, or any subsequent Act as determined from time to time by the Trustees of The Purcell Singers and delivered for the public benefit.

The Trustees of The Purcell Singers have the responsibility of working with the Founding Musical Director, Mark Ford, and Conductor, Jonathan Schranz, in promoting the objects of the choir.

Achievements and Performance

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020-2021 saw a quiet year for the choir. Nonetheless, the Board was able to have useful reflective discussions and to work towards reemerging from its forced silence in a stronger position. The year started with plans for performances in October and December; although in the summer the Board discussed potential mitigations that might allow the October concert to go ahead, ultimately these events were reluctantly cancelled. Early in the summer, choir members were invited to submit videos for a virtual recording of Parry's 'Crossing the Bar', which was completed in early July. Later in the summer the Board met and had a useful strategy day discussion, wherein we agreed to particularly focus moving forward on procuring commercial recordings and gigs, and building a sense of belonging and loyalty in the choir's membership, promoting diversity and being as inclusive as possible.

Costs to the choir for musical events and administration, as evidenced in the accounts, totalled £1,186.49.

Financial Review

The choir opened the year with funds of £9,723.03.

The choir's expenses over the year were minimal, and in addition we received a generous anonymous donation of £3,000 (additionally Gift-Aided), and so the choir ended the year with a surplus of £3,652.86.

Funds carried forward at 31 March 2021 were £13,375.89.

Policy on reserves

The Trustees aim to maintain reserves at not less than £10,000.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the choir always has sufficient funds to support its roster of routine UK concerts.

Should the choir wish to carry out a large London concert with orchestra (such as at the Queen Elizabeth Hall), reserves would need to be at c. £30,000 and for a single ACT tour of similar scale to Rouen or Amiens (without recourse to a loan facility) then c. £40,000.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Purcell Singers is governed by a “Foundation” model constitution as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) which was registered on 29 July 2016. The activities of the choir are determined and agreed by the Trustees in consultation with the Musical Director.

The Trustees have been using a rolling 3 year Strategic Plan as the touchstone against which to take decisions on behalf of the choir.

The Strategic Plan covers:

- Performance Standards
- Performance Repertoire
- Recordings
- Profile
- Membership
- Governance

The Trustees review the Strategic Plan every year: in the 2020-2021 financial year this was at the trustee Away Day in August.

Training for new Trustees consists of invitations to concerts (where they are not already involved with the choir); discussion with the Chair and Founding Musical Director about role and responsibilities; review with the Treasurer of the last Accounts and Trustees Annual Report; access to minutes of prior Trustee meetings; and invitations to attend one or more Trustee meetings.

Day-to-day administration of the choir’s activities is carried out by the Choir’s Events and Administration Manager, Eleanor Dale.

Public Benefit Statement

In carrying out their work the Trustees have had regard to the public benefit offered by the choir.

Membership of the choir is open to new singers, subject to audition and confirmation by the Founding Musical Director and Conductor, whose opinions are final.

Administrative Information

The Purcell Singers is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1168508.

The principal office is at 108 Gosberton Road, London, SW12 8LQ.

Trustees who have served for all or part of the period from 1st April 2020 until 31st March 2021:

Mary Clayton-Kastenholz (Appointed trustee 06/09/2018; Appointed Chair 14/03/2019)

Ben Norman – Hon Treasurer (Appointed 01/11/2001)

Frances Birch (Appointed 12/01/2017)

Emily John (Appointed 04/09/2017)

Jennifer Lambert (Appointed 17/01/2019)

Wayne Jones (Appointed 30 March 2020)

Ex officio members of the Trustee Board during this financial year were:

Mark Ford – Founding Musical Director

Jonathan Schranz – Conductor (appointed 23rd June 2017)

Eleanor Dale – Events and Administration Manager (appointed 24th September 2017)

Conclusion

While the year for the choir was of necessity quiet, the Board was not inactive, and at March 2021 was ready to re-emerge with renewed focus.

Acknowledgements

The choir is grateful to Mark Ford, the Founding Musical Director, for his vision and constant support for the choir, to Jonathan Schranz, Conductor, and to choir members and friends for their dedication and hard work.

Particular thanks to Eleanor Dale for her work as Events and Administration Manager, and to all committee members for their hard work and dedication.

Approved by the Trustees on 20th January 2022

Signed on behalf of the trustees by Mary Clayton-Kastenholz, Committee Chair

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
OF THE PURCELL SINGERS.**

I report on the attached accounts of the Purcell Singers for the year ended 31st.March, 2021.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- 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 statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- (i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act
- have not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



K.R.FORD.
BROOK HOUSE, MAIN STREET,
BECKLEY, Nr.RYE,
EAST SUSSEX. TN31 6RL.

DATE: 8th.January, 2022.

THE PURCELL SINGERS

Balance Sheet at 31/3/2021

	£	£
Assets		
Cash		
Current Account	9.00	
Deposit Accounts	13,366.86	
		13,375.86
Accrual of income: interest (March 2021)	0.03	
Liabilities		
		(none)
		<u>13,375.89</u>
		=====
Funds b/f 1/4/2020		9,723.03
Surplus from general account		3,652.86
Funds c/f 31/3/2021		13,375.89

Trustee 

Treasurer 

Date: 7 January 2022

Purcell Singers – Income & Expenditure Account (2020/21 FY)

General Account

	2020/21		Memo item: 2019/20	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations	4,320.00		3,140.00	
Gift Aid	747.99		1,006.22	
Income from royalties	489.00		nil	
Investment income	5.70		56.41	
Musical events	nil		12,262.55	
CD sales	<u>nil</u>		<u>70.00</u>	
		5,562.69		16,535.18
Expenditure				
Administration	(654.00)		(4,609.00)	
Musical events	(532.49)		(18,110.62)	
Subscription & Insurance	(243.00)		(231.00)	
Marketing (incl. website)	(207.27)		(1,159.53)	
Strategy work	(111.39)		(171.57)	
Sundries	(91.68)		(89.69)	
Bank fees	<u>(70.00)</u>		<u>(60.00)</u>	
		(1,909.83)		(24,431.41)
(Deficit) / Surplus		<u>3,652.86</u>		<u>(7,896.23)</u>
		=====		=====