

COR MEIBION GWALIA

England & Wales · Charity number 1169319

Details

Other names	GWALIA MALE CHOIR
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2016-09-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	London Welsh Centre 157-163 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8UE
Phone	020 7837 3722
Email	gwaliachoir@gmail.com
Website	https://www.gwaliachoirLondon.org/

Activities

Objects: OBJECTSTHE OBJECTS OF THE CHOIR SHALL BE:1. TO ADVANCE,IMPROVE,DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY ANY MEANS THE TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS;2. TO FURTHER SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES OR PURPOSES AS THE TRUSTEES IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION SHALL THINK FIT.

Activities: Advance,improve,develop and maintain public education in,and appreciation of, the art and science of choral music in all its aspects (in particular by way of the continuation of the tradition of Welsh choral music) by way of public concerts,social events and recital.To further such charitable purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Austria
- Belgium
- France
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£18,065	£16,767	-	-
2024-07-31	£16,407	£14,466	-	-
2023-07-31	£9,807	£11,875	-	-
2022-07-31	£7,671	£9,201	-	-
2021-07-31	£2,498	£3,056	-	-
2020-07-31	£6,593	£6,476	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
RICHARD HOPKIN	Chair	2023-02-15
COLIN SANFORD		2023-02-15
Eben John Owen		2024-02-07
JOHN TAYLOR		2023-02-15
Mark Tittle		2025-03-12

COR MEIBION GWALIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1169319

Accounts



Trustees Report for the period 1/08/2024 – 31/07/2025

Charity: Côr Meibion Gwalia/Gwalia Male Choir
Charity Number: 1169319

C/o Canolfan Cymry Llundain/London Welsh Centre
157-163 Grays Inn Road
London
WC1X 8UE

Trustees:

Richard Hopkin (Chairman)

Eben Owen

Colin Sanford (Treasurer)

John Taylor

Mark Tittle

Trustees Report:

Chairman's Report

I hope you all agree that the year to 31st July 2025 saw us continue to grow as a choir, recruit new members, win an increasing number of paid engagements and continue our charitable work. It is really only now, with the benefit of hindsight, that we can see the damage that Covid did to us, but I hope that we are now fully recovered. I will defer to Colin (as Treasurer) and Wyn (as Musical Director) for details on finance and our musical output respectively, but I will mention a few highlights.

On recruitment, we have been pleased to welcome new members to our ranks. Growing our numbers has helped our musical balance and improved our confidence

across the board, as well as helping with our financial position. On a sadder note, we were of course deeply sorry to lose Robin Roberts earlier in 2025.

On administration, your committee has met regularly throughout the year to stay on top of the administrative burden of keeping the choir going. During the course of the year we completed the introduction of new policies and procedures, approved at the last AGM, which were required by the Charity Commission. Good progress has been made on our social media and our website. In addition we have acquired new ties and shirts and are in the process of finalising the review of our repertoire. Our strategy remains to ensure that we have enough paid engagements to ensure that the choir is sustainable, able to afford to pay our professional musicians and carry out charitable or “at cost” engagements from time to time. See the list of our engagements overleaf.

Highlights past and to come include:

- Singing successfully as a group of just six at a paid funeral engagement in Sittingbourne;
- A very strong performance over the St. David’s Day celebrations period– five engagements in all, three of which were paid;
- Recording both an EP of Welsh Wassail songs for global commercial release in November and three Welsh songs for inclusion in the British Library's folk sound archive;
- Performing at prestigious venues such as the Royal Military Chapel, Gray’s Inn, the Mansion House, the British Museum, Tallow Chandlers’ and Stationers’ Halls, Royal Lancaster Hotel and Lambeth Palace;
- New friendships with German Winds (which may lead to a tour in 2026) and Onllwyn MVC;
- Building a stronger relationship with our friends in the LWRCC and joining them at Old Deer Park to cheer on London Welsh RFC and have fun; and
- An exciting tour to Lille in December 2025 for the year-end concert of Choeur Hommes d’Agache.

Rehearsals on the whole have been reasonably well attended, with our average attendance continuing to improve to 22 men.

Cerys Matthews our President has been kept informed throughout, and we remain grateful for her continuing support, and also for her performance with us at the British Museum to celebrate the re-opening of the British Library Reading Room. Also to Alison for the separate personal tuition she provides alongside our rehearsals, and for taking part as a soloist at our joint concert with Onllwyn MVC.

I am very grateful to all of you for your support and hard work in showing up for rehearsals, performances and sourcing new gigs and members, to my fellow Committee members and Trustees for helping to manage the administrative burden, especially in organising each concert, to our professional musicians for their expert guidance,

encouragement and support, to all contributing to our digital marketing (social media and website) and IP issues and to our supporters and volunteers especially here at the LWC for all the help they have given throughout the year, and continue to provide

Treasurer's Report

The year ending July 2025 has resulted in another profit following the previous year's good result. Income for our events and member subscriptions, have both increased on 2023/24. As expected, our expenses have also increased.

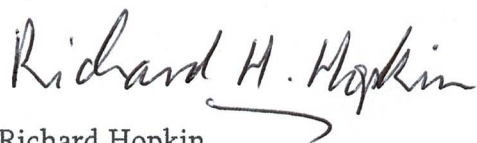
Our rehearsal costs are broadly in line with last year, but our event costs have increased by a larger margin. This is mainly due to having both of our professionals utilised for most events this year as opposed to just one on over half of our events in the same period last year.

The number of engagements were similar to last year - however, this year, more of our events were at a discounted rate, or just to cover our costs. St David's day weekend was a bumper time for our earnings, with four events in three days. This included the two Food & Drink Wales events which were very lucrative.

Because of our second consecutive profitable year, our retained funds have improved again. We have just over £4,000 of available funds, once we pay all of our bills. Gift aid will make an appearance in next year's accounts, once the claim has been paid. The outlook for the following financial year is good, especially as we haven't had a discounted gig so far. It will obviously be important to have a busy St David's day week as in previous years.

These financial statements have been reviewed and verified, independently, by Lekha Patel CGMA.

Signed on behalf of the current trustees,



Richard Hopkin
Chairman & Trustee
Côr Meibion Gwalia/Gwalia Male Choir
6th May 2025
Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynyddol cynhaliwyd 19ed Tachwedd 2025
Annual General Meeting held 19th November 2025

Cor Meibion Gwalia**Income and Expenditure Account as at 31st July 2025**

	2024-25	2023-24
Income		
Member donations	3,972.50	3,350.00
External donations	0.00	100.00
Engagements (fees and ticket sales)	14,040.00	12,900.00
Royalties from Downloads/CD Sales	52.41	57.25
Total income	18,064.91	16,407.25
Expenditure		
Committee expenses	322.21	128.07
Uniform Costs	98.17	736.90
Insurance	94.08	94.08
Nat Ass of Choirs subscription	53.00	53.00
Musician engagement fees	6,087.89	4,248.75
Beer mats/Business cards	78.98	0.00
Rehearsal costs	9,980.00	9,205.00
Sheet Music costs	52.20	0.00
Total Expenditure	16,766.53	14,465.80
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,298.38	1,941.45

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 JULY 2025

CHOIR ACCUMULATED FUNDS	31 July 2025	31 July 2024
Balance as at 31 July	4,037.91	2,620.53
REPRESENTED BY		
Current Assets		
Cash at bank	7,311.91	7,213.09
	7,311.91	7,213.09
Less Current committed funding		
Advance Payments	0.00	0.00
Fees & expenses payable	3,154.00	4,442.56
Engagement advances	120.00	150.00
	3,274.00	4,592.56
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	4,037.91	2,620.53

COR MEIBION GWALIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1169319

Accounts



Trustees Report for the period 1/08/2023 – 31/07/2024

Charity: Côr Meibion Gwalia/Gwalia Male Choir
Charity Number: 1169319

C/o Canolfan Cymry Llundain/London Welsh Centre
157-163 Grays Inn Road
London
WC1X 8UE

Trustees:

Richard Hopkin (Chairman)

Steve Davies

Eben Owen

Colin Sanford (Treasurer)

John Taylor

Trustees Report:

Chairman's Report

I hope you all agree that 2024 saw us consolidate and move forward further on the positive progress we made as a choir in 2023. I will defer to Colin (as Treasurer) and Wyn (as Musical Director) for details on finance and our musical output respectively, but I will mention a few highlights.

On recruitment, we have been pleased to welcome a few more new members to our ranks. Growing our numbers has helped our musical balance and improved our confidence across the board, as well as helping with our financial position.

On administration, your committee has met regularly throughout the year to manage the not inconsiderable administrative burden of keeping the choir going. Our strategy remains to ensure that we have enough paid engagements to ensure that the choir is sustainable and able to afford to carry out charitable or low-fee engagements from time to time. In the case of the former, during 2024 we were engaged on a paid basis for three weddings and a funeral (yes, really), which enabled us to help raise funds for the LWC in March (with Bridgend MVC) and again in November (Mosaic and Lewis Barfoot), for music education at St. Alban's Church in Harrow in July and for St. Mungo's in a chilly Victoria Station just before Christmas.

We remain in contact with other choirs and musical groups, and made new friends during 2024 with Bridgend MVC and German Winds (which may lead to a tour in 2026). It is also good to see our regular informal concerts and sing alongs at Old Deer Park in Richmond with LWRCC and LWMVC become embedded in our diaries. There is work in progress on other possible joint choir opportunities.

Rehearsals on the whole have been reasonably well attended, with our average attendance improving from around 18 to 20 men attending. I remain grateful to Alison for the separate personal tuition she provides, alongside our rehearsals to those who want it, which has helped many of us.

We had an especially busy St. David's Day weekend in 2024: once again at the Oxford & Cambridge Club's St. David's Day dinner, then two concerts outdoors on successive chilly days at Spitalfields as part of Welsh Food Week and our joint concert with Bridgend MVC at the London Welsh Centre.

In the second half of the year, it was fun to perform with Sven Hollinghausen and German Winds in the Royal Military Chapel, Birdcage Walk in September, as well as with Mosaic and Lewis Barfoot at the LWC in November. Both these engagements stretched our repertoire a little bit.

Cerys Matthews our President has been kept informed throughout, and we remain grateful for her continuing support.

I am very grateful to all of you for your support and hard work in showing up for rehearsals and performances, to my fellow Committee members for helping to manage the administrative burden, especially in organising each concert, to our professional musicians for their expert guidance and encouragement, and to our supporters and volunteers especially here at the LWC for all the help they have given throughout the year, and continue to provide.

During the course of the year the Committee and Trustees have made a number of administrative changes. These include the formal delegation of day to day operational responsibilities to the Committee by the Trustees, the updating of the rules of the choir

and the introduction of new policies and procedures in respect of financial risk control and complaints procedures among others. The annual submission to the Charity Commission that the choir has to make every year now requires us to state whether we have policies and procedures on the areas covered. A copy of these will be sent out with the notification of the AGM

We have a busy programme of engagements for 2025, including a prestigious engagement at the British Museum in June and (we hope) a tour to Lille in December. Work in progress for 2025 on the administrative side includes a revamp of our website, new ties and shirts and the finalization of the review of our repertoire.

Treasurer's Report

The year ending July 2024 has resulted in a profit for the first time since before Covid.

Our Engagements income has nearly doubled versus last year 2022/23 and is the highest it has been for nearly 10 years.

Member donations are also up year on year.

As expected, our expenses have also increased, but fortunately not at the same rate as our income.

The number of engagements were not dissimilar to last year - however, this year, more of our events were not at a discounted rate, or just to cover our costs.

St David's day weekend was a bumper time for our earnings, with four events in three days.

Five weddings (Bravo to the Castle Howard attendees) in the year and the two Stornoway days - the recording and the concert, also helped to make this year a good one.

Our rehearsal costs (for our two professionals) are up year on year and this is reflective of the increase to their fees that we agreed at the beginning of the financial year.

Because of our profitable year, our retained funds look much healthier also. We have just over £2500 available funds if we pay all of our bills

The outlook for the following financial year looks to be very similar in terms of revenue, with St David's day again being a busy time.

Our thanks to Lekha Patel for undertaking the 'independent examination' of the accounts as required by the Charity Commission. The Trustees of Côr Meibion Gwalia have approved this report.

Signed on behalf of the current trustees,

Signed by:

C7F2D8F94A8747A...

Richard Hopkin
Chairman & Trustee
Côr Meibion Gwalia/Gwalia Male Choir
26th March 2024

Cor Meibion Gwalia**Income and Expenditure Account as at 31st July 2024**

	2023-24	2022-23
Income		
Member donations	3,350.00	2,555.00
External donations	100.00	250.00
Engagements (fees and ticket sales)	12,900.00	6,960.00
Royalties from Downloads/CD Sales	57.25	41.90
Total income	16,407.25	9,806.90
Expenditure		
Committee expenses	128.07	181.95
Uniform Costs	736.90	0.00
Insurance	94.08	89.60
Nat Ass of Choirs subscription	53.00	65.00
Musician engagement fees	4,248.75	4,357.90
Beer mats	0.00	252.00
Rehearsal costs	9,205.00	6,928.75
Total Expenditure	14,465.80	11,875.20
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,941.45	-2,068.30

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 JULY 2024

CHOIR ACCUMULATED FUNDS	31 July 2024	31 July 2023
Balance as at 31 July	2,620.53	614.08
REPRESENTED BY		
Current Assets		
Cash at bank	7,213.09	9,508.53
	7,213.09	9,508.53
Less Current committed funding		
Advance Payments	0.00	3,500.00
Fees & expenses payable	4,442.56	4,524.45
Engagement advances	150.00	870.00
	4,592.56	8,894.45
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	2,620.53	614.08

COR MEIBION GWALIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1169319

Accounts



Trustees Report for the period 1/08/2022 – 31/07/2023

Charity: Côr Meibion Gwalia/Gwalia Male Choir
Charity Number: 1169319

C/o Canolfan Cymry Llundain/London Welsh Centre
157-163 Grays Inn Road
London
WC1X 8UE

Trustees:

Richard Hopkin (Chairman)

John Harrow

Colin Sanford (Treasurer)

John Taylor

Trustees Report:

Chairman's Report

I hope you all agree that the last 12 months has been one of positive progress for us as a choir. I will defer to Colin (as Treasurer) and Wyn (as Musical Director) for details on finance and our musical output respectively but I will summarise a few points.

On recruitment, we have been able to source around half a dozen new members, across all age groups, as well as returning ones. This trend has continued so far into 2024 and it is increasingly clear that social media is important in achieving this. Growing our numbers has helped our musical balance and improved our confidence across the board, as well as helping with our financial position.

On administration, your committee has met regularly throughout the year to work through and resolve a number of long-running issues. We now have smart, new, modernised uniforms, and I would like in particular to thank our choir marshall, John Taylor, for his hard work in achieving this. We have been able to increase the fees we pay to our professional musicians to a level more in line with current rates, especially over a period of high inflation (after many years of no change). We have members responsible for liaison with the LWRCC and with the LWC to help maximise chances of engagements and hopefully avoid diary clashes. Our strategy is to ensure that we have enough paid engagements to ensure that the choir is sustainable and in a position to carry out unpaid engagements where the choir can provide its services for free and/or raise money for other charities. In the case of the former the choir has performed for the Royal Variety Club charity, including at Brinsworth House their retirement home, and in respect of the latter the choir raised some £815 for the Samaritans at Paddington Station before Christmas.

We have built stronger relationships with other choirs, notably the LWRCC and the Renegade Choir. There is work in progress on other joint choir opportunities.

Rehearsals on the whole have been reasonably well attended, with on average about 18 men attending. Unusually, we did not take a summer break in August this year because our performance schedule was so busy, but I believe it was worth the extra effort. This was all the more of an achievement with the constant train strikes throughout the year which were disruptive for many. I am especially grateful to Alison for the personal tuition she has provided which has helped many of us.

I will defer to Wyn on performances but some highlights were our performance at the Oxford & Cambridge Club on St. David's Day, our warm welcome at Horton Kirby (after several years' absence) and of course our show at the O2 Forum in Kentish Town with Stornoway which, after a lot of work on non-standard repertoire, was great fun and a huge success.

The Stornoway concert generated a lot of positive publicity for us, which was excellent. We have improved very much in this regard in the last 12 months and I am very grateful to our members and supporters who have helped with this. There is more to be done, and we have recently been able to commission modern high quality logos for new business cards, flyers, more formal photographs, etc.

Cerys Matthews our President has been kept informed throughout, and we are grateful for her continuing support with "shout outs" on her show to her large following on social media.

I am very grateful to all of you for your support and hard work in showing up for rehearsals and performances, to our Committee for managing the administrative burden, especially in organising every concert, to our professional musicians for their

expert guidance and encouragement, and to our supporters and volunteers especially here at the LWC for all the help they have given throughout the year, and continue to provide.

In conclusion I hope you all agree that the future seems brighter at the beginning of 2024 than perhaps it was at the start of last year. It is important not to underestimate the damaging effect of the pandemic on us, and all choirs, and it is perhaps only now that we are properly emerging from it. We have a busy programme of engagements for 2024, including an exciting tour to France in October.

Treasurer's Report

The year ending 31st July 2023 has resulted in a £2,068 deficit. This is despite a £2,000 increase in engagements revenue, year on year, to just under £7,000.

Despite our engagement revenue increasing by over 40% versus last year, our musician engagement costs more than doubled. This is mainly due to the number of engagements, which increased year on year from six to eleven. However only two of these were at full invoice value. Three events were at a discounted rate and of the remaining five, three only covered our costs and two were free of charge. Our rehearsal costs, at just under £7,000, were commensurate with the previous year.

Gift Aid for 20/21, 21/22 & 22/23 has now been claimed and is due to be paid by HMRC in Feb 24 for c £1,800.

Projected income for the following year for Q3+Q4 2023 and into Q1+Q2 2024 will allow us to continue to cover our expenses.

This is expected to be c £7,000 but has a potential to be £9,000 depending on confirmation of two additional March events.

Our thanks to Lekha Patel for undertaking the 'independent examination' of the accounts as required by the Charity Commission. The Trustees of Côr Meibion Gwalia have approved this report.

Signed on behalf of the current trustees,



Richard Hopkin
Chairman & Trustee
Côr Meibion Gwalia/Gwalia Male Choir
26th March 2024

Cor Meibion Gwalia**Income and Expenditure Account as at 31st July 2023**

	2022-23	2021-22
Income		
Member donations	2,555.00	2,192.00
External donations	250.00	500.00
Engagements (fees and ticket sales)	6,960.00	4,950.00
Gift Aid rebate	0.00	0.00
Website download receipts	41.90	28.55
Total income	9,806.90	7,670.55
Expenditure		
Committee expenses	181.95	94.48
Donations	0.00	0.00
Insurance	89.60	71.85
Nat Ass of Choirs subscription	65.00	65.00
Website	0.00	143.88
Musician engagement fees	4,357.90	2,025.45
Beer mats	252.00	
Rehearsal costs (with % cover by members)	6,928.75	6,800.00
Total Expenditure	11,875.20	9,200.66
Excess of Income over Expenditure	-2,068.30	-1,530.11
	9,806.90	7,670.55

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 JULY 2023

CHOIR ACCUMULATED FUNDS	31 July 2023	31 July 2022
Balance as at 31 July	614.08	2,682.38
REPRESENTED BY		
Current Assets		
Sums due (engagements)	0.00	0.00
Cash at bank	9,508.53	7,309.88
Advance CD payments/deposits	0.00	0.00
	9,508.53	7,309.88
Less Current committed funding		
Advance Payments	3,500.00	0.00
Fees & expenses payable	4,524.45	4,627.50
Engagement advances	870.00	0.00
	8,894.45	4,627.50
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	614.08	2,682.38

COR MEIBION GWALIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1169319

Accounts



Trustees Report for the period 1/08/2021-31/07/2022

The Charity's name: Côr Meibion Gwalia, translated from Welsh as Gwalia Male Choir.

Charity number: 1169319

Charity address:

c/o London Welsh Centre, 157-163
Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8UE

Charity Trustees:

Stephen Jeremy Davies

John William Harrow

Paul Simon Miner

Geoffrey Lewis Rogers

Charity's structure and management:

The Gwalia Male Choir comprises choral members supported by a musical director and an accompanist. It is managed by a committee of six members, four of whom are trustees. The committee is led by a Chairman. Other posts are Concert Secretary, Treasurer, Secretary, and Publicity & Website Officer. The committee meets on a regular basis through the choir year. The choir recruits its trustees and committee members by inviting nominations from members which are voted on at the choir's Annual General Meeting.

At an Extraordinary General Meeting on the 18th May 2022 a number of the Trustees and Committee members indicated their intention of stepping down from their positions at the subsequent Annual General Meeting of the choir. This included the chair, Steve Davies, the Treasurer Paul Miner, who was leaving the choir and the Secretary, Geoff Rogers. All three were trustees and indicated that they wished to relinquish this responsibility as well. Richard Hopkin agreed to serve as the new Chairman of the choir and Colin Sanford as the new Treasurer. Both also agreed to serve as trustees of the choir. John Taylor also agreed to become a trustee. John Harrow, the Concert Secretary, agreed to continue as a Trustee. Rod Powrie agreed to work with John in respect of the Concert Secretary role. Madoc Batcup subsequently agreed to be appointed Secretary to the choir.

At the ensuing Annual General Meeting, which was held on the 15th February 2023 these changes were duly implemented, and the choir therefore continues to have a committee of six people and four trustees.

Objectives and activities:

For financial year 2021-2022-Achievements and performance including public benefit:

The choir seeks to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects (in particular by the continuation of the tradition of Welsh choral music) through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

The past achievements of the choir in pursuing these objectives was noted in the previous annual return of the choir at a time when its activities were severely hampered by the effects of the Covid lockdown and its aftermath. The choir was able to start to resume its schedule of engagements during the latter part of its financial year, and this included a St. David's Day concert at the Oxford and Cambridge Club with many Welsh favourites being sung. This was sufficiently successful for the choir to receive an invitation to perform again at the club's St. David's Day event in 2023.

The choir has a varied repertoire but particularly promotes the Welsh choral tradition and this included a keynote event during the year when the choir performed at the unveiling of the headstone of Cecil Griffiths, a Welsh runner who won an Olympic gold medal in 1920, but who died young, was buried in an unmarked grave at St. Laurence Church Little Stanmore and faded into obscurity. Recently, his grand-daughter started a campaign to commemorate his achievement with a headstone for his grave. This highlighted the coming together of a number of different Welsh historical and cultural strands and was widely reported in the Welsh media.

Other performances of the choir prior to the Annual General Meeting in February included at the Royal Academy of Arts, a radio show with Cerys Matthew, the renowned recording artist, BBC radio host and President of the choir, and providing musical entertainment at an evening of current affairs discussion at the London Welsh Centre. The choir was also asked to perform at the funeral of Cecil Griffiths' grand-daughter, who had tragically died from cancer shortly after the unveiling of her grandfather's headstone.

As a charity itself the Gwalia also helps other charities raise money, and this activity included raising over £1,000 in total for the Samaritans at Paddington station and for Shelter Cymru at a corporate event.

Chairman's Report to the Annual General Meeting on 15th February 2023.

1. The Chairman (in post since June 2022) began by thanking Steve for his work as the previous Chairman of the Gwalia; Wyn and Chris for their musical leadership; and all the Gwalia Committee especially John Harrow and Geoff Rogers for doing the heavy lifting on concert organisation and administration. He noted that both Geoff and Steve were stepping down as trustees, and that Geoff was additionally stepping down as Secretary. Special thanks were due to Geoff for all his hard work as Secretary over many years. The Chairman was grateful to and thanked Madoc for agreeing to take on the role.

Musically speaking, considering the challenges we faced, the past year had gone well with many successful performances. It had however been a shame that our planned trip to Germany had been cancelled by our hosts, and we had all felt keenly the loss of Mike Davies who had been a stalwart member and a good friend to so many of us for so many years.

The Chairman noted that we continued to face long-term challenges, which have been present for many years:

- while the Committee had taken steps to recruit new members and enhance our publicity, for example reaching out to students and via the Plaid event at LWC, it was acknowledged that we should all renew our efforts in this regard;
- if we are to improve musically, we do need regular attendance at rehearsals – while it is not expected that everyone can attend every week, it is not encouraging when members repeatedly do not show or cancel at the last minute;
- being a member of the Gwalia is a team effort and we all (not just the Committee) need to do more not just in attending regularly but also to publicise ourselves and find new members.

In conclusion the Chairman noted that overall it was encouraging that our pipeline of engagements was picking up. He thanked all the members for their support of his efforts and those of the Committee.

Treasurer's Report for the financial year to 31st July 2022

The year ending July 2022 has resulted in a £1,530 loss. This is despite an increase in revenue, year on year, to just under £5,000. With this increase in revenue, there has naturally been an increase in our operating costs. This increase is further highlighted due to the fact that the previous year was severely restricted by COVID and, therefore, all professional costs were much lower. Our rehearsal costs this year, represented almost three quarters of the total value of our expenses. This has been

measured, in previous years, against our member donations. This year's coverage was the lowest for over a decade at 32% coverage. An increase of member donations of 50% has already taken place and been received from 1st August 2022. The income from the future events for 2023, and into 2024, will allow us to continue to cover our expenses. Projected income for the current financial year (2022/23) will be around £2,500 more than in 2021/22.

Our thanks to Lekha Patel for undertaking the 'independent examination' of the accounts as required by the Charity Commission. The Trustees of Gwalia Male Choir have approved this Report.

Signed on behalf of the current Trustees:



Richard Hopkin
Chairman & Trustee
Gwalia Male Choir.

Dated 17th April 2023

(A copy signed by hand will be retained by the Choir Secretary)

Cor Meibion Gwalia**Income and Expenditure Account**

	2021-22	2020-21
Income		
Member donations	2,192.00	2,220.00
External donations	500.00	170.00
Engagements (fees and ticket sales)	4,950.00	85.00
Gift Aid rebate	0.00	0.00
Website download receipts	28.55	22.81
Total income	7,670.55	2,497.81
Expenditure		
Committee expenses	94.48	0.00
Donations	0.00	24.10
Insurance	71.85	71.85
Nat Ass of Choirs subscription	65.00	0.00
Website	143.88	0.00
Musician engagement fees	2,025.45	0.00
Microphone for Zoom Rehearsals	0.00	119.99
Rehearsal costs (with % cover by members)	6,800.00 32%	2,840.00 78%
Total Expenditure	9,200.66	3,055.94
Excess of Income over Expenditure	-1,530.11	-558.13
	7,670.55	2,497.81

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 JULY 2020

CHOIR ACCUMULATED FUNDS	31 July 2022	31 July 2021
Balance as at 31 July	2,682.38	3,937.99
REPRESENTED BY		
Current Assets		
Sums due (engagements)	0.00	400.00
Cash at bank	7,309.88	5,674.99
Advance CD payments/deposits	0.00	0.00
	7,309.88	6,074.99
Less Current committed funding		
Advance Payments	0.00	0.00
Fees & expenses payable	4,627.50	1,777.50
Engagement advances	0.00	85.00
Website maintenance	0.00	150.00
Outstanding NAC suscription	0.00	53.00
Zoom pro subscription January to July 2021	0.00	71.50
	4,627.50	2,137.00
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	2,682.38	3,937.99

COR MEIBION GWALIA

England & Wales - Charity number 1169319

Accounts



TRUSTEES' REPORT 2020-2021

The Charity's name: Cor Meibion Gwalia, translated from Welsh as Gwalia Male Choir.

Charity number: 1169319

Charity address: 157-163, Grays Inn Road,
Holborn, London WC1X 8UE

Charity Trustees:

Stephen Jeremy Davies
John William Harrow
Paul Simon Miner
Geoffrey Lewis Rogers

Charity's structure and management:

Gwalia Male Choir is comprised of choral members, a musical director and accompanist. It is managed by a committee of six members, four of whom are trustees. The committee is led by a Chairman. Other posts are Concert Secretary, Treasurer, Secretary, and Publicity & Website Officer. The committee meets on a regular basis through the choir year. The choir recruits its trustees and committee members by inviting nominations from members which are voted on at the choir's annual general meeting.

Objectives and activities: - For financial year 2020-2021 - Achievements and performance, including public benefit:

- *To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects (in particular by the continuation of the tradition of Welsh choral music) through the presentation of public concerts and recitals*

During this extraordinary and difficult time of the most severe of Covid restrictions, the only occasion on which we were able to perform to an audience fell on the last day of our financial year and is documented in the Chairman's Report that follows. This was an event to remember a young professional man who had sadly died in the year earlier, organised by his friends and work colleagues.

Over the years, the choir has reached a wide audience, making appearances on TV and radio, touring the UK and Europe, taking part in major events such as the Closing Ceremony of the London Olympics in 2012, the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, VJ Day on Horseguards Parade, and World War 1 commemorations in Northern France. Members have also been involved in past televised performances for CNN, ITV and Channel 4 respectively.

At all of our engagements we perform for, and interact with, members of the public. As such, we promote choral music (particularly in the Welsh tradition), providing musical education, appreciation and, importantly, entertainment. Testament to the successful achievement of the choir's objectives have been the many messages of appreciation we receive from audience members and the organisers of the various events and charities, many of whom may not have experienced a Welsh Male Choir's performance before.

- *To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the Trustees think fit*

We have supported various charities in the past by taking part in previously reported fund-raising engagements, as well as making financial donations directly to them. Other planned engagements and charity events during periods of Covid restrictions have been postponed to a time when our support for them can resume. Our commitment to these events remains strong. In addition, the choir continues to be an active supporter of the Welsh community in London and makes a significant contribution to keeping alive Welsh music, language and culture.

Chairman's Report to the Annual General Meeting on 24th November 2021:

As I reported at our last AGM earlier this year, our activities have continued to be severely curtailed by the Covid pandemic. We rehearsed on Zoom every other week throughout the winter and then it was a great relief to be able to get back to 'live' rehearsals here at the Centre in May 2021. We continued with 'dual' live and virtual rehearsals and it was good to see Russ and others joining us via Zoom.

On the last day of our financial year on 31 July 2021, we sang at a memorial/celebration for a young Welsh accountant who had died a year before. The event was held in one of the basement screening rooms of the Soho Hotel, off Dean St, where a film of tributes was shown before we sang to round off the evening and we received many compliments from the guests. This was our first formal engagement since March 2020.

Since the year end, we have continued with rehearsals at the London Welsh Centre and, at the end of September 2021, performed at a corporate event at the Royal Academy of Arts. It was a great place to sing and the event was both lucrative and most enjoyable. And then, a couple of weeks ago, we sang at a very intimate birthday party for a seriously ill 80 year old lady in Southwest London..

We are looking forward to carol-singing in December 2021, assuming no lockdowns, and we have confirmed engagements at the Oxford & Cambridge Club's St David's Day dinner at the end of February 2022, and at the London Welsh Centre on 5 March at the Centre's 'An Evening with Shane Williams'.

Plans for our visit to Germany in May are progressing well. This has been postponed a couple of times, but hopefully it will now go ahead. We will meet up again with our friends in Choer Agache who will be joining us from Lille in France. We expect to confirm a number of other engagements shortly. I am concerned about our dwindling numbers and ask all members to think about what we can do to recruit more members. I'd like to thank my colleagues on the committee for their support and hard work; and of course our thanks to our Musical Director Wyn, and our Accompanist Chris.

Treasurer's Report for the financial year to 31st July 2021

The Choir has been affected by the unusual circumstances of the past 18 months and this has been reflected in our end of year figures for 2020-21, particularly in terms of the loss of income from engagements. We have been able to cushion some of this loss through the valued continued support of the members, as well as reduced overall costs from fewer live and online based rehearsals. In 2021-22, we will submit a further Gift Aid application and already have some renewed interest in engagements. So going forward the picture is actually more rosy than the end of year figures suggest.

Our thanks to Tony Jenkins for undertaking the 'independent examination' of the accounts as required by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees of Gwalia Male Choir have approved this Report.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Stephen Jeremy Davies
Chairman & Trustee
Gwalia Male Choir.

S.J. Davies

Dated: 3rd May 2022

(A copy signed by hand will be retained by the Choir Secretary)

Cor Meibion Gwalia

Income and Expenditure Account

	2020-21	2019-20
Income		
Member donations	2,220.00	2,600.00
Income from CDY Book Sales	0.00	24.10
External donations	170.00	50.00
Engagements (fees and ticket sales)	85.00	2,626.00
Waterproofs/jackets	0.00	268.40
Gift Aid rebate	0.00	1,002.78
Website download receipts	22.81	22.35
Total income	2,497.81	6,593.63
Expenditure		
Committee expenses	0.00	209.29
Donations	24.10	24.10
Waterproofs/jackets	0.00	322.02
Insurance	71.85	71.85
Nat Ass of Choirs subscription	0.00	53.00
Website	0.00	50.00
Musician engagement fees	0.00	1,310.00
Microphone for Zoom rehearsals	119.99	0.00
Rehearsal & engagement costs (with % cover by members)	2,840.00	48.078 4,436.00
Total Expenditure	3,055.94	6,476.26
Excess / shortfall	-558.13	117.37
	2,497.81	6,593.63

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 JULY 2020

CHOIR ACCUMULATED FUNDS	31 July 2020	
Balance as at 31 July	4,009.49	6,394.02
REPRESENTED BY		
Current Assets		
Sums due (engagements)	400.00	1,150.00
Cash at bank	5,674.99	6,233.12
	6,074.99	7,383.12
less Current committed funding		
Advance Payments	0.00	0.00
Fees & expenses payable	1,777.50	965.00
Engagement advances	85.00	0.00
Website maintenance	150.00	0.00
Advance Subscriptions/refunds due	0.00	0.00
Outstanding NAC suscription	53.00	0.00
Committed donations	0.00	24.10
Zoom Pro Subscription January-July 2021	70.00	0.00
	2,135.50	989.10
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	3,939.49	6,394.02