



## 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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
<b>Income</b>		
Member donations	2,220.00	2,600.00
Income from CD/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
<b>Total income</b>	<b>2,497.81</b>	<b>6,593.63</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
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
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3,055.94</b>	<b>6,476.26</b>
<b>Excess / shortfall</b>	<b>-558.13</b>	<b>117.37</b>
	<b>2,497.81</b>	<b>6,593.63</b>

**BALANCE SHEET as at 31 JULY 2020**

<b>CHOIR ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>		<b>31 July 2020</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 July</b>	<b>4,009.49</b>	<b>6,394.02</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Sums due (engagements)	400.00	1,150.00
Cash at bank	5,674.99	6,233.12
	<b>6,074.99</b>	<b>7,383.12</b>
<b>Less Current committed funding</b>		
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
	<b>2,135.50</b>	<b>989.10</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>	<b>3,939.49</b>	<b>6,394.02</b>