

LONDON WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR
(Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain)

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

**For the Year Ended
31 December 2023**

LONDON WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

(Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees of the London Welsh Male Voice Choir present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023 under the Charities Act 2011, together with the independently examined accounts for the year, and confirm that the latter comply with the requirements of the Act, Constitution and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

1. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objects

The Objects of the Choir are to benefit the public in such charitable manner as the Charity Trustees in their absolute discretion shall determine, and in particular by:

1. Advancing the education of the public through the promotion and performance of Choral Music particularly, but not exclusively, by performing works composed and /or written by those of Welsh origin and /or in the Welsh language.
2. Advancing public knowledge and understanding of the heritage and tradition of Welsh Male Voice choral singing in particular, but not exclusively, by performing in those places where familiarity and understanding of such music is less prevalent.
3. Supporting and assisting, for the public benefit, other such charitable organisations in the advancement of their own objects in such ways as the trustees shall from time to time determine.
4. Providing a diverse community of supportive and likeminded individuals to promote mental and physical wellbeing through singing and the development of individual musical capabilities and competencies

Activities

During 2023, the choir performed in its Red Jackets on 20 occasions, 11 of which were public concerts. The choir picked up strongly after the pandemic and was able to pursue its active policy of developing productive links with several charities enabling us to undertake concerts in both major (including two cathedrals) and smaller venues across the country. To deliver against its objectives, the choir requires a healthy, sustainable singing group. In 2023, the average number of members remained at 80+, with an average concert attendance of 60 choristers.

In a typical concert 50% of the items are of Welsh origin, with a minimum of 33% in the Welsh language. The Choir is always looking to encourage people to take up choral singing and to enjoy the repertoire that the Choir performs in rehearsals and concerts. During the year we recruited over 20 new members, as part of our continuing drive to attract a new generation of choristers.

Public Benefit

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

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2. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

We performed, over the course of 2023, to “live” audiences totalling over 5,000, supporting 5 different charities / good causes and helping them to raise in excess of £40,000.

The Trustees feel the concerts held during the year continued to be successful giving a chance for promoting Welsh Works, Welsh culture and Male Voice choral music to be performed to the wider community.

In shaping the objectives and supporting activities for the year the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit. The activities hosted by or facilitated via the Choir have been accessible to all and have been broad ranging in terms of repertoire and content. We work with charities in preparing for our concerts to help maximise public interest and in turn help to generate income for those charities.

Public access to the choir is very important and our rehearsals continue to be open (at no cost) to the public and several people from the local community also sit in on these rehearsals during the year. In addition, we welcome and receive visits from people from further afield, including visitors who are choristers with various choirs across the world – as evidenced by the many entries in our Visitors’ Book. Friends of the Choir gave generously of their time to support the Choir’s cultural and fundraising activities to the extent of more than 300 hours of voluntary service during the year and the Trustees wish to say how much their valuable work is appreciated. The membership scheme called “Friends of the Choir” is going from strength to strength, with its own website area linked to the Choir’s website and the provision of regular “Newsletters” to “Friends” via this website link.

3. FINANCIAL REVIEW

2023 was an active year, with the Choir undertaking on average one public engagement per month. Over the year, there was a net movement (increase) in unrestricted funds by year end 2023 of £7,053. Subscriptions and Donations income totalled £9,895. Income from product sales in 2023 was £1,549. Our stock level is estimated at £1,200.

In 2019, the Choir received a bequest of £30,000 which is held as restricted funds. With interest, as at end of 2023 this fund stands at £17,201. In 2023, £8,337 of the bequest was used to support the choir’s charitable objectives.

The financial statements set out herein have been prepared from Xero software records maintained by the Choir’s Finance team.

Reserves Policy

The trustees review the choir’s requirements for reserves in accordance with the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy of maintaining reserves of £50,000 which are considered sufficient to meet the choir’s working capital requirements to cover expenditure for a period of 1 year.

4. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Choir was first registered a Charity on 1st July 1971. As an unincorporated association under the

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1968 rules that were applicable at the time there was no requirement for a Trust Deed as the Charity is governed by its constitution and rules which were amended in 1989, February 2008, December 2009 and December 2014. At the end of 2016, the Choir converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Governing Body

The structure of the Charity comprises of a Managing Committee of the (11) Trustees plus co-opted members.

Appointment and Training of Trustees

The Trustees are elected by the Choir at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) for a 12-month period or by the Choir at an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) for the period from the date of the EGM until the date of the next AGM. Nominations are submitted to the Choir Secretary in accordance with the Choir Constitution. It is the policy of the Choir to appoint Trustees who are mature individuals with considerable experience in fields such as Administration, Education, Finance, Marketing and Human Resources gained by holding responsible positions outside the Choir. It is consequently not necessary for them to have extensive training apart from ensuring they are up to date with any new developments in the field of Charity Administration.

Organisational Management

The Trustees are legally responsible for the overall management of the Choir and meet as the Managing Committee normally once a month with the Co-opted members in attendance if required but not entitled to vote. The Trustees meet on an "as required" basis to deal with such matters as the Approval of Accounts and the remuneration of professionals.

The work of implementing the policies agreed by the Managing Committee is delegated to the members of the Managing Committee and to nominated Sub-committees. Each Sub-Committee Chairman on request submits a report/minutes of meetings to the Managing Committee for their consideration and approval.

Risk Management

The Trustees are responsible for the management of risks faced by the Choir. Detailed consideration of the risks is delegated to the members of the Managing Committee and Chairmen of the Sub-Committees who are assisted by Committee or Choir members with expertise in particular fields. Identification, monitoring and recommended mitigation measures are embodied in the monthly reports submitted to the Managing Committee. Discussions take place with the Insurance Brokers spelling out risks and an Insurance Policy arranged to ensure risks are covered. In addition, an independent Financial Risk Oversight Working Group is in place to review any major project (currently where potential expenditure is greater than £10,000; (figure kept under review)).

5. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name of Charity – London Welsh Male Voice Choir (Other title known as – LWMVC and Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain). Charity Registration No: 1170727

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:

The London Welsh Centre
157-163 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8UE

Website : www.londonwelshmvc.org

TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the Choir have been elected by the Choir Members at the Annual General Meeting of the Choir or, if necessary, at an Extraordinary General Meeting. They all served in office throughout 2023 unless shown otherwise below.

Chairman

David Jones

Vice-Chairman

Richard Snowdon

Secretary

Chris Rees

Treasurer

Alun Edwards

Concert Secretary

David Sorton

Registrar

Brian Johnson

Marketing Secretary

Les Leslie

Voice Representatives

Tristan West

Eryl Davies

Philip Griffith

Nick Jones

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and the application of resources for that period. In preparing the financial statements.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

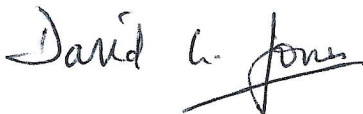
The trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution and Rules. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

Approved by the Trustees of the London Welsh Male Voice Choir on 11th June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



DAVID JONES
Chairman

London Welsh Male Voice Choir (Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain)
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
INCOME					
Donations and legacies	2	9,895	-	9,895	10,898
Charitable activities	3	39,700	-	39,700	42,677
Other trading activities	4	1,176	372	1,549	2,042
Total income		50,772	372	51,144	55,618
Expenditure					
Raising funds	5	4,147	-	4,147	4,499
Charitable activities	5	30,852	8,337	39,189	38,178
Governance costs	5	8,719	-	8,719	6,486
Total expenditure		43,718	8,337	52,056	49,163
Net income/(expenditure)		7,053	(7,965)	(912)	6,455
Total funds brought forward		73,109	25,166	98,275	91,820
Total funds carried forward		80,162	17,201	97,363	98,275

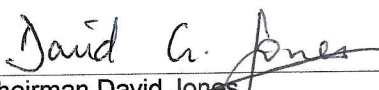
London Welsh Male Voice Choir (Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain)


Balance sheet as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Stock	6	1,200		2,200	
Debtors	7	561		1,608	
Cash at bank		108,071		104,602	
		<u>109,833</u>		<u>108,410</u>	
Total current assets					
Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year	8	12,470		10,136	
		<u>97,363</u>		<u>98,275</u>	
Net current assets					
		<u>97,363</u>		<u>98,275</u>	
Total assets less current liabilities		<u><u>97,363</u></u>		<u><u>98,275</u></u>	
Funds					
Accumulated funds		<u>97,363</u>		<u>98,275</u>	
Total charity funds		<u><u>97,363</u></u>		<u><u>98,275</u></u>	

These financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

On Behalf of the Trustees of
London Welsh Male Voice Choir


Chairman David Jones


Treasurer Alun Edwards

Approved by the Committee on 11th June 2024.

London Welsh Male Voice Choir (Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain)

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

Financial statements

These are the financial statements of The London Welsh Male Voice Choir (Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain) (the Charity), a charitable incorporated organisation constituted on 28 November 2016 and registered with the Charities Commission number 1170727. The Charity is a public benefit entity.

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Trustees Report and all of which are continuing.

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

1.2 Income

Voluntary income and donations are accounted for as received by the charity. The income from fund raising ventures is accounted for in the period in which the service is provided and is shown gross, with the associated costs included in fundraising costs.

1.3 Stocks

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

1.4 Fundraising Costs

Fundraising expenditure comprises costs incurred in inducing people and organisations to contribute financially to the charity's work and is accounted for on an accruals basis. This includes the cost of staging fund raising events.

1.5 Governance Expenditure

Governance expenditure on management and administration of the charity includes all expenditure not directly related to the charitable activity of fundraising ventures.

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

2 Donations and legacies

	2023 £	2022 £
Subscriptions and donations	9,895	10,898
	<u>9,895</u>	<u>10,898</u>

The Choir benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers, details of which are given in our annual report. The economic contribution of volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

3 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross income from various concerts	39,700	42,677

4 Other trading activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Product sales	1,549	2,042

5 Total Expenditure

	Basis of allocation	Trading £	Concerts and tours £	Governance £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Costs directly allocated to activities						
Cost of staging concerts and tours	Direct		39,189		39,189	38,178
Cost of producing goods	Direct	4,147			4,147	4,499
Support costs allocated to activities						
Accountancy	Direct			2,160	2,160	1,800
Bookkeeping				-	-	-
Choristers uniforms & presentations	Direct			3,168	3,168	351
Publicity, marketing, advertising and donations				168	168	814
Printing & Communication	Direct			17	17	53
Other administrative costs	Direct			3,207	3,207	3,469
		<u>4,147</u>	<u>39,189</u>	<u>8,719</u>	<u>52,056</u>	<u>49,163</u>

The trustees receive no payment for their services which they provided freely on a voluntary basis.

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

6	STOCKS	2023	2022
		£	£
	Finished goods for resale	565	1,565
	Stock of cloth for uniforms	635	635
		<u>1,200</u>	<u>2,200</u>
7	DEBTORS. AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	£	£
	Prepayments	555	482
	Other debtors	6	1,126
		<u>561</u>	<u>1,608</u>
8	CREDITORS. AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	£	£
	Other creditors	10,490	8,250
	Accruals	1,980	1,886
		<u>12,470</u>	<u>10,136</u>
9	RESTRICTED FUND	£	£
	Legacy received	30,000	30,000
	Commission of 4 Welsh Psalms	(5,000)	(5,000)
	Crossing the Bar Composition	(2,750)	0
	Salcombe Events	(5,587)	0
	Interest income	538	166
		<u>17,201</u>	<u>25,166</u>

In 2019 the Trustees received £30,000 under a will whose terms require the legacy remain anonymous. The legacy, both capital and income, is only to be used to support the promotion of the Choir and is subject to the Objects of the LWMVC. The funds are to be separated from the "operational finance" of the Choir.

LONDON WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of London Welsh Male Voice Choir

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and related notes 1 to 9.

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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- 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:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
- 2 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.

Zahid Hussein
For and on behalf of Z group
Chartered Accountants
Suite Lu.231 The Lightbulb
1 Filament Walk, Wandsworth
London SW18 4GQ
13 June 2024