

Stanmore Choral Society

Registered CIO No: 1174548

Affiliated to the National Federation of Music Societies

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements Year Ended 31st July 2021

President

Father Edward Lewis

Trustees

Chair: Maureen Dunning

Secretary: Frances Goldingay

Treasurer: Gillian Goldsmith

Bridie Williams Robert Stonehouse

Judy Walker Cathie Nevin

Aude de Lucia

Musical Director: Harry Bradford

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements Year Ended 31 July 2021

Reference and Administration

The Society is managed by a committee, the members of which constitute the Trustees of the Charity. The Committee Members (Trustees) who have served since 1 August 2019 are:

Frances Goldingay	Secretary	<i>(Re-appointed 14 October 2019)</i>		
Gillian Goldsmith	Treasurer	<i>(Re-appointed 14 October 2019)</i>		
Maureen Dunning	Chair	<i>(Re-appointed 8th October 2018)</i>		
Robert Stonehouse		<i>(Re-appointed</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>October</i>
		<i>2018)</i>		
Judy Walker		<i>(Appointed</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>November</i>
		<i>2020)</i>		
Bridie Williams		<i>(Re-appointed</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>November</i>
		<i>2020)</i>		
Cathie Nevin		<i>(Appointed</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>November</i>
		<i>2020)</i>		
Aude de Lucia		<i>(Appointed</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>November</i>
		<i>2020)</i>		

Aude de Lucia stood down as a trustee on 15th July 2021

Structure, Governance & Management

- Governing Document: The Stanmore Choral Society ("the Society") is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by a Constitution (Association Model, having Members in addition to Trustees) approved and registered by the Charities Commission on 7 September 2017.
- Appointment of Trustees: The Trustees are appointed by the membership of the Society, normally at the Annual General Meeting, to serve for a fixed term of office as specified in the constitution ("Rules").
- Associations: The Society is a member of the National Federation of Music Societies (known as Making Music), a registered charity no: 249219

Objectives

The objectives of the Stanmore Choral Society are:

The study and practice of choral music in order to foster the public knowledge and appreciation of such music by means of public performance.

Rehearsal of Choral Music during the Year

Because of the Covid19 pandemic, no concerts took place during the year.

Activities & Achievements for the Year

Along with most choirs in the country, Stanmore Choral Society was unable to hold any concerts during the year. The choir continued to rehearse on Zoom, which attracted some members too geographically distant to travel to normal rehearsals, but also meant that for others the technology was a barrier to taking part.

Harry and James established as normal a routine as possible, with the usual warm up, vocal activities and learning the music to the accompaniment of a pre-recorded track. Members were given the chance to continue singing, and to keep in touch with the choir during a difficult year.

In the Autumn Term the choir rehearsed Fauré's *Requiem*, and some pieces from The Greatest Choral Classics, notably Handel's *Zadok the Priest* and Mozart's *Ave Verum*, which with some technical help from James was turned into a recording. This was followed by learning a selection of Christmas carols.

In the spring term, the choir held an open session, inviting friends and newcomers to experience for themselves what could be achieved by virtual singing. A number enjoyed it enough to stay on to learn Haydn's *Creation* which was the objective of the term's work.

Madrigals and Part Songs were the focus in the summer term, with songs as varied as Stanford's ethereal *Bluebird* and Passereau's much more rustic *Il est bel et bon*.

The trustees are grateful to Harry for his work to master Zoom and offer the choir the best chance to keep together and keep on enjoying music. James worked hard to accompany and to lead sections in the split rehearsals and to edit the choir's singing to produce a recording. The choir lost two valued members during the year, and were glad that the recording of *Ave Verum* could be played at both funerals.

Thanks are also due to all those who contribute to keeping the choir running smoothly. It is hoped that there will be a chance to return to singing in person and holding concerts next year.

Financial Performance 2020-21

Like other choirs Stanmore had a strange and challenging year. The whole year's rehearsals were run on zoom and no concerts or social functions were held because of the pandemic and its implications on health, lockdowns and the changing rules and restrictions from the government.

£150 subscription was charged for the entire year, unchanged from last year as we were not able to offer the choir our normal events. Outgoings decreased as the choir did not have to pay any rehearsal venue costs. Musical Director and Accompanist fees were kept at the same level because of loss of revenue due to the pandemic and the uncertainty.

For the first time participants were allowed to join and pay term by term. The fees were £50 for the winter and spring and £40 for the summer term which was shorter. This worked well as members who normally could not commit for a whole year and so wouldn't join us, or who live too far away to attend actual rehearsals were able to join us. In total there were 36 members who joined and paid (some for just one term). Some members were also very generous and paid for the full year's subs even though they did not attend the rehearsals, in order to help the choir's long-term future. Many thanks to them.

Two payments for gift aid from HMRC (for 2018-9 and 2019-20) came right at the start of the financial year, thus boosting the choir's finances. At the end of the financial year there was an excess of £1,361 making the bank balance at year end £4,381. Note that gift aid for 2020-21 has not yet been claimed.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees on 03.01.22

R. D. Stanmore

B Williams

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Society 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 committee members concerning any such matters.

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:
 - a) to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.



Judith Freeman

Accounting Technician (MAAT)

11 The Shires, Old Bedford Road, Luton LU3 3RD

2 December 2021

Stanmore Choral Society Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements, July 2021

Statement of Financial Activity

Receipts

Year	Note	2020_21			2019_20		
		(restricted)	(unrestricted)	total	(restricted)	(unrestricted)	total
Subs		£ -	£ 5,265	£ 5,265		£ 6,100	£ 6,100
Donations		£ -	£ 100	£ 100	£ 510	£ 369	£ 879
Friends		£ -	£ -	£ -		£ 200	£ 200
Gift Aid	1	£ -	£ 2,336	£ 2,336		£ -	£ -
fund raising	2	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ 282	£ 282
concert sales		£ -	£ -	£ -		£ 2,873	£ 2,873
miscellaneous		£ -	£ 14	£ 14		£ 23	£ 23
Total Receipts		£ -	£ 7,715	£ 7,715	£ 510	£ 9,847	£ 10,357

Payments

Year	Note	2020_21			2019_20		
		(restricted)	(unrestricted)	total	(restricted)	(unrestricted)	total
rehearsal venue		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 780	£ 780
rehearsal conductor		£ -	£ 3,204	£ 3,204	£ -	£ 3,382	£ 3,382
rehearsal accompanist		£ -	£ 2,412	£ 2,412	£ -	£ 2,479	£ 2,479
rehearsal other	3	£ -	£ 138	£ 138	£ -	£ 313	£ 313
concert venue		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 483	£ 483
concert conductor		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 2,100	£ 2,100
concert accompanist		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,140	£ 1,140
concert other professionals	4	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 390	£ 390
concert other	5	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 366	£ 366
website charges and development		£ -	£ 279	£ 279	£ -	£ 150	£ 150
Insurance and Performing Rights		£ -	£ 220	£ 220	£ -	£ 256	£ 256
bank charges		£ -	£ 81	£ 81	£ -	£ 60	£ 60
other	6	£ -	£ 20	£ 20	£ -	£ 225	£ 225
Total Payments		£ -	£ 6,354	£ 6,354	£ -	£ 12,124	£ 12,124

Net receipts / (payments)	£ -	£ 1,361	£ 1,361	£ 510	£ 2,277	£ 1,767
Total Funds brought forward	£ 510	£ 2,510	£ 3,020	£ -	£ 4,787	£ 4,787
balance at end of year	£ 510	£ 3,871	£ 4,381	£ 510	£ 2,510	£ 3,020

Notes

1. Gift Aid claimed is from 2019_20 and 2018_19
2. Fundraising is mainly from raffles and refreshments donations taken at rehearsals
3. Rehearsal other comprises rehearsal publicity, music hire and refreshments
4. this comprises bumpers and a harpist
5. this comprises leaflets, programmes and ticket printing, soloists gifts and refreshments
6. this comprises mainly postage, bursary, fund raising

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

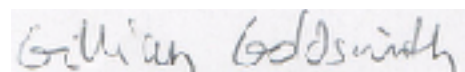
R. D. Stanmore
B. Williams

Stanmore Choral Society Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements, July 2021

BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended:	31 July 2021	31 July 2020
	2020_21	2019/20
	£	£
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	4,381	3,020
Net Current Assets	4,381	3,020
RESERVES		
Represented by:		
Unrestricted fund	3,871	2,510
Restricted fund	510	510
Total reserves	4,381	3,020

Gillian Goldsmith, (Treasurer) 03.01.22



Disclosure notes to the accounts 2020-21

Change Of Accountancy Reporting for 2020 21

1. The reserved accounts for the Weekend Away and the 20 club have been moved to the general account as both these activities are unlikely to recommence.
2. Purchases of the keyboard, shed and staging which were made in 2005 and in 2012 have been depreciated to zero in the year of purchase and consequently are no longer included in the accounts.

These changes were accepted by the Trustees unanimously at the committee meeting 13th May 2021.

Other Explanatory Notes

The financial statements of the Society have been prepared on a Cash Basis in accordance with the Charity Commissioners' guidelines for small charities.

The Society's policy on reserves is to maintain a balance which is sufficient to:

- preserve the financial viability of the Society in the event that one of the concerts makes a big loss due to unforeseen circumstances. This is currently around £3000.
- In addition, this enables the Society to undertake a production of a lesser-known work or a new work where there is more risk of less revenue from ticket sales

The Society created a restricted fund for Concert Organ or small instrument ensemble in 2019-20 which contains £510.

All figures are recorded to the penny but are rounded digitally to the nearest pound for display. In some case this results in a total appearing not to be the sum of the individual figures. The individual rounded amounts and their rounded totals are nevertheless correct.

The Trustees declare that there are no potential liabilities under a guarantee given by the CIO which are out-standing at the date of the statement of financial activity

The Trustees declare that there is no money which is owed by the CIO at the date of the statement financial activity and which is secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the CIO.

The Society has no funds in material deficit.

Financial Management

The Society's financial governance policies & procedures require that:

- (i) all committee members sign the HM Revenue & Customs "Fit for Purpose Declaration Form";
- (ii) that nobody can be one of the two signatories on a cheque when they are the payee;
- (iii) the committee see the up-to-date bank statement at each committee meeting;
- (iv) the Chair and the Secretary have on-line access to the Bank details at all times

During the financial year no Trustee received any reimbursement of expenses or remuneration for their services to the charity.