

# THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1175057

## Details

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Other names	THE HOLST SOCIETY
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2017-10-10
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Phone	01769581581
Email	<a href="mailto:chairman@holstsociety.org">chairman@holstsociety.org</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.holstsociety.org">www.holstsociety.org</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE UK AND ABROAD IN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN PARTICULAR BY:A. PROMOTING THE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING, THROUGH PERFORMANCES AND RECORDINGS, OF THE WORKS OF GUSTAV HOLST (1874-1934) AND AN APPRECIATION OF HIS LIFE.B. ENCOURAGING PERFORMANCES OF ENGLISH MUSIC, INCLUDING:I. PROMOTING HIGH QUALITY EVENTS TO INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS, UNDERSTANDING AND ENJOYMENT OF WORKS BY GUSTAV HOLST AND COMPOSERS OF ENGLISH MUSIC WHO WERE CONTEMPORARIES OF HIS.II. ENCOURAGING AND SUPPORTING PERFORMANCES OF THE WORKS OF GUSTAV HOLST AND HIS ENGLISH CONTEMPORARIES BY AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL ORCHESTRAS, CHORAL SOCIETIES AND OTHER GROUPS OF MUSICIANS.III. ENABLING AND ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO EXPERIENCE THE MUSIC OF HOLST AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES.C. DO ANY OTHER LAWFUL THING IN FURTHERANCE OF THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS.

**Activities:** To promote and sponsor the live performance of the music of Gustav Holst, together with the recording of his music hitherto unrecorded, by way of financial grants, the loan of musical scores and communications with professional and amateur musicians. The charity operates from the UK, but does make grants to overseas organisations.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£12,274	£17,909	-	-
2024-05-31	£11,860	£6,714	-	-
2023-05-31	£8,365	£6,937	-	-
2022-05-31	£12,457	£22,389	-	-
2021-05-31	£3,548	£6,365	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Arthur John Wright		2023-03-11
CHRIS COPE		2017-03-31
JOHN MARSDEN GRAHAM		2017-03-31

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1175057

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# Accounts

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# **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

**HOLST**  
THE  
SOCIETY



**Charity number: 1175057**

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

REGISTERED CHARITY:	1175057
HONORARY PRESIDENT:	Martyn Brabbins
HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS:	Alan Gibbs Colin Matthews Adrian Partington
TRUSTEES:	Chris Cope, Chairman John Wright, Vice Chairman John Graham
OFFICERS/ MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:	Chris Cope, Chairman and Editor of Newsletter John Graham Marina Moore Vacant: Treasurer Vacant: Secretary
PRINCIPAL OFFICE:	Hammetts, Kings Nympton, Devon EX37 9ST Tel: 01769 580041
BANKERS:	Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, White Hart Street, High Wycombe, Bucks BX1 1LT
WEBSITE:	<a href="http://www.holstsociety.org">www.holstsociety.org</a>
ACCOUNTANTS:	Azets Lime Court Pathfields Business Park South Molton Devon EX36 3LH

## **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

### **REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTLOOK FOR THE YEAR 2025/26**

#### **Membership**

The Society had 127 members at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025 (a slight decrease on 2024 – 128) which included 23 (18 – 2024) honorary members. Our honorary membership includes the President, the Vice Presidents, the Holst Victorian House, St Paul's Girls' School, the English Music Festival, the Ralph Vaughan Williams Society and the Thaxted Festival, together with professional musicians who have supported Holst's music. In addition, in October 2024, the trustees decided that the overseas secretaries should be granted honorary membership, because a number had encountered difficulties paying their subscription due to exchange control issues. We offer our thanks to all our members for their continuing support.

#### **Planned recordings**

For the year 2025/26, the Society has just one planned recording. The Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda (H97, H98, H99 and H100) are in four groups. The first and third groups date from 1908/09, the second was composed in 1910 and the third in 1912. There are three hymns in the first group, three in the second, four in the third and four in the fourth. Altogether, the music runs to about 50 minutes.

There is an incomplete recording dating from 1985 with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal College of Music Chamber Choir conducted by Sir David Willcocks. Unfortunately, the recording of the four hymns is incomplete. The third hymn in the first group and the first and fourth hymns in the fourth group were omitted. I have been trying to establish the reason for this, but without success. Our vice president Colin Matthews was a musical adviser to Sir David, but he does not have any recollection as to why three of the Hymns were not recorded. However, I note from the liner notes that the recording took place at All Saints' Church Tooting in London on 4 and 5 December 1984. I suspect that they simply ran out of time. It would not have been cost-effective for the RPO to return on a third day in order to record the missing three hymns. The recording also includes the Hymn to Dionysus and the Two Eastern Pictures.

Since 1985, there has been no complete recording of the Hymns. I have been unable to trace a more up-to-date recording of the Hymn to Dionysus. However, the Two Eastern Pictures have been recorded in recent years.

The trustees believed that it would be a worthwhile project to record the complete Hymns, together with the Hymn to Dionysus. That would ensure that, in future years, anyone wishing to hear these works would be able to do so, either by securing the CD or listening to the music on Spotify.

In 2023/24 there was a proposal to record the complete Hymns on the SOMM label. It was planned that the Two Eastern Pictures and the Hymn to Dionysus should also be included, together with some unison songs, if there was sufficient space. The plan was that the British Sinfonietta or the BBC National Orchestra of Wales would be engaged, together with the BBC National Chorus of Wales conducted by Adrian Partington. The venue was to be the Hoddinott Hall in Cardiff. The project was costed at £66,580. Fortunately, there was a well-wisher who was prepared to underwrite the entire cost. Sadly, he then became seriously ill and had to withdraw. That was, effectively, the end of the project.

Not wishing to be discouraged, I then approached Will Vann, the director of music at the Royal Hospital Chelsea who was enthusiastic. Again, the plan was to record on the SOMM label. Siva Oke who runs the label was also very enthusiastic.

In order to reduce costs, it was planned to use a group of singers numbering about 25, as opposed to a full-scale choral society. Similarly, the plan was to reduce the orchestral parts so that the recording would be using a chamber orchestra. That way, the costs were reduced to an estimated £41,000.

Included within the costings is the fee for the arranger of the orchestral music which would be £1,500. As things presently stand, no work has been carried out on the arrangement. Furthermore, no commitment has been made with regard to when the recording will take place, although there is a plan to work towards a date sometime this autumn.

The challenge is to raise over £40,000.

As members may be aware, the Vaughan Williams Society produces a substantial number of recordings on the Albion label. These are largely funded through the membership which is approximately 1,000, considerably more than the Holst Society. It is clear that the Holst Society itself cannot raise a sum anywhere near £40,000 from its membership and therefore grants would have to be obtained.

The most popular of the four hymns is the third set. This is for SSAA and harp. It runs to about 13 minutes. There are frequent performances. These often take place in conjunction with the Two Eastern Pictures which run to about four minutes. They too are scored for SSA and harp.

Your chairman has completed a whole series of courses on obtaining grants for charitable organisations. The Society is ready to begin the process of making grant applications which need to be submitted before the end of March as grant applications tend to be considered on an annual basis running from April to March inclusive.

The trustees believe that obtaining a substantial grant towards this particular recording is likely to be difficult to achieve. One of the important factors that was highlighted in the various courses that your chairman attended was that most applications pose the wrong question. The application is normally submitted on the basis of 'why the society needs the grant', as opposed to 'what does the maker of the grant hope to achieve by acceding

to the application?' The obvious question will be 'Why does the Holst Society need to record three missing hymns if they are rarely, if at all, performed today?'

The reason why the trustees are including so much detail with regard to this recording is to enable the membership to decide whether it wishes to proceed with the recording.

There is an alternative point of view, namely that were the Society to raise a sum of £40,000, it may be better use of that money to make a whole series of grants towards the live performance of Holst's music. For example, a grant of £500 would be well received by many amateur orchestras and choral societies and no doubt, professional groups as well. Such a sum would enable the Society to assist in the live performance of Holst's music in no less than 80 concerts.

One of the objectives of the Holst Society is to promote recordings of music by Holst, hitherto unrecorded. In this digital age, fewer and fewer people are purchasing CDs. Those interested in classical music, are much more likely to turn to Spotify or Apple Classical iTunes or the like. It must follow therefore that the Society cannot expect to sell very many CDs if it goes ahead with the recording. Whereas it is true that a recording should enable the public to hear the music on Spotify, the Society has no control over whether an organisation such as Spotify may agree to include the recording in its library.

The good news is that virtually all of Holst's music dating from after 1900 has now been recorded. There are some gaps, with particular regard to the solo songs. In addition, the operas have, largely, not been recorded, but to do so, would be a very expensive project. It is, though, good news that the recording of the recent German production of Sita is likely to appear in the next year or so on the EM label. Accordingly, the trustees believe that the job of recording Holst's music, hitherto unrecorded, is now largely done. In future years, the emphasis will almost certainly be in connection with grants towards live performance.

### **Events in the year to 31 May 2025**

The Society publishes a bi-monthly newsletter. The following information is taken from the six issues which appeared during the year.

#### July 2024. Issue No 40

##### Elgar Society

The Council of the Elgar Society decided to go ahead with reciprocal membership of the Holst Society, but was only prepared to extend the arrangement to the first year of membership. In the second and subsequent years, Holst Society members will have to pay the full subscription. Nevertheless, the trustees have agreed to go ahead with the arrangement, largely because the Holst Society stands to gain more than the Elgar Society which is over six times the size of the Holst Society.

### Thaxted Festival

Ran from late June to mid-July and included a number of works by Holst including the Fugal Concerto, the Lyric Movement, the Brook Green Suite and the new arrangement of the First Choral Symphony for reduced forces. The choir numbered 25 and the orchestra just 23. The arrangement was made by Joe Fort (an honorary member) who showed me the score which ran to 195 pages. The Society is greatly indebted to Joe for all the hard work that he has carried out on this project. The performance was impressive. One was able to hear so much more of the words and the music which is so often lost in performances and recordings of the original work.

### Vaughan Williams Society

In its accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, the VW Society had a membership of 1,048. Recording costs were £34,353, but sales only £18,531.

### September 2024, Issue No 41

An important issue as that coincided with Holst's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday which fell on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately, the joint programme organised by Cheltenham Borough Council and the Holst Victorian House scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> in Cheltenham had to be postponed, due to adverse weather.

There were a number of concerts taking place on the 21<sup>st</sup> to mark Holst's 150<sup>th</sup>. In particular, trustee John Wright organised an event at All Saints' Church in Cheltenham. There was an evening concert at Romsey Abbey featuring Holst's Fugal Overture and The Planets, which your chairman was able to attend. Earlier that day, your chairman was at choral evensong at Chichester Cathedral. The music featured Holst's Nunc Dimittis and two of his hymns. Your chairman read the lesson and laid a wreath at Holst's memorial stone.

### Michael Short

We reported that Michael Short, one of the Society's vice presidents and who wrote the leading biography of Holst, had died. Michael was 86. The newsletter paid tribute to the enormous contribution that Michael had made with regard to Holst's life and music. He will be sorely missed.

### New recordings

Two new recordings were issued. These were 'Romance and Reverie' – music for violin and piano/harp. Also released was 'Holst at 150 – A brass celebration' which included works by Holst and his daughter Imogen as recorded by the Tredegar Town Band. Both recordings continue to be available from the Society.

### Three Choirs Festival

The programme including no less than 18 works by Holst in celebration of his 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We paid all due credit to Alexis Paterson (then chief executive) and Sam Hudson (director of music at Worcester Cathedral) for the programming.

### BBC Proms

Somewhat disappointing to report that to mark Holst's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the BBC Proms only included four works by Holst, namely The Planets (as usual), The Cloud Messenger (a rare performance), Hammersmith and The Evening Watch.

The newsletter pointed out that in 2014, the BBC celebrated Richard Strauss 150 with no less than 17 works by the composer.

### Finnish symposium

Your chairman was invited to introduce (online) the symposium which took place in Turku in Finland on 28 August. I greeted the delegates in Finnish and then quickly went on to introduce the audience to the music of Holst in a nine-minute presentation in English. The organiser's plan is to introduce a movement from The Planets at the symposium over the next seven years and started that year with Mars.

### Freiburg

Society member Klaus Simon, the founder and director of the Holst Sinfonietta, gave a concert devoted to the music of Holst in Freiburg on 14 July.

### November 2024, Issue No 42

#### Sita

We reported the world's first performance of Holst's three-act opera Sita on 12 October given by the Saarland State Theatre in Germany. There were seven further performances. There is to be a recording (see above).

#### Taiwan

Member Chu-Yu Yang reported that to mark Holst 150, there had been five concerts in just over six months in Taiwan, featuring Holst's music.

#### SPGS CD

We reported that the recording of all the music that Holst composed whilst director of music at St Paul's Girls' School had been recorded on the EM label and issued.

#### The late Rudolf Kempe

On being appointed principal conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Mr Kempe said that there would be plenty of Bruckner, Mahler, Strauss, Stravinsky and Bartok under his

baton, but went on to say 'I shan't neglect British music, but one shouldn't make a fetish of it'.

That seems to be the policy presently adopted by the BBC.

#### January 2024, Issue No 43

##### Opera Factory Freiburg

We reported a recording which had appeared in 2024 given by SWR Vokal Ensemble and the Holst Sinfonietta under their conductor Klaus Simon. The recording featured a performance of Holst's opera Savitri, together with the Four Songs (H132) and Four Songs from the Vedic Hymns (H90) arranged for chamber ensemble by Klaus Simon. The recording concluded with four of the 12 Humbert Wolfe Songs, again arranged for chamber ensemble. This recording is available from the Society.

#### March 2024, Issue No 44

The AGM was due to take place at the Chapter House at Gloucester Cathedral on 22 March. Prior to that, there was a one-hour recital given by violinist Leora Cohen accompanied at the piano by Adrian Partington, a vice president of the Society. There were three works by Holst, namely Invocation, Song of the Night and Lyric Movement, all performed in arrangements for violin and piano.

In addition, there were performances of Coleridge-Taylor's Violin Sonata and William Hurlstone's Four English Sketches.

After the recital, there was Choral Evensong in the Cathedral which included Holst's Nunc Dimittis, the Short Festival Te Deum and the hymn Sheen.

##### Community event in Cheltenham

Postponed from September 2024, this duly took place on 29 March. On this occasion, the weather was fine. There were events throughout the afternoon. The celebrations in respect of Holst 150 were concluded at an evening concert in the Pittville Pump Room, which included works by Holst.

#### May 2024, Issue No 45

##### English Music Festival

Due to take place at Dorchester Abbey in late May. The concerts on Sunday 25 May included a number of works by Holst.

##### Vocalescence Singers Ensemble

This is a choral group based in Minnesota. The artistic director is Philip Brunelle, a member. He founded the group 56 years ago. Philip has written to say that over the years, the group has performed no less than 21 works by Holst.

### **The late Raymond Head**

In the November issue, No 48, we reported the death of Raymond Head, composer, Holst scholar and vice president of the Society. Raymond died on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025. Raymond spent a lifetime studying and performing Holst's music for which the Society is eternally grateful. Raymond published a number of books and articles on Holst, with particular regard to Holst's Sanskrit period. He will be sorely missed.

### **Concert listings**

In each issue of the Holst Society newsletter, we include concerts in the UK and abroad featuring Holst's music. As members will have noticed, the number of concerts featuring Holst's music continues to increase, no doubt due to the public and musicians becoming more familiar with Holst's music as a result of his 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Society to thank Karen Fletcher, our publicist, who puts together the complex listings every issue. This is an invaluable service to the Society and I am sure that members will have taken advantage of the listings to attend concerts in their locality.

## **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025. The trustees confirm that both the report and the financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of Charities SORP FRS 102 Second Edition October 2019 – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019). The Legal and Administrative Information on page 1 forms part of this report.

### **Objectives and activities**

The Society's objectives are to promote public education and appreciation of the life and works of Gustav Holst.

The charity carries out these objectives by:-

- Sponsorship of public performances of music by Holst.
- Promotion of recordings of music by Holst, hitherto unrecorded.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is called The Gustav Holst Society and is registered with the Charity Commission as number 1175057. On a day-to-day basis, the charity trades under the name, The Holst Society.

The charity was formed in 2017 as an unincorporated association. It was re-registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in October 2017 and the current constitution can be found on the Society's website.

Trustees and officers of the Society who served during the year are detailed on page 1 of this report. Trustees are elected by members at the AGM, which is open to all members. New trustees are recruited generally by invitation, or by seeking volunteers at general meetings. Nominations of additional trustees may be made at or before the AGM, for consideration at that meeting. New trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity law, the Charity Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and are also made aware of the charity's constitution, decision-making processes and financial position. The trustees meet on a regular basis and are responsible for all operating decisions.

### **Achievements and performance**

The review of activities commencing on page 2 forms part of this report.

## **Financial review**

Income from subscriptions was 12% more than that for the preceding year at £4,398.

Bank balances decreased to £760 from £7,895, a year earlier.

## **Risks and reserves**

The trustees have reviewed the risks to which the Society is exposed and consider them to be negligible. In the year 2025/26, the Society is likely to be incurring substantial expenditure with regard to the proposed recording of Holst's Hymns from the Rig Veda. The Society will be seeking external funding.

The trustees have agreed that before embarking upon any recordings, all anticipated funding is secured in advance. If not, the recordings will be deferred.

## **Statement of trustees' responsibilities/ accounting policies**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the notes to these accounts.

#### **Accounting Convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

### **2. Reserves**

The Trustees' objectives are to build up sufficient reserves to enable grants and donations to be made to activities relating to the works of Gustav Holst. They anticipate that future subscription income will enable it to continue as a going concern. The Trustees will continue to monitor the reserves policy and if necessary

make the required amendments to enable the Society to fulfil its objectives in this regard.

### 3. Members' Subscriptions

Subscription income for the year represents members' annual subscriptions received.

### 4. Fees and Expenses

No trustee received remuneration or fees during the year.

### 5. Employees

There were no employees during the year.

### 6. Reserves Balances

	£
Unrestricted funds	(6,796)
Restricted funds	56
	<u>(6,740)</u>

### 7. Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 June 2024 £	Income £	Expenses £	Transfer between funds £	Balance at 31 May 2025 £
Recording of Holst's sacred music	7,737	4,897	(12,725)	147	56
	<u>0</u>	<u>4,897</u>	<u>(12,725)</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>56</u>

## THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025

	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Members' Subscriptions	4,398	-	4,398	3,921
Donations	110	1,897	2,007	4,737
Gift Aid	2,025	-	2,025	-
CD Sales	354	-	354	52
Book Sales	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	3,000	3,000	3,000
Lectures	490	-	490	150
TOTAL	<u>7,377</u>	<u>4,897</u>	<u>12,274</u>	<u>11,860</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Artwork	60	-	60	600
Subscriptions	100	-	100	200
Grants	2,865	-	2,865	1,300
Concert Listings	468	-	468	442
CD Purchases	521	-	521	191
Advertising	265	-	265	665
Sheet Music Purchase	10	-	10	19
Sheet Music Hire	-	-	-	210
Admin services	-	-	-	200
Accommodation	128	-	128	115
Travel expenses	112	-	112	40
Loan Interest	-	-	-	664
Concert Tickets	-	-	-	159
Musicians' Fees	51	3,321	3,372	-
Venue Fees	-	1,467	1,467	345
Web Development	100	-	100	100
Accountancy Fees	-	-	-	1,278
Postage	171	-	171	118
Printing	150	-	150	-
Course fees	120	-	120	-
Sound engineer fees	-	2,840	2,840	-
Contribution to recording	-	4,000	4,000	-
Payments to Bruno Lima	-	1,097	1,097	-
Bank Charges	64	-	64	68
TOTAL	<u>5,184</u>	<u>12,725</u>	<u>17,909</u>	<u>6,714</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2,193	(7,828)	(5,635)	5,146
Transfers between funds	(147)	147	-	-
Net Movement in Funds	2,046	(7,681)	(5,635)	5,146
Total Funds Brought Forward	<u>(8,842)</u>	<u>7,737</u>	<u>(1,105)</u>	<u>(6,251)</u>
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>(6,796)</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>(6,740)</u>	<u>(1,105)</u>

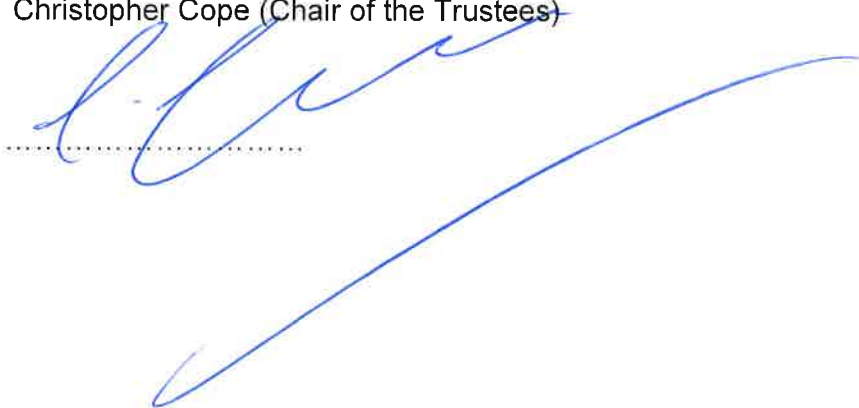
**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MAY 2025**

		2025 £	2024 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank: -	Current	750	203
	Restricted	<u>10</u>	<u>7,692</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Loan		<u>(7,500)</u>	<u>(9,000)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>		<u>(6,740)</u>	<u>(1,105)</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		(6,796)	(8,842)
Restricted funds		<u>56</u>	<u>7,737</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MAY 2025</b>		<u>(6,740)</u>	<u>(1,105)</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on <sup>2nd</sup>..... March 2026 to be signed on their behalf by:

Christopher Cope (Chair of the Trustees)



## ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

In accordance with the terms of our engagement we have prepared for your approval these financial statements of The Gustav Holst Society for the Year Ended 31 May 2025 from the accounting records and from information and explanations you have given to us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at [icaew.com/regulations](http://icaew.com/regulations).

Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial information of The Gustav Holst Society and state those matters that we have agreed to state to you in this report in accordance with the guidance of ICAEW as detailed at [icaew.com/compilation](http://icaew.com/compilation).

*Azets*

Azets  
Lime Court  
Pathfields Business Park  
South Molton  
Devon  
EX36 3LH

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1175057

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# Accounts

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# **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024**

**HOLST**  
THE  
SOCIETY



**Charity number: 1175057**

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

REGISTERED CHARITY:	1175057
HONORARY PRESIDENT:	Martyn Brabbins
HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS:	Alan Gibbs Raymond Head Colin Matthews Adrian Partington
TRUSTEES:	Chris Cope, Chairman John Wright, Vice Chairman John Graham
OFFICERS/ MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:	Chris Cope, Chairman and Editor of Newsletter John Graham Marina Moore Vacant: Treasurer Vacant: Secretary
PRINCIPAL OFFICE:	Hammetts, Kings Nympton, Devon EX37 9ST Tel: 01769 580041
BANKERS:	Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, White Hart Street, High Wycombe, Bucks BX1 1LT
WEBSITE:	<a href="http://www.holstsociety.org">www.holstsociety.org</a>
ACCOUNTANTS:	Azets Lime Court Pathfields Business Park South Molton Devon EX36 3LH

## THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY

### REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTLOOK FOR THE YEAR 2024/25

#### Membership

The Society had 128 members at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 (a 2% decrease on 2023 – 131) which included 18 (18 – 2023) honorary members. Our honorary membership includes the President, the Vice Presidents, the Holst Victorian House, St Paul's Girls' School, the English Music Festival, the Ralph Vaughan Williams Society and the Thaxted Festival, together with professional musicians who have supported Holst's music. In addition, in October 2024, the trustees decided that the overseas secretaries should be granted honorary membership, particularly because a number had encountered difficulties paying their subscription due to exchange control issues. We offer our thanks to all our members for their continuing support.

#### Planned recordings

For the year 2024/25, the Society had a number of plans for recording works by Holst, particularly those that had never been recorded before. We aim to sponsor a new recording every year.

1. EM Records recorded all Holst's works composed for St Paul's Girls' School (SPGS), including the Vision of Dame Christian, the Brook Green Suite, the St Paul's Suite, the Seven Choruses from the Alcestis of Euripides, the Playground Song and the Gavotte (which Holst withdrew from the Brook Green Suite) over the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

The recording took place at SPGS with the BBC Concert Orchestra under former director of music at SPGS, Leigh O'Hara.

The Society was unable to provide funding for the recording. However, we understand that costs were largely met by parents of SPGS' 777 pupils and the school's alumnae.

The recording appeared in the autumn of 2024, coinciding with Holst's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.

2. In conjunction with Paul Hindmarsh, the Society planned a major recording of Holst's music for brass band, together with works for brass by his daughter Imogen. In fact, Holst only composed one work for brass band, namely the Moorside Suite. There were two other works for concert band which have been re-arranged for brass band. We also identified a number of orchestral works which were well suited to arrangement for brass. These arrangements were commissioned.

The final list of works included the First Suite in E Flat, the Second Suite in F, A Fugal Overture, the Ballet Music from the Perfect Fool, and A Moorside Suite. The works by Imogen were The Unfortunate Traveller and The Glory of the West.

The recording was made at the end of May 2024. The band was the Tredegar Town Band conducted by their musical director Ian Porthouse. Our President, Martyn Brabbins, conducted the recording of the Moorside Suite.

The recording was on the Doyen label. The Society provided substantial funding towards the costs of approximately £10,000.

The recording appeared in the autumn of 2024, coinciding with Holst's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.

3. As part of the Holst 150 celebrations, the Society also planned a recording of music for violin and piano by Holst and his contemporaries. The recording was made in May 2024. The works by Holst were as follows:-

- Song of the Night (premier recording for violin and piano).
- Invocation, arranged for violin and piano by Hannah Roper (first recording in this arrangement).
- Lyric Movement, arranged for violin and piano by Hannah Roper (first recording in this arrangement).

We also planned works by William Hurlstone, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Rebecca Clarke and Ethel Barns.

The soloists were:-

- Violin – Hannah Roper
- Pianist – Martin Jacoby
- Soprano – Emma Tring
- Harp – Valeria Clarke

The recording, on the Albion label, appeared in the autumn of 2024, coinciding with Holst's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.

This recording was fully funded by the Holst Society.

### **Events in the year to 31 May 2024**

The Society publishes a bi-monthly newsletter. The following information is taken from the six issues which appeared during the year.

## July 2023 newsletter

### BBC Proms

As usual, there was just one work by Holst, namely the Planets. There was not much British music. Composers featured included Britten, Coleridge-Taylor (no less than six works, more than any other British composer), Elgar, Handel, Tippett, Vaughan Williams and Walton.

This was the year of Rachmaninov's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Twelve works were featured.

### Three Choirs Festival

Took place at Gloucester. Works by Holst included his Short Festival Te Deum, Ode to Death and Lyric Movement.

### All Saints Church, Cheltenham

The Hill organ in the church is now 150 years old and is in urgent need of repair. This was the instrument on which Holst learned to play. The church needs to raise a huge amount of money (well into six figures) in order to restore the organ.

### Number 10, The Terrace, Barnes, SW13

This was the property where Holst and his wife lived for five years from 1908. We reported that it had recently been sold for £2.9m. This was where Holst composed Savitri and the Four Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda.

## September 2023 newsletter

### Holst's birthday concert

The annual concert arranged by the Holst Victorian House was due to take place on Sunday 1 October. It was to be given by musicians from St Paul's Girls' School in London where Holst taught for over 30 years. The school would be providing choir, orchestra, soloists and conductors. The music would include the Brook Green Suite, movements from the Planets (for piano duet) and the Four Songs for Voice and Violin.

### Holst's trombone

We published a picture of Holst's trombone which presently resides in the museum at the Royal College of Music. Holst played with the Scottish Orchestra for about four years at the beginning of the last century and this was the trombone that he played.

## November 2023 newsletter

We reported that the recording at SPGS (see above) had taken place over the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>.

### Breakfast on 3

In every issue, I set out the music by Holst broadcast by the BBC at Breakfast on 3. Certainly, Holst is holding out well largely, I think, due to the input by the resident DJ Petroc Trelawny. I do write to him from time to time suggesting a particular work by Holst that the BBC might have forgotten.

### January 2024

#### Holst 150

And so we moved into the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, Holst being born on 21 September 1874.

#### Recordings (violin/brass)

I was able to report that the two recordings (mentioned above) had received sufficient funding to enable these recordings to go ahead in the spring of 2024.

#### Morley College

Morley College was where Holst devoted many years as director of music. As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations, the College held a creative and fun afternoon on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February when it was planned to explore choral masterpieces dedicated to Morley College, namely the Short Festival Te Deum and A Festival Chime.

#### Billie Eilish

I mentioned that Billie Eilish's new album Happier than Ever included a song entitled 'Gold Wing' based upon one of Holst's Hymns from the Rig Veda. In fact, the song is a note-for-note representation of Holst's hymn. According to Twitter, it describes the song as obscure, but also wonderful. Twitter says that 'in typical Holst style, it is full of poignant harmony and evocative orchestration and draws on the church chorale style'.

#### Talks

I mentioned that I had been booked to give five talks this year on the subject of 'Is there more to Holst than The Planets?' The first was to be at the Salisbury Music Society and the second at the English Music Festival.

### March 2024

#### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting took place on Sunday 10 March at the Kitson Hall at St Mary's Church in Barnes. In addition, there were three musical events arranged for that day. Immediately preceding the AGM, the Barnes Concert Band gave a concert in St Mary's Church which included Holst's Second Suite in F. Later that afternoon, Holst scholar and expert Neil Arthur Williams gave an entertaining talk entitled 'The Global Popular Culture Phenomenon of The Planets by Gustav Holst'.

The evening concert given by the Holst Singers included Holst's Ave Maria, the Nunc Dimittis and 'Lord who has made thine own'.

#### 'Ben and Imo'

I mentioned a new play called 'Ben and Imo' being staged at the Swan Theatre in Stratford upon Avon. The play originally written in 2013 explored the working relationship between Benjamin Britten and Imogen Holst. There was to be a limited run.

#### Heraklion Piano Festival

Holst Society member and composer/arranger Paul Sarcich was conducting a concert at the Fifth Heraklion Piano Festival in Crete on 11 February. The concert featured Paul's arrangement of The Planets for four grand pianos and eight players. Another performance of the 16-hands arrangement was to be given at Morley College on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

#### Professor Simon Heffer

I was pleased to report that the journalist and broadcaster Simon Heffer had joined the Society as an honorary member. Professor Heffer is a great supporter of British music and has written extensively on a number of English composers, including Holst whom he regards as one of our greatest composers.

#### Overseas correspondents

I reported that Tom Clarke, formerly of Cheltenham, who had emigrated to Ballarat North in Australia, had agreed to become the Society's first Australasian overseas correspondent.

I also mentioned that Joe Yang, our Taiwanese overseas correspondent, had written regarding four concerts in Taiwan featuring Holst's music due to take place between May and December.

#### Charles Villiers Stanford

March 2024 marked the centenary of the death of Stanford who was Holst's teacher of composition at the Royal College of Music. On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, there was to be a memorial evensong service at Westminster Abbey followed by a drinks reception hosted by the Dean and a gala dinner in the evening.

#### May 2024 newsletter

#### New recordings

I was pleased to announce that both the violin and brass recordings would take place later that month.

#### English Music Festival

Due to take place at the end of May and featured a number of works by Holst, including the Cotswold Symphony in F, A Song of the Night, the third group of Hymns from the Rig

Veda, 'This have I done for my true love', 'I love my love', Greeting and finally my talk on Holst on 27<sup>th</sup> May.

### Elgar Society

I announced that the Holst and Elgar societies had reached an agreement with regard to reciprocal membership. However, the agreement had yet to be endorsed by the Council of the Elgar Society.

### Classic FM's Hall of Fame

In the top 300, Holst featured just twice. The Planets remained at No 7 with the St Paul's Suite up two places at 273.

### Ornulf's Drapa

This work by Holst was recorded for the first time on the EM label under the title 'La Belle Dame'. Other composers featured included Roger Quilter, Frederick Delius, Norman O'Neill, Cyril Scott, Havergal Brian and Alexander Mackenzie. This recording has since been released.

### BBC Proms

The Proms programme had recently been published. The programme included four works by Holst, as opposed to the usual single outing of The Planets. The works to be performed included The Evening Watch, The Cloud Messenger, Hammersmith and The Planets itself.

Philippa Tudor (honorary member of the Society) and I had had a meeting with David Pickard, the director of music at the BBC Proms at the BBC in March 2023, when Mr Pickard gave us an hour of his time during which we extolled the virtues of Holst and reminded Mr Pickard that next year was Holst 150.

### Concert listings

In each issue of the Holst Society newsletter, we include concerts in the UK and abroad featuring Holst's music. As members will have noticed, during the last year or two, the number of concerts featuring Holst's music has increased substantially, no doubt due to the public becoming conscious of Holst's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Society to thank Karen Fletcher, our publicist, who puts together the complex listings every issue. This is an invaluable service to the Society and I am sure that members will have taken advantage of the listings to attend concerts in their locality.

## **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024. The trustees confirm that both the report and the financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of Charities SORP FRS 102 Second Edition October 2019 – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019). The Legal and Administrative Information on page 1 forms part of this report.

### **Objectives and activities**

The Society's objectives are to promote public education and appreciation of the life and works of Gustav Holst.

The charity carries out these objectives by:-

- Sponsorship of public performances of music by Holst.
- Promotion of recordings of music by Holst, hitherto unrecorded.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is called The Gustav Holst Society and is registered with the Charity Commission as number 1175057. On a day-to-day basis, the charity trades under the name, The Holst Society.

The charity was formed in 2017 as an unincorporated association. It was re-registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in October 2017 and the current constitution can be found on the Society's website.

Trustees and officers of the Society who served during the year are detailed on page 1 of this report. Trustees are elected by members at the AGM, which is open to all members. New trustees are recruited generally by invitation, or by seeking volunteers at general meetings. Nominations of additional trustees may be made at or before the AGM, for consideration at that meeting. New trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity law, the Charity Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and are also made aware of the charity's constitution, decision-making processes and financial position. The trustees meet on a regular basis and are responsible for all operating decisions.

### **Achievements and performance**

The review of activities commencing on page 2 forms part of this report.

## **Financial review**

Income from subscriptions was 17% more than that for the preceding year at £3,921.

Bank balances rose to £7,895 from £1,249, a year earlier, largely due to donations made in respect of recordings.

## **Risks and reserves**

The trustees have reviewed the risks to which the Society is exposed and consider them to be negligible. In the year 2024/25, the Society is likely to be incurring substantial expenditure with regard to the recording of Holst's music for brass band and for violin and piano. The Society will be seeking external funding.

The trustees have agreed that before embarking upon either recording programmes, all anticipated funding is secured in advance. If not, the recordings will be deferred.

## **Statement of trustees' responsibilities/ accounting policies**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the notes to these accounts.

#### **Accounting Convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

### **2. Reserves**

The Trustees' objectives are to build up sufficient reserves to enable grants and donations to be made to activities relating to the works of Gustav Holst. They anticipate that future subscription income will enable it to continue as a going

concern. The Trustees will continue to monitor the reserves policy and if necessary make the required amendments to enable the Society to fulfil its objectives in this regard.

### 3. Members' Subscriptions

Subscription income for the year represents members' annual subscriptions received.

### 4. Fees and Expenses

No trustee received remuneration or fees during the year.

### 5. Employees

There were no employees during the year.

### 6. Reserves Balances

	£
Unrestricted funds	(8,842)
Restricted funds	<u>7,737</u>
	<u>(1,070)</u>

### 7. Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 June 2023 £	Income £	Expenses £	Transfer between funds £	Balance at 31 May 2024 £
Recording of Holst's sacred music	0	7,737	0	0	<u>7,737</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>7,737</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,737</u>

## THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2024

	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Members' Subscriptions	3,921	-	3,921	3,350
Donations	-	4,737	4,737	1,131
Gift Aid	-	-	-	819
CD Sales	52	-	52	146
Ticket Sales	-	-	-	2,882
Book Sales	-	-	-	37
Grants	-	3,000	3,000	-
Lectures	150	-	150	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>4,123</u>	<u>7,737</u>	<u>11,860</u>	<u>8,365</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Artwork	600	-	600	-
Subscriptions	200	-	200	60
Grants	1,300	-	1,300	750
Concert Listings	442	-	442	595
CD Purchases	191	-	191	849
Book Purchase	-	-	-	-
Advertising	665	-	665	1,430
Sheet Music Purchase	19	-	19	181
Sheet Music Hire	210	-	210	-
Admin services	200	-	200	-
Accommodation	115	-	115	-
Travel expenses	40	-	40	27
Loan Interest	664	-	664	-
Concert Tickets	159	-	159	-
Musicians' Fees	-	-	-	2,289
Venue Fees	345	-	345	-
Arranger's Fees	-	-	-	-
EventBrite Fees	-	-	-	43
Web Development	100	-	100	140
Accountancy Fees	1,278	-	1,278	-
Postage	118	-	118	72
AGM Expenses	-	-	-	300
For EMF, not Holst Society	-	-	-	130
Bank Charges	68	-	-	71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>6,714</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,714</u>	<u>6,937</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(2,591)	7,737	5,146	1,428
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds	<u>(2,519)</u>	<u>7,737</u>	<u>5,146</u>	<u>1,428</u>
Total Funds Brought Forward	<u>(6,251)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,251)</u>	<u>(7,679)</u>
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>(8,842)</u>	<u>7,737</u>	<u>(1,105)</u>	<u>(6,251)</u>

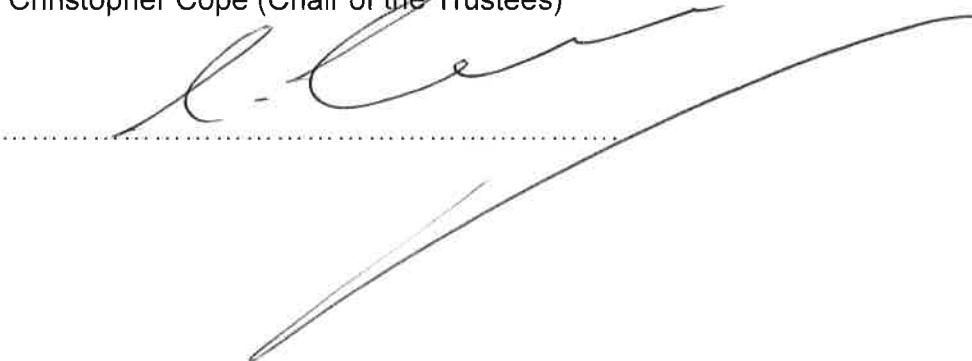
**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MAY 2024**

		2024 £	2023 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank: -	Current	203	477
	Restricted	<u>7,692</u>	<u>772</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Loan		<u>(9,000)</u>	<u>(7,500)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>			
		<u>(1,105)</u>	<u>(6,251)</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		(1,105)	(6,251)
Restricted funds		-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MAY 2024</b>			
		<u>(1,105)</u>	<u>(6,251)</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on <sup>21<sup>st</sup></sup>..... March 2025 to be signed on their behalf by:

Christopher Cope (Chair of the Trustees)



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Cope', is written over a horizontal dotted line. A long, sweeping horizontal line is drawn below the signature, extending across the width of the page.

## ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

In accordance with the terms of our engagement we have prepared for your approval these financial statements of The Gustav Holst Society for the Year Ended 31 May 2024 from the accounting records and from information and explanations you have given to us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at [icaew.com/regulations](http://icaew.com/regulations).

Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial information of The Gustav Holst Society and state those matters that we have agreed to state to you in this report in accordance with the guidance of ICAEW as detailed at [icaew.com/compilation](http://icaew.com/compilation).

Azets

Azets  
Lime Court  
Pathfields Business Park  
South Molton  
Devon  
EX36 3LH

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1175057

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# Accounts

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**NEWS RELEASE**

**10 July 2023: Release time immediate**

**DEFENCE CAMPAIGNERS CALL ON GOVERNMENT TO PLEDGE LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN NAVY, ARMY AND AIR FORCE RECRUITMENT**

On the eve of the NATO Summit, and with continued threats to international security from Russia and China, the campaign group Defence UK is urging Prime Minister Rishi Sunak to pledge "long-term and sustained investment" in recruitment and training for the Royal Navy, the British Army and the Royal Air Force.

Britain's Armed Forces have been "chronically depleted" over the last two decades, says Defence UK, and "despite some recent small increases in the Ministry of Defence budget the additional funds committed by the Treasury have been insufficient to repair the damage done to our military, and in some cases appear to have been directed towards administration rather than front-line capabilities."

Defence UK Director Andy Smith says: "It is shocking that British military personnel numbers are continuing to fall, in spite of the growing threats to UK and international security from Russia and China, and the urgency of rebuilding our Armed Forces, while the number of civil servants, lawyers and accountants employed by the MOD has increased."

The campaign group, which was formed in 2007 as the United Kingdom National Defence Association (renamed Defence UK in 2019), is seeking an increase in

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1175057

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# Accounts

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# **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022**

**HOLST**  
THE  
SOCIETY



**Charity number: 1175057**

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

REGISTERED CHARITY:	1175057
HONORARY PRESIDENT:	Martyn Brabbins
HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS:	Alan Gibbs Raymond Head Colin Matthews Adrian Partington Michael Short
TRUSTEES:	Chris Cope, Chairman Chris Collier, Vice Chairman John Graham
OFFICERS/ MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:	Chris Cope, Chairman and Editor of Newsletter John Graham Vacant: Treasurer Vacant: Secretary
PRINCIPAL OFFICE:	Hammetts, Kings Nympton, Devon EX37 9ST Tel: 01769 580041
BANKERS:	Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, White Hart Street, High Wycombe, Bucks BX1 1LT
WEBSITE:	<a href="http://www.holstsociety.org">www.holstsociety.org</a>
ACCOUNTANT:	Azets Lime Court Pathfields Business Park South Molton Devon EX36 3LH

## THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY

### REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTLOOK FOR THE YEAR 2022/23

#### Membership

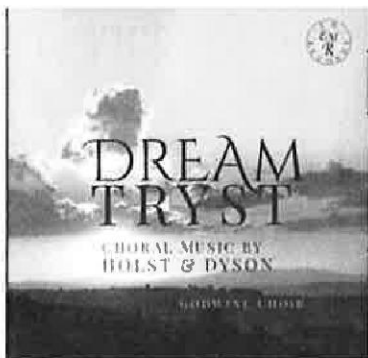
The Society had 127 members at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022 (an 18% increase on 2021) which included 18 (17 – 2021) honorary members. Our honorary membership includes the President, the Vice Presidents, the Holst Victorian House, St Paul's Girls' School, the English Music Festival, the Ralph Vaughan Williams Society and the Thaxted Festival, together with professional musicians who have supported Holst's music. We offer our thanks to all our members for their continuing support.

#### Recordings

Since we were established in May 2017, the Society has promoted and sponsored five recordings:-

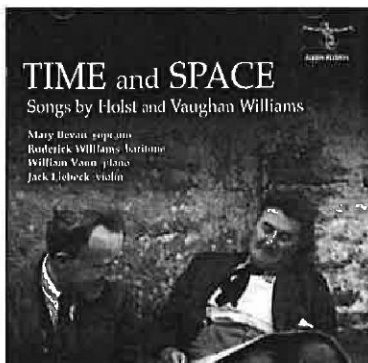
##### 1. Dream Tryst

EM Records. Partsongs by George Dyson and Holst. Recorded 2017. EMRCD049.



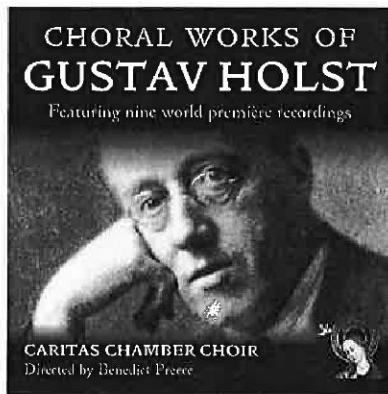
##### 2. Time and Space

Albion Records. Songs for voice and piano by Vaughan Williams and Holst. Recorded 2018. ALBCD038.



3. Choral Works by Gustav Holst

Caritas label. Partsongs by Holst. Recorded 2019.



4. Alpha and Omega

EM Records. Christmas and organ music by Holst. Recorded 2019. EMRCD062.



5. I Vow to Thee My Country

SOMM label. Sacred music of Holst (including hymns). Recorded 2021. SOMM 279.



**Society's achievement**

All of Holst's partsongs and church music have now been recorded.

### **Latest recording**

In July 2021 (Covid prevented any recordings in 2020), the Society sponsored the recording of all Holst's sacred music at a cost to the Society of nearly £15,000.

The recording took place in July 2021 at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square, London. The Chapel Choir of the Royal Hospital Chelsea under their conductor Will Vann was accompanied at the organ by Joshua Ryan.

The works by Holst which were recorded were:-

Two Psalms, Nunc Dimittis, Four Festival Choruses, Ave Maria, Eternal Father, Man Born to Toil, Not unto Us, Short Festival Te Deum and seven hymns.

The recording was made under the SOMM label. The CD appeared November 2022.

A number of these works were being recorded for the first time. This is also the first time that all Holst's sacred music has appeared on a single disc or LP.

### **Planned recordings**

The Society has a number of plans for recording works by Holst, particularly those that have never been recorded. We aim to sponsor a new recording every year.

1. EM Records is planning to record all Holst's works composed for St Paul's Girls' School, including the Vision of Dame Christian, the Brook Green Suite, the St Paul's Suite, the Seven Choruses from the Alcestis of Euripides, the Playground Song and the Gavotte (which Holst withdrew from the Brook Green Suite).

It is planned that the recording will take place at St Paul's Girls' School and that the orchestra will be the London Mozart Players. It is to be hoped that the recording will take place during the course of 2023. However, funding is an issue. The Holst Society has made it clear that it is not in a financial position to provide funding which should be met by the parents of pupils at SPGS.

2. Secondly, the Society is interested in a recording of Holst's two-act operetta (dating from 1892) Lansdown Castle (or the Sorcerer of Tewkesbury).

There were two performances of Lansdown Castle in Cheltenham during 2019. The original score was adapted, together with some cuts to Act 1 by Dr Warwick Cole who also conducted the performances. The Society hopes to be meeting Dr Cole in due course to discuss a planned recording. Long-term project.

3. The third project is to record all of the unrecorded music for female voices. The Society has been in discussion with Rupert Gough, the director of choral music and college organist at the Royal Holloway College, University of London. This project is very much subject to raising the necessary funding. Long-term project.

4. Fourthly, in conjunction with Paul Hindmarsh, the Society is planning a major recording of Holst's music for brass band. In fact, Holst only composed one work for brass band, namely the Moorside Suite. There were other works for concert band, which are to be (or have been) rearranged for brass band. We have also identified a number of orchestral works which would be very suited for arrangement for brass band as well. A number of these orchestral works are presently being arranged, by professionals, for brass band.

The proposed list of works is the Moorside Suite, the Suite Number 1, Suite Number 2, Marching Song, Fugal Overture, the Perfect Fool, Scherzo, Mr Silkret's Folly/Maggot and the Lure.

We hope to be recording these works in the summer of 2023 with the CD appearing in early 2024, coinciding with Holst 150.

The band will be the Cory Band and the Society is delighted that our President, Martyn Brabbins, has agreed to conduct some of the works. The remainder will be conducted by Philip Harper, conductor of the Cory Band. The recording will be made on the Chandos label.

This recording will require substantial funding by the Society.

5. We hope to record, this year (for 2024), music for violin and piano by Holst and his contemporaries. The Holst works will be:-
  - Song of the Night (premiere recording for violin and piano)
  - Invocation, arranged for violin and piano (first recording in this arrangement)
  - Lyric Movement, arranged for violin and piano (first recording in this arrangement)

There will also be world premiere recordings of:-

- William Hurlstone – Four English Sketches and Three Pieces
- Vaughan Williams – The Lark Ascending (arranged for violin and harp)
- Roger Quilter – Two Old English Tunes
- Rebecca Clarke – Songs for Soprano and Violin, Shorter Pieces for Violin and Piano
- Ethel Burns – Three out of Eight Pieces (remainder are lost)

#### Soloists

Violin – Hannah Roper

Pianist – Martin Jacoby

Soprano – Rachel Roper

Harp – Valeria Kurbatova

## Funding

As ever, funds urgently required.

## Recording label

Acclaimed Productions Limited through Naxos.

## **Other events in the past 12 months**

### 1. AGM recital 26<sup>th</sup> March 2022

A piano recital given by Cheltenham-based husband and wife duo James Wilshire and Pippa Harrison who performed the entire Planets Suite arranged for four hands at the piano. James also played a number of piano solo works by Holst, together with the world premiere performance of Nicola LeFanu's The Forest, the Strand, the Sea.

### 2. English Music Festival (May 2022)

This have I done, Five Partsongs and the Cloud Messenger.

### 3. Thaxted Festival

On 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022, there was a performance of Joe Fort's arrangement for reduced orchestra and choir of Holst's The Cloud Messenger.

### 4. The Three Choirs Festival at Hereford (July 2022)

No Holst, I'm afraid.

### 5. The Proms (July-September 2022)

The Planets.

### 6. Holst Victorian House annual Holst Birthday Concert, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022

The Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra, under David Curtis, gave the third performance ever of Holst's Folk Songs from Somerset. As readers may recall, the work was first performed in 1906. The score was then lost. In 2017, it was discovered in the library of the Bay of Islands Symphony Orchestra (BOISO), North Island, New Zealand. No one knows how it got there. The BOISO gave the second performance in 2018. Also in the September 2022 programme was Holst's Country and Marching Songs, Stanford's Irish Rhapsody No 1 and Vaughan Williams' Fifth Symphony.

## 7. Gloucester mini festival

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Gloucester Cathedral, the Holst and Vaughan Williams Societies sponsored two recitals of music by Holst and Vaughan Williams for voice and piano and, later, for violin and piano. This was followed by an all-choral concert given by the Gloucester Cathedral Choirs under the Cathedral's director of music, Adrian Partington. The music, again, was by Holst and Vaughan Williams. Altogether, the three concerts featured no less than 24 works by Holst and 17 by Vaughan Williams. This must be an all-time record.

## 8. British Music Festival in Taiwan

This unique event (hopefully, to be repeated next year) took place between 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023, organised by Holst Society member Chu-Yu (Joe) Yang, a great supporter of British music and a professional violinist. Joe was well pleased with the audience turnout and the performances of a number of British works which included composers such as Bliss, Venables, Gurney, Arnold, Finzi, Vaughan Williams and Holst (his Five Pieces for Violin and Piano). Well done Joe.

## Forthcoming events

### 2023 AGM

1. This year's AGM will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Pip and Jim's Church, Leckhampton, Gloucestershire, at 2.30pm. It will be followed by a concert given by the Oriel Singers between 4pm and 5.30pm at the same venue (see below).
2. AGM concert at 4pm on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Pip and Jim's Church, Leckhampton, Gloucestershire GL50 2DD.

Music by Gustav Holst, Vaughan Williams, William Byrd, Stanford, Imogen Holst and Britten

An all-English programme to be given by the Oriel Singers (Cheltenham based)  
under their conductor Ben Sawyer

William Byrd – Laudibus in Sanctis

Ralph Vaughan Williams – Valiant-for-Truth

Charles Stanford – On Time, op.142

Imogen Holst – Hymne to Christ

Gustav Holst – Nunc Dimittis

Gustav Holst – Rig Veda 3rd group

Gustav Holst – Rig Veda 4th group

Gustav Holst – Ave Maria

Benjamin Britten – The Ballad of Little Musgrave and Lady Barnard

Gustav Holst – 5 Part-Songs

#### Information

Please contact Chris Cope at [chairman@holstsociety.org](mailto:chairman@holstsociety.org) (01769 580041).

We will not issue paper tickets.

Payment in advance will guarantee a seat, either through the Holst Society or Eventbrite ([Holst Society concert Tickets, Sat 11 Mar 2023 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#))

#### Prices

£20, or £10 (children/students)

To book, please click on the following link - <https://tinyurl.com/23zuvqso>

#### 3. English Music Festival, Dorchester-on-Thames (late spring bank holiday)

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 10.45am, Holst Five Pieces for Violin and Piano

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm, Holst Two Psalms

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm, Holst Second Suite in F for Military Band

#### 4. Three Choirs Festival at Gloucester (July 2023)

The programme for this year's festival will not be published until late March. However, I am assured that Holst's Short Festival Te Deum will feature in the opening service and that (date unknown) there will be a performance of Holst's masterpiece Ode to Death. There will be plenty of Vaughan Williams as well.

#### 5. Holst's Birthday Concert

Scheduled for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 at 3pm at Bethesda Church in Cheltenham. The choir of St Paul's Girls' School where, of course, Holst taught for 30 years, will give a concert. Programme presently unknown, but will include some Holst.

### **Publications**

Dr Philippa Tudor, an honorary member of the Society, has written a biography of Isobel Holst, wife of the composer. In his review, Society member Daniel Jaffé, who writes for the BBC Music magazine, gave the publication five stars. The publisher is Circaidy Gregory Press.

## **Newsletter**

The Society continues to publish a bi-monthly newsletter which endeavours to inform the membership of everything they need to know about recent developments concerning Gustav Holst and his music.

During the last 12 months, the Society has been most fortunate in that Neil Arthur Williams, a Society member and undoubtedly the world's expert on the Planets, has agreed to write a series on the Planets with its numerous arrangements and recordings and which has been appended to the newsletter. Part 5 (actually 4b) accompanied the newsletter of January 2023. The Society would like to record its thanks to Neil for all his hard work putting together this fascinating series.

## **Holst 150**

As members will know, 2024 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Holst's birth in September 1874. The Society is planning a number of events to mark the occasion.

We have already mentioned the brass band and violin recordings which will appear in 2024.

The Society is keen to promote the live performance of Holst's music throughout the UK and overseas. In particular, we are keen to encourage amateur choral societies and orchestras to include Holst's music in their programme for that year. The target is 150 concerts. The Society will not, though, be making any grants.

We will also be encouraging the English Music Festival, the BBC Proms and the Three Choirs Festival (which in 2024 will be in Worcester) to include Holst in their programme.

We have established a committee to work on plans for 2024.

We will also be working in conjunction with the Stanford Society who will be commemorating the centenary of the death of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford in March 1924.

Adrian Partington, the director of music at Gloucester Cathedral, has agreed to hold a Holst festival in May 2024. We are also discussing with David Wordsworth, the conductor, a choral festival (to include music by Holst and Stanford) the nearest weekend to Holst's birthday in September 2024. This will be in London.

During the course of this year, we will be making contact with as many orchestras and choral societies as we can identify, inviting them to include Holst when programming their concerts in 2024.

We also intend to make contact with musical organisations in Europe and overseas.

## **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022. The trustees confirm that both the report and the financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of Charities SORP FRS 102 Second Edition October 2019 – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019). The Legal and Administrative Information on page 1 forms part of this report.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The Society's objectives are to promote public education and appreciation of the life and works of Gustav Holst.

The charity carries out these objectives by:-

- Sponsorship of public performances of music by Holst.
- Promotion of recordings of music by Holst, hitherto unrecorded.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is called The Gustav Holst Society and is registered with the Charity Commission as number 1175057. On a day-to-day basis, the charity trades under the name, The Holst Society.

The charity was formed in 2017 as an unincorporated association. It was re-registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in October 2017 and the current constitution can be found on the Society's website.

Trustees and officers of the Society who served during the year are detailed on page 1 of this report. Trustees are elected by members at the AGM, which is open to all members. New trustees are recruited generally by invitation, or by seeking volunteers at general meetings. Nominations of additional trustees may be made at or before the AGM, for consideration at that meeting. New trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity law, the Charity Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and are also made aware of the charity's constitution, decision-making processes and financial position. The trustees meet on a regular basis and are responsible for all operating decisions.

#### **Achievements and performance**

The review of activities commencing on page 2 forms part of this report.

## **Financial review**

Income from subscriptions was 13.7% more than that for the preceding year at £2,260.

Bank balances fell to £1,822 from £3,253, a year earlier.

## **Risks and reserves**

The trustees have reviewed the risks to which the Society is exposed and consider them to be negligible. In the year 2022/23, the Society is likely to be incurring substantial expenditure with regard to the recording of Holst's music for brass band and for violin and piano. This is likely to be about £20,000. The Society will be seeking external funding.

The trustees have agreed that before embarking upon either recording programmes, all anticipated funding is secured in advance. If not, the recordings will be deferred.

## **Fees and expenses**

No trustee received remuneration or fees during the year.

## **Statement of trustees' responsibilities/ accounting policies**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the notes to these accounts.

#### **Accounting Convention**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, in conjunction with Update Bulletin 1 published in February 2016 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

## **2. Reserves**

The Trustees' objectives are to build up sufficient reserves to enable grants and donations to be made to activities relating to the works of Gustav Holst. They anticipate that future subscription income will enable it to continue as a going concern. The Trustees will continue to monitor the reserves policy and if necessary make the required amendments to enable the Society to fulfil its objectives in this regard.

## **3. Members' Subscriptions**

Subscription income for the year represents members' annual subscriptions received.

## **4. Fees and Expenses**

No trustee received remuneration or fees during the year.

## **5. Employees**

There were no employees during the year.

## **6. Reserves Balances**      £

Unrestricted funds	(77)
Restricted funds	<u>(7,602)</u>
	<u>(£7,679)</u>

The Restricted Funds consist of funds donated to be spent on future specific projects.

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022**

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Members' Subscriptions	2,260	-	2,260	1,988
Donations	685	4,450	5,135	879
Gift Aid	1,436	-	1,436	-
CD Sales	81	-	81	91
Ticket Sales	2,095	-	2,095	590
Grants	<u>1,450</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,450</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>8,007</u></b>	<b><u>4,450</u></b>	<b><u>12,457</u></b>	<b><u>3,548</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Editing/engraving fees	-	-	-	740
Subscriptions	126	-	126	60
Grants	1,860	1,000	2,860	1,800
Concert Listings	170	-	170	-
CD Purchases	-	-	-	741
Book Purchase	300	-	300	-
Advertising	1,104	-	1,104	-
Manuscript Purchase	-	-	-	21
Sheet Music Purchase	106	-	106	313
Sheet Music Hire	172	-	172	-
Artwork	-	-	-	840
Printing	304	-	304	-
Import Duty	-	-	-	89
Accommodation	272	-	272	-
Meals	21	-	21	-
Travel	166	-	166	-
Recording Engineer's Fees	-	1,000	1,000	-
Musicians' Fees	2,420	9,580	12,000	1,000
Venue Fees	-	2,150	2,150	-
Arranger's Fees	-	850	850	-
Web Development	-	-	-	60
Accountancy Fees	529	-	529	504
AGM Expenses	230	-	230	165
Bank Charges	<u>29</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>32</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>7,809</u></b>	<b><u>14,580</u></b>	<b><u>22,389</u></b>	<b><u>6,365</u></b>
Net Movement in Funds	198	(10,130)	(9,932)	(2,817)
Total Funds Brought Forward	<u>(275)</u>	<u>2,528</u>	<u>2,253</u>	<u>5,070</u>
Total Funds Carried Forward	<b><u>(£77)</u></b>	<b><u>(£7,602)</u></b>	<b><u>(£7,679)</u></b>	<b><u>£2,253</u></b>

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MAY 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash at bank: -		
Current	420	725
Designated	<u>1,401</u>	<u>2,528</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Loan	<u>(9,500)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>	<u>(£7,679)</u>	<u>£2,253</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>		
Unrestricted funds	(77)	(275)
Restricted funds	<u>(7,602)</u>	<u>2,528</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MAY 2022</b>	<u>(£7,679)</u>	<u>£2,253</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7 March 2023, signed on their behalf by:



Christopher Cope (Chairman of the Trustees)

7 March 2023

## **ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement we have prepared for your approval these financial statements of The Gustav Holst Society for the Year Ended 31 May 2022 from the accounting records and from information and explanations you have given to us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at [icaew.com/regulations](https://www.icaew.com/regulations).

Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial information of The Gustav Holst Society and state those matters that we have agreed to state to you in this report in accordance with the guidance of ICAEW as detailed at [icaew.com/compilation](https://www.icaew.com/compilation).

*Azets*

Azets  
Lime Court  
Pathfields Business Park  
South Molton  
Devon  
EX36 3LH

Date: 7 March 2023

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1175057

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# Accounts

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# **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

**HOLST**  
THE  
SOCIETY



**Charity number: 1175057**

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

REGISTERED CHARITY:	1175057
HONORARY PRESIDENT:	Martyn Brabbins
HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS:	Alan Gibbs Raymond Head Colin Matthews Adrian Partington Michael Short
TRUSTEES:	Chris Collier, Chairman Chris Cope, Vice Chairman John Graham
OFFICERS/ MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:	Chris Cope, Chairman and Editor of Newsletter John Graham Vacant: Treasurer Vacant: Secretary
PRINCIPAL OFFICE:	Hammetts, Kings Nympton, Devon EX37 9ST Tel: 01769 580041
BANKERS:	Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, White Hart Street, High Wycombe, Bucks BX1 1LT
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	Elizabeth Smith ACA, FCCA, CTA Azets Limited, Lime Court, Pathfields South Molton, Devon EX36 3LH
WEBSITE:	<a href="http://www.holstsociety.org">www.holstsociety.org</a>

## THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY

### REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTLOOK FOR THE YEAR 2021/22

#### Membership

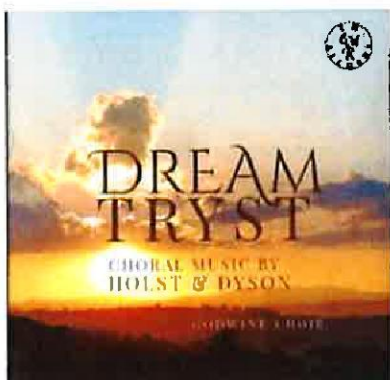
The Society had 108 members at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 which included 17 honorary members. Our honorary membership includes the President, the Vice Presidents, the Holst Victorian House, St Paul's Girls' School, the English Music Festival and the Ralph Vaughan Williams Society, together with professional musicians who have supported Holst's music. We offer our thanks to all our members for their continuing support.

#### Recordings

Since we were established in May 2017, the Society has promoted and sponsored four recordings:-

1. Dream Tryst

EM Records. Partsongs by George Dyson and Holst. Recorded 2017. EMRCD049.



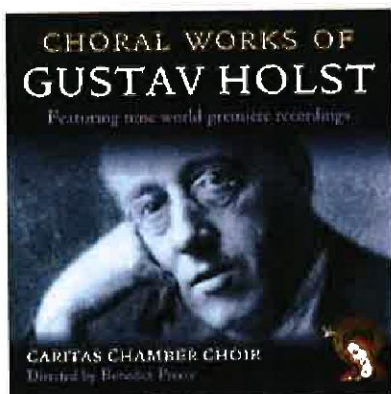
2. Time and Space

Albion Records. Songs for voice and piano by Vaughan Williams and Holst. Recorded 2018. ALBCD038.



### 3. Choral Works by Gustav Holst

Caritas label. Partsongs by Holst. Recorded 2019.



### 4. Alpha and Omega

EM Records. Christmas and organ music by Holst. Recorded 2019. EMRCD062.



### **Society's achievement**

All of Holst's partsongs, Christmas and organ music have now been recorded.

### **New recordings**

In July 2021 (Covid prevented any recordings in 2020), the Society sponsored the recording of all Holst's sacred music at a cost to the Society of nearly £15,000.

The recording took place in July 2021 at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square, London. The Chapel Choir of the Royal Hospital Chelsea under their conductor Will Vann was accompanied at the organ by Joshua Ryan.

The works by Holst which were recorded were:-

Two Psalms, Nunc Dimittis, Four Festival Choruses, Ave Maria, Eternal Father, Man Born to Toil, Not unto Us, Short Festival Te Deum and seven hymns.

The recording was made under the SOMM label. The CD should appear in the spring of 2022 (hopefully in May).

A number of these works were being recorded for the first time. This is also the first time that all Holst's sacred music has appeared on a single disc or LP.

### **Planned recordings**

The Society has a number of plans for recording works by Holst, particularly those that have never been recorded.

1. In conjunction with EM Records, we are planning to record all Holst's works composed for St Paul's Girls' School, including the Vision of Dame Christian, the Brook Green Suite, the St Paul's Suite, the Seven Choruses from the Alcestis of Euripides, the Playground Song and the Gavotte (which Holst withdrew from the Brook Green Suite).

It is planned that the recording will take place at St Paul's Girls' School and that the orchestra will be the London Mozart Players. It is to be hoped that the recording will take place during the course of 2022.

2. Secondly, the Society is interested in a recording of Holst's two-act operetta (dating from 1892) Lansdown Castle (or the Sorcerer of Tewkesbury).

There were two performances of Lansdown Castle in Cheltenham during 2019. The original score was adapted, together with some cuts to Act 1 by Dr Warwick Cole who also conducted the performances. The Society hopes to be meeting Dr Cole during the course of this year to discuss a planned recording.

3. Our third project is with the BBC National Chorus of Wales under their conductor Adrian Partington. The planned programme could include the Twelve Welsh Songs (H183) (to be recorded in Welsh for the first time), Clear and Cool (H30), the Seven Folk Songs (H85) (in fact only three survive), the Song of London (H102A), Oh, England my Country (H103), In Loyal Bonds (H113), Roadways (H181), two chants from the Passing of the Essenes (H180) and possibly Hecuba's Lament (H115), the Hymn to Dionysus (H116) and Sing Me the Men (H160).

This is a long-term project, subject to BBC funding.

4. The fourth project is to record all of the unrecorded music for female voices. The Society is presently in discussion with Rupert Gough, the director of choral music and college organist at the Royal Holloway College, University of London. This project is very much subject to raising the necessary funding.
5. Lastly, in conjunction with Paul Hindmarsh, the Society is planning a major recording of Holst's music for brass band. In fact, Holst only composed one work for brass band, namely the Moorside Suite. There were other works for concert band, which are to be (or have been) rearranged for brass band. We have also identified a number of orchestral works which would be very suited for arrangement for brass band as well. A number of these orchestral works are presently being arranged, by professionals, for brass band.

The proposed list of works is the Moorside Suite, the Suite Number 1, Suite Number 2, Marching Song, Fugal Overture, the Perfect Fool, Scherzo, Mr Silkret's Folly/Maggot and the St Paul's Suite.

We hope to be recording these works in the summer of 2023 with the CD appearing in early 2024, coinciding with Holst 150.

The band will be the Cory Band and the Society is delighted that our President, Martyn Brabbins, has agreed to conduct. The recording will be made on the Hyperion label.

This recording will require substantial funding by the Society.

### **Festivals (some of which did not take place)**

#### **The Three Choirs Festival/ July 2020**

Apart from the War years, this was the first time in its 300-year history that the Three Choirs Festival did not take place. The Covid pandemic was the reason.

#### **The Proms (July-September 2020)**

Was in fact restricted to a two-week festival (as opposed to two months), again due to Covid. Holst was lucky to achieve a single work, namely the annual performance of the Planets.

#### **English Music Festival (Autumn) (October 2020)**

Held at Horsham in Sussex. Works by Holst included Two Northern Folk Tunes (piano) and five pieces for violin and piano.

#### **Barnes Festival (May 2021)**

Postponed from its usual March date, there were two performances of Holst's Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda and also his opera Savitri.

#### **English Music Festival (Spring) (May 2021)**

The Orchestra of the Swan performed the St Paul's Suite. The Bridge Quartet played Holst's Fantasy on British Folk Songs.

### **Other events (some of which did not occur)**

The Holst Birthplace Trust (now the Holst Victorian House) annual birthday concert in Cheltenham scheduled for September 2020 was cancelled.

On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020, the Society held its Annual General Meeting, which was followed by a recital given by James Gilchrist (tenor) accompanied at the piano by John Wright. Due to Covid, we were restricted to 40 seats, but in fact the concert was sold out.

It was a virtually all-English programme of Christmas music and included Holst's Lullay My Liking. Debussy was the interloper.

In May 2021, the Isleworth Whitsun Centenary Concert took place. The programme included Holst's Fantasy Quartet, Lyric Movement, Four Songs for Voice and Violin, the Fugal Concerto, the Song of the Night, the ballet from the Perfect Fool (two-piano arrangement), Chrissemas Day in the Morning (piano) and A Piece for Yvonne (piano). There were also works composed by Jane Joseph, a pupil of Holst.

### **Publications**

In August 2020, we arranged through Goodmusic Publishing for the publication of 12 partsongs by Holst under the title 'The Voyager'. All but one of these 12 songs had not previously been published.

Secondly, in October 2020, again through Goodmusic Publishing, we published the first volume of the Holst Songbook which included 13 songs for voice and piano. We have published separate volumes for high and low voice. Volume 2 (another 13 songs) appeared in January 2021. We plan to publish volumes 3 and 4 (again of 13 songs apiece) during 2021/22.

Once the fourth volume has been published, all 52 previously unpublished songs by Holst will, at last, have been published.

In all, Holst composed some 97 songs for voice and piano, of which one was incomplete. With 44 already published, once volume 4 of the series has been issued, the full 96 will be available either through Goodmusic Publishing or other publishers. This will enable professional and amateur singers to explore this vast collection of music by Holst.

### **Newsletter**

The Society continues to publish a bi-monthly newsletter which endeavours to inform the membership of everything they need to know about recent developments concerning Gustav Holst and his music.

During the course of the year, the trustees decided to simplify the newsletter which was becoming somewhat indigestible. It was agreed that concert and CD reviews, together with lengthy articles, would, instead, appear on the Society's website.

### **2022 AGM**

This year's AGM had to be postponed from the planned date in December 2021, due to the ill health of the Society's treasurer, David Young FCA. Sadly, Mr Young died on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021. As a result, the AGM was postponed until March.

With regard to the 2022 AGM, this will take place in early December 2022, followed by a recital or lecture, details of which have yet to be formulated.

## Holst 150

As you will know, 2024 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Holst's birth in September 1874. The Society is planning a number of events to mark the occasion.

We have already mentioned the brass band recording which will appear in early 2024.

The Society is keen to promote the live performance of Holst's music throughout the UK and overseas. In particular, we are keen to encourage amateur choral societies and orchestras to include Holst's music in their programme for that year. The target is 150 concerts. The Society intends to give a grant of say £400 for each concert, which would mean that we have to raise some £60,000.

We will also be encouraging the English Music Festival, the BBC Proms and the Three Choirs Festival (which in 2024 will be in Worcester) to include Holst in their programme.

We will be establishing a committee to work on plans for 2024 during the next few months.

We will also be working in conjunction with the Stanford Society who will be commemorating, in 2024, the centenary of the death of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford in March 1924.

Adrian Partington, the director of music at Gloucester Cathedral, has agreed to hold a Holst festival in May 2024. We are also discussing with David Wordsworth, the conductor, a choral festival (to include music by Holst and Stanford) the nearest weekend to Holst's birthday in September 2024. This will be in London.

During the course of this year, we will be making contact with as many orchestras and choral societies as we can identify inviting them to include Holst when programming their concerts in 2024.

We also intend to make contact with musical organisations in Europe and overseas.

## **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

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The charity is called The Gustav Holst Society and is registered with the Charity Commission as number 1175057. On a day-to-day basis, the charity trades under the name, The Holst Society.

The charity was formed in 2017 as an unincorporated association. It was re-registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in October 2017 and the current constitution can be found on the Society's website.

Trustees and officers of the Society who served during the year are detailed on page 1 of this report. Trustees are elected by members at the AGM, which is open to all members. New trustees are recruited generally by invitation, or by seeking volunteers at general meetings. Nominations of additional trustees may be made at or before the AGM, for consideration at that meeting. New trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity law, the Charity Commission Guidance on Public Benefit and are also made aware of the charity's constitution, decision-making processes and financial position. The trustees meet on a regular basis and are responsible for all operating decisions.

#### **Achievements and performance**

The review of activities commencing on page 2 forms part of this report.

## **Financial review**

Income from subscriptions was 2.5% more than that for the preceding year at £1,988.

Bank balances fell to £3,253 from £5,070, a year earlier.

## **Risks and reserves**

The trustees have reviewed the risks to which the Society is exposed and consider them to be negligible. In the year 2021/22, the Society is likely to be incurring substantial expenditure with regard to the recording of Holst's sacred music. This is likely to be in excess of £10,000. The Society will be looking to the membership for donations towards this expenditure. We will also be seeking external funding. In addition, the Society's chairman of the management committee has agreed to a low-interest loan to the Society (from a company which he operates) with regard to any shortfall. Nevertheless, that will be a short-term loan.

The trustees have agreed that before embarking upon any further recording programmes, all anticipated funding is secured in advance.

## **Fees and expenses**

No trustee received remuneration or fees during the year.

## **Statement of trustees' responsibilities/ accounting policies**

### **1. Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the notes to these accounts.

#### **Accounting Convention**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, in conjunction with Update Bulletin 1 published in February 2016 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the

Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

## **2. Reserves**

The Trustees' objectives are to build up sufficient reserves to enable grants and donations to be made to activities relating to the works of Gustav Holst. They anticipate that future subscription income will enable it to continue as a going concern. The Trustees will continue to monitor the reserves policy and if necessary make the required amendments to enable the Society to fulfil its objectives in this regard.

## **3. Members' Subscriptions**

Subscription income for the year represents members' annual subscriptions received.

## **4. Fees and Expenses**

No trustee received remuneration or fees during the year.

## **5. Employees**

There were no employees during the year.

## **6. Reserves Balances      £**

Unrestricted funds	(275)
Restricted funds	<u>2,528</u>
	<u>£2,253</u>

The Restricted Funds consist of funds donated to be spent on future specific projects.

## THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Members' Subscriptions	1988	-	1988	1940
Donations	279	600	879	10332
Gift Aid	-	-	-	3867
Book and CD Sales	91	-	91	32
Ticket Sales re recital 12.12.20	590	-	590	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>2948</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>3548</u>	<u>16171</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Transcriptions	-	-	-	250
Editing/engraving fees	240	500	740	-
Subscriptions	60	-	60	40
Grants	200	1600*	1800	1955
Concert Listing	-	-	-	170
CD Purchases	741	-	741	616
Manuscripts	21	-	21	11
Sheet Music	313	-	313	278
Artwork	180	660	840	-
Printing and Postage	-	-	-	206
Import Duty	89	-	89	-
Recording Engineer's Fees**	-	-	-	3905
Musicians' Fees**	-	-	-	1897
Venue Fees**	-	-	-	1885
Musicians' Fees re Recital 12.12.20	1000	-	1000	-
Web Development	60	-	60	60
Accountancy Fees	504	-	504	504
AGM Expenses	165	-	165	40
Bank Charges	32	-	32	47
Loan Interest	-	-	-	45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>3605</u>	<u>2760</u>	<u>6365</u>	<u>11909</u>
Net Movement in Funds	(657)	(2160)	(2817)	4262
Total Funds Brought Forward	<u>382</u>	<u>4688</u>	<u>5070</u>	<u>808</u>
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>(£275)</u>	<u>£2528</u>	<u>£2253</u>	<u>£5070</u>

\* Grants:-

James Willshire/ CD (£200), William Drakett/ CD (£300), Nathan Williamson/ CD (£600) and Northern Opera/ live opera performances (£500).

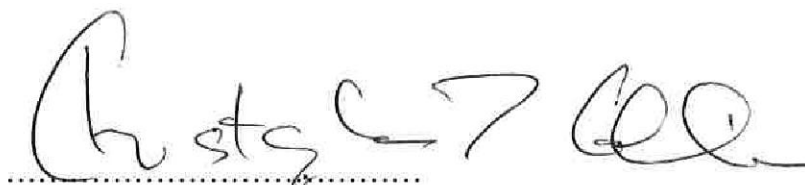
\*\* Recording of *Alpha and Omega*.

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 MAY 2021**

		2021 £	2020 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank: -	Current	725	382
	Designated	<u>2528</u>	<u>4688</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Loan		<u>(1000)</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u>£2253</u>	<u>£5070</u>
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds		(275)	382
Restricted funds		<u>2528</u>	<u>4688</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MAY 2021</b>			
		<u>£2253</u>	<u>£5070</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022 to be signed on their behalf by:



Christopher Collier (Chairman of the Trustees)

..... March 2022

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2021 which are set out on pages two to ten.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date: 11 March 2022

Elizabeth Smith ACA, FCCA, CTA

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South Molton, Devon  
EX36 3LH