

# **THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

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



**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**

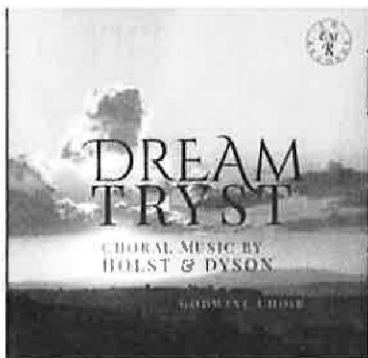
The Society had 127 members at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022 (an 18% increase on 2021) which included 18 (17 – 2021) honorary members. Our honorary membership includes the President, the Vice Presidents, the Holst Victorian House, St Paul's Girls' School, the English Music Festival, the Ralph Vaughan Williams 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:-

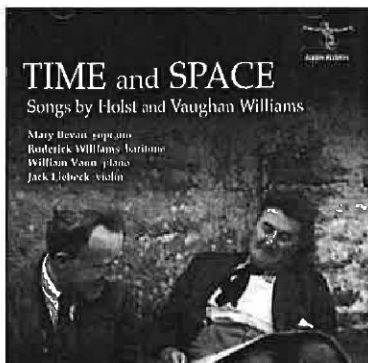
##### **1. Dream Tryst**

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



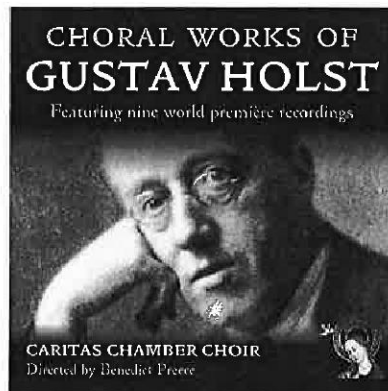
##### **2. Time and Space**

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



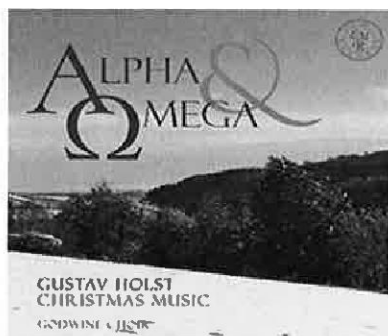
3. Choral Works by Gustav Holst

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/23zuvgs0>

#### 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	1,450	-	1,450	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,007</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>12,457</b>	<b>3,548</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	29	-	29	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,809</b>	<b>14,580</b>	<b>22,389</b>	<b>6,365</b>
Net Movement in Funds	198	(10,130)	(9,932)	(2,817)
Total Funds Brought Forward	(275)	2,528	2,253	5,070
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>(£77)</u>	<u>(£7,602)</u>	<u>(£7,679)</u>	<u>£2,253</u>

**THE GUSTAV HOLST SOCIETY**

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

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