

Bury St Edmunds Bach Society - 1181842

Trustees' Report on the 2020-21 Season

The object of the Bury St Edmunds Bach Society is the maintenance of the Bury Bach Choir, in the study and practice of choral music and the promotion of musical performances given before a public audience and thus for public benefit. The Society provides a beneficial contribution to the art and culture of the local area.

Bury Bach Choir was founded in 1932 to perform the great choral works of Bach. Today, the choir numbers approximately 100 singers from the Bury St Edmunds area, and would normally perform up to four concerts a year with professional soloists and orchestra. Bach's music remains central to the choir's activity, as do the large scale classics of the choral repertoire. Over the years, the choir has also successfully explored some of the less familiar choral repertoire, including much twentieth-century British music.

Our Joint Presidents, Graeme Danby and Valerie Reid are both renowned soloists and perform at many of the choir's concerts.

Our Music Director, Philip Reed is a graduate of Leeds, who completed a PhD at the University of East Anglia. He is an acknowledged authority on the life and works of Benjamin Britten and has published a number of books about the composer.

The Bury St Edmunds Bach Society is recognised as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) by the Charity Commissioners (Registration Number 1181842) and enjoys the support of a number of local patrons. New choral members are admitted by audition. The charity has no permanent official address and its Trustees are the persons elected to the Society's Committee at its Annual General Meetings, which are usually held in September. The following persons were Trustees during all or part of the 2020-2021 financial year.

- Tessa Wright (Chair)
- Susanna Spall (Secretary)
- Richard Fletcher (Treasurer)
- Janet Todd
- Sarah Mansfield
- Liz Hartley
- Arland Shawe-Taylor
- Linda Cleveley
- Jack Pennell (Vice Chairman)
- Kathryn Leigh
- Kim Judge
- Susan Kodicek
- Charlotte Leeder

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Commission's guidance on all matters including public benefit.

Activity during the 2020-2021 Financial Year, which ran from 1st August 2020 to 31st July 2021, was severely curtailed by the COVID-19 Pandemic. The choir was unable to perform any of its four planned concerts during the year and met only briefly for socially distanced rehearsals shortly before Christmas 2020.

In order to support choir members and choir cohesion, various on-line activities were organised throughout the year including informative talks by our Music Director, vocal coaching by our Joint Presidents and social gatherings. Income and expenditure were both substantially reduced. Income comprised mainly reduced subscriptions, fund-raising and individual sponsorship.

Risk Management

Trustees have focussed this year on the risk to choir members from COVID-19. As indicated above, this has been mitigated primarily by a move to on-line activity. Full risk assessments have been undertaken prior to any meetings and necessary mitigating measures adopted (e.g. masks for singing, adequate ventilation and social distancing).

The major risk to the Society is the instability of income. We rely on member subscriptions to support the cost of rehearsals, and ticket income and sponsorship to fund the concerts. The Trustees meet regularly to discuss all operational aspects and consider publicity and maintaining a high profile. This is extremely important, as it encourages new members, patrons, sponsors and good audiences at our concerts, all of which help to improve income. We prepare detailed annual budgets and plan future concerts within the expected resources of the Society.

A major concern is that, should a concert be cancelled at the last minute, the Society would incur all the costs, but receive none of the income from ticket sales. This unplanned loss could be between £5,000 and £20,000 on any one occasion. We hold insurance which covers these losses, under unavoidable circumstances, although not those related to COVID-19. The Society endeavours to keep a fund reserve of at least £20,000, so that should we unexpectedly lose a significant amount at any time, the Society would be able to continue functioning while the Trustees develop a new programme that would bring the reserve up to a reasonable level again.

In 2007 the Society launched an endowment fund, with a view to providing a regular interest income to the main choir funds. This is managed by a sub-committee and we continue to endeavour to increase the fund and therefore the interest income.

The Society finances have been administered by the Treasurer and reviewed by an independent firm of accountants. The Treasurer provides regular reports to the Trustees, expenditure is agreed before it is incurred and two signatures are required for all payments.

The Society has an appointed Health and Safety Officer, who advises us on all Health and Safety aspects of the regular meetings and events. The Society holds Public Liability insurance cover.

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

(Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

ACCOUNTS

Accounts for the year ended

31 July 2021

David Robertson & Co

84 Whiting Street

Bury St Edmunds

IP33 1NZ

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDED 31 July 2021

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 July 2020 set out on pages 2 to 4.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act, follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :-

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements :-
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act, and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Stephen Cook MA FCA
DAVID ROBERTON & CO
Chartered Accountants

84 Whiting Street
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 1NZ

18 October 2021

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

(Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

Accounts for the year ended

31 July 2021

	<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts and Payments Account				
Income Receipts				
Voluntary Sources				
Singing Members				
Subscriptions	3,884		19,283	
Fund raising efforts	<u>1,277</u>		<u>1,495</u>	
		5,161		20,778
Concerts				
Ticket sales direct to choir, at the door & other outlets	0		8,490	
Ticket sales at the box office	0		16,224	
Sponsorship	0		1,000	
Supplying copies of music to singers	15		2,482	
Sale of programmes at concerts	0		919	
Advertisements in concert programmes	0		525	
Other concert income	<u>420</u>		<u>100</u>	
		435		29,740
Patronage				
Corporate patrons	2,500		890	
Personal patrons	2,455		2,600	
Tax refunds on covenants	4,227		3,879	
Miscellaneous patronage	0		230	
Grants from Local Authorities	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
		9,182		7,599
Trading Activities				
Social events	0		0	
Miscellaneous trading	<u>0</u>		<u>30</u>	
		0		30
Investment Income				
Bank Interest		<u>1,733</u>		<u>1,804</u>
Total Receipts		<u><u>16,511</u></u>		<u><u>59,951</u></u>

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

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Accounts for the year ended

31 July 2021

	<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Direct Charitable Expenditure				
Rehearsing				
Conductors' fees	3,023		3,830	
Accompanists' fees	90		2,238	
Venues	<u>192</u>		<u>2,515</u>	
		3,305		8,583
Concerts				
Conductors' fees	2,475		2,775	
Soloists' fees	0		4,980	
Orchestra's fees	140		11,025	
Hire of instruments and orchestral scores	0		773	
Venues	0		3,190	
Staging and Lighting	0		2,869	
Handbills, Posters and Banner	0		1,742	
Performing Rights fees	0		420	
Box Office commission	0		2,661	
Supplying copies of music to singers	165		2,921	
Concert programmes	0		382	
Charitable donation from concert	0		1,183	
Miscellaneous concert expenses	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
		2,780		34,922
Other Expenditure				
Trading				
General Publicity	0		2,063	
Social events	2,760		0	
Purchase or repair of fixed assets	<u>0</u>		<u>139</u>	
		2,760		2,203
Administration and Management				
Conductors /officers expenses and meetings	90		2,146	
Making Music Subscription and insurance	846		841	
Miscellaneous Expenses	<u>1,734</u>		<u>558</u>	
		2,670		3,545
Awayday Expenditure	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
Total Expenditure	<u><u>11,515</u></u>		<u><u>49,253</u></u>	

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

(Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

Accounts for the year ended

31 July 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net receipts for the period	4,996	10,699
Cash and Bank balances at 1 st August 2020	31,216	20,517
Cash and Bank balances at 31st July 2021	<u>36,212</u>	<u>31,216</u>
 Jubilee Fund at 1st August	 56,641	 55,231
Receipts	0	0
Revaluation of invested funds	7,936	1,410
Balance at 31st July 2021	<u>64,577</u>	<u>56,641</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st July 2021

Monetary Assets

Cash and Bank Balances	£	£	£	£
Current Account – Barclays Bank	1,886		2,573	
Business Premium Account – Barclays	10,891		5,389	
Current Account – HSBC	189		4	
Cash in Hand	246		250	
COIF Account Choir Fund	<u>23,000</u>		<u>23,000</u>	
		36,212		31,216

COIF Account - Jubilee Fund	262		262	
COIF Investment Account – Jubilee Fund	<u>64,314</u>		<u>56,379</u>	
		64,576		56,641
Total Monetary Assets		<u>100,788</u>		<u>87,857</u>

Debtors		<u>368</u>		<u>368</u>
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Liabilities

Creditors

PRS	418		418	
Hal Leonard	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
		418		418

Total Monetary Assets, less liabilities		<u><u>100,738</u></u>		<u><u>87,807</u></u>
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Non-Monetary Assets

Tangible Fixed Assets	£	£
At cost	<u>15,665</u>	<u>15,665</u>