

Bury St Edmunds Bach Society

Annual Report

2023/24

1. The Charity's Aims

- 1.1. The Bury St Edmunds Bach Society is registered with The Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity Number 1181842). It operates under the name Bury Bach Choir.
- 1.2. The society is a choral society based in Bury St Edmunds Suffolk, dedicated to public performances of classical choral works, particularly those of JS Bach.
- 1.3. The objectives of the CIO are the maintenance of the Bury St Edmunds Bach Society in the study and practice of choral music, and the promotion of musical performances both generally and for the benefit of such charitable purposes as the charity trustees may from time to time think fit.
- 1.4. The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

2. Governance

- 2.1. The society is governed by a committee of trustees who meet regularly through the year to plan programmes and manage the affairs of the choir.
- 2.2. Trustees are elected annually at the AGM and may be co-opted during the year, in accordance with the CIO's Constitution, its governing document.
- 2.3. Trustees during the 2023/24 financial year were:
 - Richard Chatham
 - Linda Cleveley
 - Jo Dekkers
 - Richard Fletcher (Hon. Treasurer)
 - James Heathcote (Vice Chair)
 - Sarah Mansfield
 - Mary-Clare O'Sullivan
 - Julia Rance
 - Stephen Ruthen
 - Marian Rutherford
 - Arland Shawe-Taylor
 - Susanna Spall (Hon. Secretary)
 - Janet Todd
 - John White-Thomson
 - Tessa Wright (Chair)

3. In Year Activity

3.1. The choir held three concerts during the year:

- Works by Bach and Martines on 2 December 2023 at the Apex. The choir was accompanied by The Geldart Ensemble (15 players) and soloists Hilary Cronin, Valerie Reid, Nick Pritchard and Benjamin Noble.
- Works by Bruckner on 9 March 2024 at the Apex. The choir was accompanied by The Tailleferre Ensemble and Ibex Brass (18 players).
- Works by Puccini on 25 May 2024 at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. The choir was accompanied by the Prometheus Orchestra (22 players) and soloists Alice Johnston, Samuel Moore and Tom Asher.

3.2. The choir held 33 Wednesday evening rehearsals and three Saturday rehearsals at King Edward VI school.

3.3. The Music Director throughout the year was Benedict Collins Rice and the rehearsal pianist was Anne Reece.

4. Income

4.1. The choir received income from a number of sources:

- Subscriptions of £186 per annum were charged to singing members over the age of 30. There was an average of 80 singing members during the year.
- Ticket sales from the three concerts generated £23636. Ticket prices varied between £17 and £27 and a total of 1080 tickets were sold for the three concerts (Dec 408, March 319, May 353).
- The choir receives both corporate and individual patronage. Major corporate sponsors during the year included Sofas and Stuff (£3500), Glasswells (£1000), Ridley Godfrey Foundation (£1000) and Wise Music (£1000).
- Gift aid is claimed from HMRC on singing members' subscriptions and individual patronage, where they have made the necessary declarations.
- The choir receives quarterly income from the Jubilee Fund and surplus funds are deposited with Barclays and CCLA (Church of England) to generate interest.
- Ad hoc fundraising this year included a successful Easter raffle which raised £740.

5. Expenditure

5.1. Rehearsal expenditure comprised the MD's retainer, accompanist's fees and hire of the school hall.

5.2. The costs of putting on concerts comprise payments to instrumentalists, soloists and conductor, venue and instrument hire and staging. These vary according to the concert programme and venue. The costs for the three concerts this year were:

- Bach Martines - £11355
- Bruckner - £6492
- Puccini - £13384

- 5.3. There are incidental costs associated with staging concerts including box office fees, publicity, performing rights fees, orchestral score hire, soloist accommodation and refreshments.
- 5.4. The aim is to offset the expenditure on music for singers by income from singers. In some instances the choir subsidises the cost of music from general funds.
- 5.5. General costs associated with running the choir include insurance, recruitment and voice checks, bank charges and officer's expenses.

6. End of Year Position

- 6.1. The year ended with cash reserves of £38,266. This represents 62% of current year expenditure, which trustees judge to be a sufficient level of reserves.

Bury St Edmunds Bach Society
(Registered Charity Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

Accounts for the 12 month period ended 31st July 2024									
Receipts	2024	2024	2023	2023	Expenditure	2024	2024	2023	2023
					Rehearsing				
Singing Members					Conductors' fees	8037		7670	
Subscriptions	17244		18134		Accompanists' fees	2599		2875	
Fund-raising efforts	1039		661		Venues	3329	13,965	3434	13,978
		18,283		18,795	Concerts				
Concerts					Conductors' fees	3000		2865	
Ticket salesdirect to choir, at door and other outlets	7979		9345		Soloists' fees	5950		6750	
Ticket sales at the box-office	15657		22217		Orchestra's fees	12717		15155	
Sponsorship	0		0		Hire of instruments and orch.scores	1069		2945	
Supplying copies of music to singers	3860		2270		Venues	6525		6034	
Sale of programmes at concerts	875		996		Staging and Lighting	3894		4777	
Advertisements in concert programmes	75		425		Handbills, Posters and banner	1125		1122	
Other concert income			0		Performing Right fees	176		396	
		28,445		35,252	Box-office commission	2437		3734	
Patronage and Grants					Supplying copies of music to singers	5880		3121	
Corporate patrons	7120		8370		Concert programmes	601		868	
Personal patrons	2305		2180		Miscellaneous concert expenses	1597	44,970	2257	50,024
Tax refunds on covenants	3721		3700						
Miscellaneous Patronage	0		500		Trading				
		13,146		14,750	General Publicity	326		0	
Trading Activities					Purchase or repair of Fixed Assets	0		0	
Social Events	0		0		Social Events/Training	408		528	
Miscellaneous trading	71		129				734		528
		71		129	Administration				
Investment Income					Conductors/Officers expenses and meetings	304		754	
Bank Interest	1361		731		Making Music Subscription and Insurance	811		885	
Jubilee Income	1802		1795		Bank Charges	48		62	
		3,163		2,526	Miscellaneous expenses	953	2,116	628	2,329
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£63,109		£71,453	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£61,785		£66,860
Net Surplus (Deficit) for the year		£1,324		£4,593					
Cash and bank balance at 1st August 2023	£36,402								
Cash and bank balance at 1st August 2024	£37,726								
Increase (decrease) in year		£1,324							

Accounts Examined by Mr Stephen Cook, Knights Lowe Accountants, Bury St Edmunds.

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

(Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

ACCOUNTS

Accounts for the year ended

31 July 2024

Knight Lowe Limited

Eldo House, Kempson Way

Bury St Edmunds

IP32 7AR

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDED 31 July 2024

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 July 2024 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.

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.



James Knights ACA
Knights Lowe Chartered Accountants
Eldo House, Kempson Way
Suffolk Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP32 7AR

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

(Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

Accounts for the year ended

31 July 2024

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts and Payments Account				
Income Receipts				
Voluntary Sources				
Singing Members				
Subscriptions	17,244		18,134	
Fundraising efforts	<u>1,039</u>		<u>661</u>	
		18,283		18,795
Concerts				
Ticket sales direct to choir, at the door & other outlets	7,979		9,345	
Ticket sales at the box office	15,657		22,217	
Sponsorship	0		0	
Supplying copies of music to singers	3,860		2,270	
Sale of programmes at concerts	875		996	
Advertisements in concert programmes	0		0	
Other concert income	<u>75</u>		<u>425</u>	
		28,446		35,253
Patronage				
Corporate patrons	7,120		8,370	
Personal patrons	2,305		2,180	
Tax refunds on covenants	3,721		3,700	
Miscellaneous patronage	0		500	
Grants from Local Authorities	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
		13,146		14,750
Trading Activities				
Social events	0		0	
Miscellaneous trading	<u>71</u>		<u>129</u>	
		71		129
Investment Income				
Bank Interest	1,361		731	
Jubilee income	<u>1,802</u>		<u>1,795</u>	
		3,163		2,526
Total Receipts		<u>63,109</u>		<u>71,453</u>

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

(Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

Accounts for the year ended **31 July 2024**

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Direct Charitable Expenditure				
Rehearsing				
Conductors' fees	8,037		7,670	
Accompanists' fees	2,599		2,875	
Venues	<u>3,329</u>		<u>3,434</u>	
		13,965		13,979
Concerts				
Conductors' fees	3,000		2,865	
Soloists' fees	5,950		6,750	
Orchestra's fees	12,717		15,155	
Hire of instruments and orchestral scores	1,069		2,945	
Venues	6,525		6,034	
Staging and Lighting	3,894		4,777	
Handbills, Posters and Banner	1,125		1,122	
Performing Rights fees	176		396	
Box Office commission	2,437		3,734	
Supplying copies of music to singers	5,880		3,121	
Concert programmes	601		868	
Charitable donation from concert	1,597		2,257	
Miscellaneous concert expenses	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
		44,971		50,024
Other Expenditure				
Trading				
General Publicity	326		0	
Social events	0		0	
Purchase or repair of fixed assets	<u>408</u>		<u>528</u>	
		734		528
Administration and Management				
Conductors /officers expenses and meetings	304		754	
Making Music Subscription and insurance	811		885	
Bank charges	48		62	
Miscellaneous Expenses	<u>953</u>		<u>628</u>	
		2,116		2,329
Awayday Expenditure	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
Total Expenditure		<u>61,786</u>		<u>66,860</u>

BURY ST EDMUNDS BACH SOCIETY

(Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation No 1181842)

Accounts for the year ended **31 July 2024**

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Net receipts for the period	1,323		4,593	
Cash and Bank balances at 1 st August 2022	<u>31,809</u>		<u>36,211</u>	
Cash and Bank balances at 31st July 2023	<u>33,132</u>		<u>40,804</u>	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st July 2023

Monetary Assets

Cash and Bank Balances

	£	£	£	£
Current Account – Barclays Bank	403		4,749	
Business Premium Account – Barclays	12,945		3,892	
Current Account – HSBC	0		0	
Cash in Hand	54		168	
COIF Account Choir Fund	<u>23,000</u>		<u>23,000</u>	

Total Monetary Assets	36,402	31,809
------------------------------	--------	--------

Debtors	<u>120</u>	<u>0</u>
----------------	------------	----------

Liabilities

Creditors

PRS	0	0
Soloist fee	<u>500</u>	<u>0</u>
	500	0

Total Monetary Assets, less liabilities	<u><u>36,022</u></u>	<u><u>31,809</u></u>
--	----------------------	----------------------

Non-Monetary Assets

Tangible Fixed Assets

At cost	<u>£</u> <u>15,749</u>	<u>£</u> <u>15,705</u>
----------------	---------------------------	---------------------------