



METROPOLITAN POLICE CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2023

1.0 Contents

1.0	Contents.....	2
2.0	Trustees Report.....	3
3.0	Legal & Administrative Information.....	3
4.0	Structure & Governance.....	3
5.0	Objectives & Activities.....	4
5.1	Purposes.....	4
5.2	Activities & Public Benefit.....	4
6.0	Financial Review.....	5
6.1	Financial Position.....	5
6.2	Reserves Policy.....	5
6.3	Sources of Funding.....	5
6.4	Investments Policy.....	5
7.0	Declaration.....	5
8.0	Independent Examiners Report.....	6
9.0	Balance Sheet.....	8
10.0	Statement of Financial Activities.....	9

2.0 Trustees Report

The Trustees of the Metropolitan Police Choir present its annual report and financial statements for the year end 30th April 2023.

3.0 Legal & Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Metropolitan Police Choir
Charity Number:	1188701
Principal Address:	New Scotland Yard Victoria Embankment London SW1A 2JL
Trustees:	Chief Superintendent Simon Messinger James Bister Tom Cresswell Richard Fox Mark Webster Lee DeMontfort David Lane Tess Whitelee Sarah Pearce
Treasurer:	James Bister
Secretary:	Tom Cresswell
Musical Director	Richard Fox
Life Vice President	Leslie Stowe
Independent Examiner	Wayne Phillips
Bankers	Santander Bank

4.0 Structure & Governance

The Metropolitan Police Choir (the charity, also the Met Police Choir or MPC) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which was granted charitable status on 23rd March 2020 by the Charity Commission of England with Charity Number 1188701

The governing document for the charity is the Constitution of the Metropolitan Police Choir dated 6th January 2020.

The charity is governed by elected Trustees. The Trustees are elected by the choirs membership at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees' roles include Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Musical Director and Musical Section Representatives.

The Trustees hold meetings throughout the year. The Trustees are volunteers and do not get remuneration for their role as a Trustee (the Musical Director receives remuneration for their activity within that role but has no vote on financial matters).

The charity has no employees. It uses the services of musical professionals who work on a freelance basis, including:

- Richard Fox, Musical Director
- Helen Payne, Musical Accompanist

5.0 Objectives & Activities

5.1 Purposes

The charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the Constitution are to:

- foster the development of public education in relation to the artistic and scientific attributes pertaining to choral music undertaken by the Metropolitan Police Choir;
- promote, improve, develop and maintain public interest in choral music by the presentation of concerts and other activities involving or relating to choral music;
- advance the musical education of the Metropolitan Police and the British Police Service;
- promote and further the efficiency of the Metropolitan Police through greater community engagement, development and cohesion with the public; and
- further such charitable purpose(s) as the trustees shall, in their absolute discretion, think fit. This includes, but is by no means limited to: (i) the making of grants; (ii) donations; and/or (iii) supporting others in charitable fundraising activities.

5.2 Activities & Public Benefit

As with many performing arts groups and charities through this reporting period, the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic has been slow and has had some effect on the ability of the charity to deliver some of its planned activities. This has been coupled with other factors beyond the control of the charity which have culminated in significantly high inflation and impacts on the cost of living. This has had an impact on the willingness and ability of other groups to ask for and pay for our services and the public more widely to be able to support us.

During this reporting period, the MPC Summer and Christmas Concerts were able to take place. The Summer Concert took place on Saturday 18th June 2022 at St James Church, Paddington with over 200 supporters, families and friends joining us to hear musical pieces such as The Sound of Silence, Sogno de Valare, Underneath the Stars and Worth is the Lamb and Amen Chorus.

The Christmas Concerts was held on Saturday 17th December 2022 at Holy Sepulchre Church, High Holborn and was unfortunately affected by National Rail strike action, meaning many friends and family were unable to attend. Given the cancellations which were enforced as a result of COVID-19, we decided not to cancel these concerts so that those who could attend would have the opportunity to hear and sing traditional carols and other wintertime pieces.

The Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit when making decisions throughout this period, ensuring that activities were delivered in line with the charities aims and objectives.

Throughout this period, the charity has delivered:

- The choir continued to support the MPS Long Service Ceremonies throughout the year; an opportunity to celebrate with those receiving their Long Service and Good Conduct medals and Long Service certificates.
- The choir was invited back to be part of the Requiem Mass for Deceased Police Officers, held annually at Westminster Cathedral and in its 99th year. This event is something that choir looks forward to each year to support bereaved friends and family of deceased police officers in remembering their loved ones.
- As a result of our ongoing partnership with Holy Sepulchre Church, we held a fundraising concert for the Church in May 2022, raising a large amount of money to help the church in raising funds to replace its organ.
- The choir also supported friends and families for those linked to the MPS who had died or been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic at a service of Remembrance and Reflection, held at Westminster Abbey in July 2022.
- Following on from a previous concert, where Essex Police Choir travelled to and performed in London with the choir, the decision was taken to reunite again but this time in Essex, at Chelmsford Cathedral, a magnificent setting for a joint concert in September 2022.
- Due to train strikes, some of our usual Christmas engagements were cancelled in 2022, but the Choir were able to join Westminster, Lambeth and Southwark for their carol services.
- The choir were also able to celebrate with colleagues from around country by singing at the National PCSO Awards Ceremony held in London in January 2023.

6.0 Financial Review

6.1 Financial Position

The balance sheet of the Metropolitan Police Choir at 30th April 2023 shows total net assets of £23,419.83. The Trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future. It is noted that the current net assets are higher than anticipated with the Trustees making a conscious decision to generate additional funds in order to fund projects going forward.

The statement of financial activities shows that in this financial period, the charity had a total income of £29,507.53 and a total expenditure of £25,017.10 hence a total net surplus of £4,490.43.

6.2 Reserves Policy

The charity has a Reserves Policy in place which was agreed in January 2022. The current assets held by the charity are considered capable of withstanding any short or medium term fluctuations in income and expenditure. This is combined with the ability of the Trustees to make decisions in relation to the type and level of activity undertaken by the Charity to moderate income and expenditure.

6.3 Sources of Funding

This year the sources of funding were MPAA Grant, membership subscriptions, Gift Aid, sponsorship, performance charges, MPC concert charges and other ancillary income.

6.4 Investments Policy

Under the Constitution, the Trustees of the Charity have the power to make investments however it sees fit in line with the furtherance of its objectives. The Trustees have not considered investments this year.

7.0 Declaration

The Trustees of the Metropolitan Police Choir declare that they have approved the Trustees report above on 11 Jun 24 and they have mandated the Treasurer to sign on their behalf:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Bister', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Bister, Treasurer

8.0 Independent Examiners Report

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		Independent examiner's report on the accounts	
Section A Independent Examiner's Report			
Report to the trustees	Charity Name: Metropolitan Police Choir		
On accounts for the year ended	30 th April 2023	Charity no (if any)	1188701
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		
Responsibilities and basis of report	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30 / 04 / 2023. 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: • the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or • the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or • the accounts did 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. * Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.		
Signed:	W Phillips	Date:	3/6/24
Name:	Wayne Phillips		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	CPA Australia		
Address:	55 Vicarage Road, London, SW14 8RY		
IER	1	Oct 2018	

9.0 Balance Sheet

Metropolitan Police Choir
Charity Commission Registration Number 188701
Balance Sheet
May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023

Current Assets

Cash At Bank And In Hand	23,419.83
	23,419.83

Net Assets

Funds & Reserves

Accumulated Funds (01/05/22 – 30/04/23)	4,490.43
---	----------

Balance Brought Forward	18,929.40
Balance Carried Forward	23,419.40

10.0 Statement of Financial Activities

Metropolitan Police Choir
Statement of Financial Activities (Receipts & Payments)
May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023 (compared to May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Total	Difference	% Change
<i>Receipts</i>							
Income and Endowments							
Income from Charitable Activities							
Performance Activities	6,100.00			6,100.00	4,750.00	1,350.00	28%
Income from Donations and Legacies							
Gift Aid Claimed	1,077.93			1,077.93	534.83	543.10	102%
Membership Subscriptions	4,560.00			4,560.00	4,100.00	460.00	11%
Income from Grants & Sponsorship							
MPAA Grant	6,954.43			6,954.43	1,352.96	5,601.47	414%
Sponsorship	4,000.00			4,000.00		4,000.00	
MPC Concerts							
MPC Christmas Concert	3,821.35			3,821.35		3,821.35	
MPC Summer Concert	2,993.82			2,993.82		2,993.82	
Total Receipts	29,507.53	0.00	0.00	29,507.53	10,737.79	18,769.74	175%
<i>Payments</i>							
Expenditure							
Charitable Activities							
Charity Management & Administration							
Accounting Charges	186.48			186.48	31.08	155.40	500%
Bank Charges	90.00			90.00	90.00		
Comms & Marketing					399.60	-399.60	-100%
Gifts	71.44			71.44		71.44	
Hospitality	26.97			26.97		26.97	
Making Music Membership	140.00			140.00	275.00	-135.00	-49%
Public Liability Insurance	99.00			99.00	137.00	-38.00	-28%

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Total	Difference	% Change
Website	307.20			307.20	307.20		
Equipment	174.02			174.02	199.37	-25.35	-13%
MPC Concerts							
MPC Christmas Concert	2,125.24			2,125.24		2,125.24	
MPC Summer Concert	1,748.95			1,748.95		1,748.95	
Performance							
Accompanist - Performance Charge	3,168.00			3,168.00	1,371.00	1,797.00	131%
Accompanist - Travel Expenses	162.70			162.70	74.30	88.40	119%
Musical Director - Performance Charge	1,396.00			1,396.00	1,200.00	196.00	16%
Projects							
Project - You Will Be Found					308.00	-308.00	-100%
Rehearsals							
Accompanist - Rehearsal Charge	5,298.25			5,298.25	3,113.50	2,184.75	70%
Musical Director - Rehearsal Charge	6,891.00			6,891.00	4,525.00	2,366.00	52%
Venue Hire					2,300.00	-2,300.00	-100%
Sheet Music	2,591.85			2,591.85	1,448.76	1,143.09	79%
Donations & Grants	540.00			540.00		540.00	
Total Payments	25,017.10	0.00	0.00	25,017.10	15,779.81	9,237.29	59%
 All Receipts	 29,507.53	 0.00	 0.00	 29,507.53	 10,737.79	 18,769.74	 175%
All Payments	25,017.10	0.00	0.00	25,017.10	15,779.81	9,237.29	59%
Net Movement in Funds	4,490.43	0.00	0.00	4,490.43	-5,042.02	9,532.45	
Total Funds Brought Forward	18,929.40	0.00	0.00	18,929.40	23,971.42	-5,042.02	-21%
Total Funds Carried Forward	23,419.83	0.00	0.00	23,419.83	18,929.40	4,490.43	24%