

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the trustees for the financial year ended 31st December 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements and confirm that these comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the CIO constitution and the Charities SoRP (FRS 102). Cornerstone Music is a Public Benefit Entity and not operated for profit.

Its objects are

- (1) To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the charity trustees see fit, including through presentation of public concerts and recitals;
- (2) To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit but in particular through the making of grants and donations.

The activities and accomplishments of Cornerstone Music are described in the report of the Music Director which follows.

The Trustees are Dr. David Chapman (chair), Joy Chapman, Dr. Cathy Hammond, Revd. Dr Margaret Goodall and Adrian Yardley. The address of the charity is 11 Burewelle, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, MK8 8LS. The Independent Examiner is C G Linford MCICM.

Report of the Chair of trustees

Joy and I were appointed trustees of Cornerstone Music at the meeting of 21st March 2023, and I was honoured to be given the role of chair. I take over from Iain Porteus, who has chaired Cornerstone Music with exceptional skill and dedication since its formation eight years ago. I can't thank Iain enough for all that he has done for Cornerstone Music, and were it not for the talents, dedication and goodwill of the other trustees it would be a daunting responsibility to take his place.

The Trustees are honoured to play their part in sustaining the transformative heritage of music in the Milton Keynes area and acknowledge the enormous help and support which makes it possible, including that of Adrian Boynton, the indefatigable administrative and organisational support of Jill Boynton, Adrian Yardley, the choir, clergy, council and members of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, and helpers too numerous to name but the contribution of each and every one of whom is valued as a vital resource without which this enterprise would not be possible. Chris Linford has generously donated his expertise as Independent Examiner. We acknowledge the great generosity of donors, sponsors and supporters, members of the Chamber Choir and Orchestra, and the benefit of concessionary rates for use of premises kindly agreed by Cornerstone Trading.

Chair, Cornerstone Music
18th May 2023

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Report of the Music Director

Following the success of our performance of Haydn's Creation in November 2021, we were delighted to return to 'home soil' for Bach's monumental St Matthew Passion in April 2022. The octagonal shape of the Cornerstone Worship Area is ideal for this double choir/ double orchestra work, enabling choral and orchestral forces to be positioned antiphonally on either side of the raised dais, with shared obbligato wind in the middle. We were able to use our recently acquired new staging, along with the regular choir staging, to maximum advantage.

We had a wonderful line up of soloists, including soprano Alexandra Kidgell, Scottish mezzo Judy Louie Brown, baritone Andrew Tipple as Jesus, and bass Tim Nelson as Pilate. Tenor Ben Thapa was a dramatic and very persuasive Evangelist. There were superb instrumental solos from flautist Federico Paxio, oboe d'amore Sarah Mourant and violinists Jeremy Sampson and Emily Groom. The continuo team of Julian Metzger (cello) and Ian Clarke (organ) was quite outstanding. The choirs were on thrilling form, particularly in the dramatic 'crowd' choruses, and the epic opening and closing movements.

Special thanks to Iain Porteus, who kindly arranged transport of chamber organ from my garage to Cornerstone, and safe return after the concert. Many thanks to all the musicians and helpers who contributed to an inspiring and memorable experience to begin Holy Week.

The Chamber Choir enjoyed a pause over the Summer months. In the Autumn, we received a special commission from Tim Norwood and Ann Wilson to prepare a performance to mark the launch of 'Churches Together in Milton Keynes'. I chose two very contrasting works - Bach's brilliant setting of Magnificat, by way of celebration, and Michael Tippett's dramatic and moving 'A Child of our Time', reflecting hope for reconciliation and healing in a broken world.

We were grateful to St Mary's Shenley and Freeman Memorial Church Bletchley who offered space in the early stages of rehearsal. Rehearsals moved to Cornerstone in December, and continued during the busy Advent and Christmas season.

Several chamber concerts were held during the year. In May there was a superb recital by prizewinning violinist Cristian Granger DeSa (former BBC Young Musician finalist, and long- standing friend of Cornerstone), in partnership with international pianist Susana Gomez Vazquez. Their compelling programme of French masterworks included Debussy's Sonata in G minor, Ravel's Rhapsodie 'Tzigane', and Franck's Sonata in A, one of the outstanding works of the Romantic repertoire.

A recital by top Russian pianist Alexander Ardakov scheduled for July had to be postponed for the rather unusual reason that temperatures reached dangerously high levels (around 40°C). It was rescheduled to a much cooler day in the Autumn when we were treated to a veritable feast of Schubert, Chopin and Rachmaninov, plus the magisterial arrangement by Busoni on Bach's great

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Chaconne for solo violin. There were generous encores of Grieg Lyric Pieces to conclude.

Another fine recital was given by outstanding trumpeter John Macdomnic. I was at the piano and organ. It featured one of the earliest known trumpet concertos, by Guiseppe Torelli, the rarely heard Concerto in E flat by G P Neruda and the challenging Fantasia Brillante by J B Arban. I contributed keyboard works by Scarlatti and Yon.

Our Annual Christmas Cracker Concert by New English Singers and guests on 17 December was warmly appreciated. The choir's repertoire ranged from the 15th century to a piece by Bob Chilcott composed in 2021. Talented young local cellist Matias Yung played the beautiful slow movement of Rachmaninov's Sonata, and our good friend and pianist John Fisher contributed Scriabin's Nocturne for the Left Hand and Kapustin's demanding 'Concert Etude'. A lovely lunchtime event.

Earlier in the year, our Children's Choir gave a delightful concert in Freeman Memorial Church Bletchley, with Michael Hurd's 'Jonah Man Jazz' as the centrepiece. Members of the choir Lakshith and Neha Dasari made a lovely contribution as piano duettists. 10 year old pianist Yiding Wang was really impressive in his debut as soloist, and there were brilliant performances from 14 year old cellist Matias Yung and recent graduate trumpeter Louie Grao.

Our Exploring Music illustrated talks continued throughout the year, with sessions devoted to Beethoven, American 20th Century music, the Concerto, and a series of five talks celebrating the Vaughan Williams 150th Anniversary. There were also two special talks - 'Music with Royal Connections' to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and 'Music for Reflection', following her death.

During the Autumn, meetings took place to develop the relationship between Cornerstone Trading and Cornerstone Music. I am particularly grateful to David Chapman for his support and to Peter Steeds and Bob Collard for positive and helpful discussions.

I would like to thank the Trustees of Cornerstone Music - Iain Porteus, Cathy Hampton, Margaret Goodall and Adrian Yardley - for their great encouragement and support, and Simon and Woody for their practical assistance. Above all, thanks to my wife Jill for her tireless and devoted work as volunteer Music Administrator.

Adrian Boynton



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST DECEMBER 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1188707

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022

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 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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

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:

Date:

14 APRIL 2023

Name:

C.G. LINFORD

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

MCICM

(if any):

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Address:

13 HERDMAN COPE
GREENLEYS
MILTON KEYNES MK12 6AD

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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Cornerstone Music CIO

Statement of Financial Activity

		Year to 31 st December 2022 £	Year to 31 st December 2021 £
	Note		
<u>INCOME</u>			
<u>Donations</u>			
Friends of Music		2,260	1,845
Choir donations		1,555	880
Other donations		660	-
Gift Aid		797	615
	α		
	5	5,272	3,340
Ticket sales		3,452	1,835
Investment income		39	-
		8,763	5,175
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Performers	6	3,735	4,200
Venue hire	7	1,950	238
Scores	8	583	107
Website	9	1,187	
		7,456	4,545
Net income		1,307	630
Loss on investments		1,158	
Funds brought forward		2,748	2,111
Funds carried forward	£	<u>2,890</u>	<u>2,741</u>

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Balance Sheet

	Note	As at 31st December 2022 £	As at 31st December 2021 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Investments	10	11,842	-
<u>Current assets</u>			
Debtors		1,148	2,560
Cash at bank		4,672	15,181
		<u>5,820</u>	<u>17,741</u>
Creditors	11	14,772	15,000
Net current assets /< liabilities>		<u>- 8952</u>	<u>2,741</u>
Net assets		<u>2,890</u>	<u>2,741</u>
Net funds		<u>2,890</u>	<u>2,741</u>

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Notes

1. Cornerstone Music CIO is registered with the Charity Commission, is a Public Benefit Entity and does not seek profit. Trustees and the independent examiner receive no remuneration or expenses.
2. These financial statements comply with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SoRP) second edition October 2019, and report income and expenditure deriving from a programme of musical events put on during the financial year ended 31st December 2022.
3. Accounting bases: These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis: that the CIO will continue with generous support, skilled knowledge and experience of the Music Director Adrian Boynton and administrator Jill Boynton for the foreseeable future.

These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis: that unsettled (unpaid) costs appear as debtors or creditors at financial year end, which include the use of estimates where necessary.

4. The principal economic risks to CIO are: contagion that would depress ticket sales or prevent performers from attending; and rise in venue charges. The trustees are prepared to mitigate the consequences of risk.
5. Donations received are treated as income in full upon receipt. Gift Aid is 25% recovered from donations via HMRC.
6. The Music Director calls on his extensive range of contacts to enlist excellent performers. Performer fees are paid to professional solo singers and expenses to the orchestra. Cornerstone Chamber Choir sing gratis.
7. Venue fees are levied by the City Church, except for events held elsewhere such as at the parish church at Newport Pagnell in November 2021.
8. Score expenditure includes hire of music scores, tuning the piano & organ prior to performance, PRS charges for use of copyrighted material and printing of concert tickets.
9. Website expenditure includes costs of refreshments.
10. £13,000 was transferred to three COIF charities funds managed by CCLA in July 2022 when prices were low but markets weakened further before year end. . Historically these funds have grown around 10% annually. Unit prices have begun to recover slightly since year end.
11. Creditors include venue, and unpaid allowance for Adrian & Jill Boynton.