

Haslemere Musical Society
Trustees' Annual Report

Charity name Haslemere Musical Society

Registered charity number 262696

For the financial year beginning 1 September 2022

For the financial year ending 31 August 2023

Charity's principal address c/o Mrs Sue Ecclestone Hon Secretary
The Warren
Tilford Road
Hindhead
GU26 6RA

Names of the charity trustees:

Name	Office (if any) and dates acted (if not for the full year).
Marion Bagshaw	Chairman
Patrick Callan	Vice-Chairman
Susan Ecclestone	Secretary
Lucy Hatcher	Orchestra Secretary
Simon King	Treasurer (From May 2023)
Sarah Rogers	Orchestra Librarian
Johanna Sainsbury	Orchestra Librarian
Elizabeth Kerr	Choir Librarian
Evie Page	
Sally Falk	
Charlotte Fentem	
Judith Ingham	

Governing document

Rules adopted 18 June 1971 as amended 17 October 1983, 8 October 2001, and 17 October 2016.

Appointment of trustees

Trustees are elected by and out of the membership at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. They receive no remuneration or other benefits from the charity.

Objects of the charity

To educate the public in the art and science of music, to enable members to make music together at regular rehearsals of choral and orchestral works under the direction of skilled musicians appointed for the purpose, to perform such works at public concerts and offer concertgoers good value for money, and from time to time to commission new works for performance by the Society.

Activities and achievements during the year

In planning our activities we have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

For the HMS season 2022 to 2023 the professionals were James Ross (Director of Music), Tom Horn (Orchestra Leader) and Clive Osgood (Choir Master and Accompanist).

The Choir had suffered a great loss in membership, mainly due to Covid and had a further set-back with the unexpected resignation of its Choir Master Ondřej Soukup in June 2022. Fortunately Clive Osgood agreed to work with the choir without a separate Chorus Master.

At the start of its season 2022- 2023 the Society began plans to celebrate its Centenary (it was founded in 2023) and for the first concert of the season the orchestra performed a concert in St Christopher's Church, Weyhill. The orchestra's principal clarinetist Helen Owlett played superbly in the Mozart Clarinet Concerto in A. Also in the programme was Cimarosa's overture to 'The Secret Marriage', Duparc's orchestral poem 'Aux Étoiles' and Saint Saen's Second Symphony.

The audience was not large and there was some difficulty in speeding up the sale of tickets (it was the first time a card reader had been used!) but the performance was enthusiastically received.

The second concert of the season 2022-2023 was the first Saturday in December. The first half was orchestral only and was Ralph Vaughan Williams' overture to 'The Wasps' with the strings imitating the sound of wasps buzzing around the landscape. Then there was Sibelius 'Pelléas et Mélisande' suite with Luke Owlett excelling in the cor anglais solo.

The second half was Christmas themed including Antonio Vivaldi's 'Gloria', with the choir and soloists Clare Loosely, Kerrie Stevenson and Helen Bendall. Despite the choir being much smaller than before the ravages of Covid it managed to produce a good sound thanks to the training by Clive Osgood from the piano. In the programme there was a second work by Ralph Vaughan Williams – his Fantasia on Christmas Carols including the folk tune, 'The Truth Sent from Above' sung by Thomas Lydon and 'Come All you Worthy Gentlemen' and 'On Christmas Night'. Finally there was Adolphe Adam's 'Cantique de Noël', an ideal way to end a Christmas concert.

The year 2023 began in St Christopher's Church with a rousing 'Come & Sing' featuring extracts from Mozart's 'Coronation Mass'. Richard Thomas came to train the invited choir first with Clive Osgood accompanying and then with an HMS Chamber Orchestra. It proved to be an excellent way to start the HMS Centenary year.

The March concert was well received with local singers Janice Watson and Philip O'Brien performing extracts from Bizet's 'Carmen' accompanied by the choir and orchestra. In the first half the orchestra performed Granados' Intermezzo from 'Goyescas' and De Falla's rousing Ritual Fire Dance from 'El Amor Brujo'.

The final concert of the HMS 2022-2023 Season was in May during the Haslemere Festival. The programme was varied and popular and included Anna Hunt playing the Cello in Schumann's Cello Concerto most beautifully and scenes from 'The Mikado' with the excellent Baritone soloist Jordan Bell and the choir enjoying coming to terms with a different type of singing. Also in the programme was Mendelssohn's incidental music to 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and the delightful choral work by Clive Osgood described as 'Songs from Three Counties'.

Despite the set-backs caused by Covid the Society ended the season 2022 – 2023 pleased with what had been achieved and looking forward to celebrating the centenary in the December concert of the season 2023 – 2024

Financial review

It is good to see that the funds have remained fairly even compared to the previous year and that the efforts taken in 2022/23 were successful to bring us close to breakeven.

Income has increased compared to last year – but has not returned to pre-covid levels. Expenditure was similar to 2021/22 following continued efforts to minimise costs where possible.

It is critical to the Society that we continue to balance income and expenditure. This will need to be through fundamentally changing any of the following:

- Increasing membership numbers
- Increasing fundraising activity
- increasing ticket sales
- and decreasing costs

We do continue to have a financial buffer – but it is still at the lower limit to protect Society from a further Covid year, flu pandemic or other significant financial shock.

Reserves policy

The Society's reserves policy is that we should maintain reserves at 125 - 150% of the prior year's expenditure on regular professionals and venues.

At 31st August 2023, the total reserve is £26,625 is in this region and the Society has done well to keep it at this level, given continued reduced membership and reduction in sponsorship and gifts. The Trustees maintain close scrutiny on the ongoing operating costs, and will make changes as needed.

The Society completed its 100th season in 2023 and the Trustees remain dedicated to protect the Society to ensure its survival.

-end of report-

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	2022/2023	2021/2022	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Income from donations and fundraising activities					
Patrons' and Friends' subscriptions	1,110	1,655	1,525	1,632	1,915
Donations and grants	3,199	5,477	50	4,255	7,782
Other fundraising activities	1,996	573	109	1,331	1,974
Gift aid on donations & fundraising activities	271	279	311	253	325
Income from charitable activities					
Members' subscriptions	12,792	9,044	7,315	11,277	11,906
Gift aid on members' subscriptions	1,953	1,524	1,492	1,747	2,021
Concert income	7,617	6,346	0	6,519	9,407
Gain on sale of fixed assets	-	0	0	0	1,178
Other charitable activities	189	690	0	181	680
Investment income	0				
Dividends on investments	145	166	163	612	731
Interest income	306	25	3	47	45
	29,578	25,778	10,968	27,855	37,964
Resources Expended					
Expenditure on fundraising activities					
Costs of fundraising activities	524	584	0	1,024	862
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Costs of rehearsals	14,119	16,485	11,840	16,210	14,113
Costs of concerts	13,195	11,187	0	17,031	18,088
Costs of other charitable activities	809	54	0	0	1,339
Administrative & running costs	977	677	1,266	1,519	3,325
	29,624	28,987	13,106	35,784	37,727
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES	-47	-3,209	-2,138	-7,930	237
Realised loss on sale of investments				0	-83
Unrealised gain on investments	8	-403	1,060	1,037	1,504
NET MOVEMENT IN FUND	-38	-3,611	-1,078	-6,892	1,658
Fund balance brought forward	26,664	30,275	31,353	38,245	36,587
TOTAL FUND CARRIED FORWARD	26,625	26,664	30,275	31,353	38,245

BALANCE SHEET at 31st August 2023

	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS					
Prepayments	0	0	0	0	736
Investments	6,086	6,077	6,480	5,420	19,747
Cash at bank	16,774	12,578	17,265	18,524	10,454
Cash in hand	0	0	0	208	0
COIF Deposit Fund	5,450	5,450	5,450	5,450	7,450
Accrued Income	2,685	3,303	1,500	2,000	0
	<u>30,995</u>	<u>27,409</u>	<u>30,695</u>	<u>31,603</u>	<u>38,387</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors	0	0	0	250	34
Deferred Income	4,310	380	420	0	0
Accruals	60	365	0	0	108
	<u>4,370</u>	<u>745</u>	<u>420</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>142</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>26,625</u>	<u>26,664</u>	<u>30,275</u>	<u>31,353</u>	<u>38,245</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>26,625</u>	<u>26,664</u>	<u>30,275</u>	<u>31,353</u>	<u>38,245</u>
REPRESENTED BY:					
Fund carried forward	<u>26,625</u>	<u>26,664</u>	<u>30,275</u>	<u>31,353</u>	<u>38,245</u>

HASLEMERE MUSICAL SOCIETY

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 - CONCERTS

Concert	Oct-22	Dec-22	Mar-23	May-23	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Box Office					
Tickets	794	1,723	2,611	2,356	7,483
Commission	(-83)	(-178)	(-313)	(-236)	(-810)
	<u>711</u>	<u>1,545</u>	<u>2,297</u>	<u>2,120</u>	<u>6,673</u>
Programmes					
Sales	136	0	0	0	136
Adverts	0	0	0	0	0
Printing	(-207)	(-93)	(-115)	(-112)	(-527)
	<u>(-71)</u>	<u>(-93)</u>	<u>(-115)</u>	<u>(-112)</u>	<u>(-391)</u>
Professional Fees					
Regular Professionals	(-761)	(-920)	(-920)	(-920)	(-3,521)
Soloists	0	0	(-1,000)	(-150)	(-1,150)
Professional aid	(-442)	(-660)	(-1,060)	(-672)	(-2,834)
Gifts	(-39)	0	0	(-47)	(-86)
	<u>(-1,242)</u>	<u>(-1,580)</u>	<u>(-2,980)</u>	<u>(-1,789)</u>	<u>(-7,591)</u>
Other Costs					
Hire of Hall	(-145)	(-814)	(-690)	(-690)	(-2,340)
Hire/purchase of music	(-203)	(-77)	(-432)	(-247)	(-959)
Performing rights/royalties	0	(-78)	(-126)	(-136)	(-339)
Orchestra tea	0	0	0	0	0
Printing posters and mailshot	(-69)	(-158)	(-50)	(-69)	(-346)
Other	(-105)	0	0	0	
	<u>(-522)</u>	<u>(-1,127)</u>	<u>(-1,298)</u>	<u>(-1,142)</u>	<u>(-3,985)</u>
Hospitality					
Sales and contributions	243	0	0	0	243
Costs	(-71)	(-27)	(-75)	(-81)	(-254)
	<u>172</u>	<u>(-27)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(-81)</u>	<u>(-11)</u>
Net Gain (Loss) on Concerts	<u>(-952)</u>	<u>(-1,281)</u>	<u>(-2,096)</u>	<u>(-1,004)</u>	<u>(-5,304)</u>

Simon King
Treasurer
Haslemere Musical Society
RE: Annual Accounts 2022-2023

Date: 14th May 2024
Copperfields
Weydown Road
Haslemere
GU27 1DT

Dear Simon,

I have examined the above accounts as presented to me on 4th May 2024, and find them to be an accurate representation of the financial position of the Haslemere Musical Society for the accounting period 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

Best wishes,

Geoff Martin

Geoff Martin
Retired Accountant