

WIMBLEDON CHORAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30th JUNE 2021

Reg. Charity No.: 263150



PRESIDENT
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ian Partridge CBE
Neil Ferris BMus (Hons) ARCM MMus

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Registered Charity Number 263150

www.wimbledon-choral.org.uk

Objects

The Objects of the Society are to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of choral music by the presentation of public concerts and other activities involving or relating to choral music.

Governance & Administration

Wimbledon Choral Society is a charity, registered with the Charity Commissioners (No. 263150) and operates under the same name within the rules of a revised Constitution adopted on 24 September 2001 and approved by the Charity Commissioners. The principal address of the charity is 13 Augustus Court, Augustus Road, SW19 6NA.

The charity is administered by a Committee as defined by the Constitution comprising of an Executive Group of Trustees, who are registered with the Charity Commission, plus other Society members making up the full Committee. All the Committee roles are occupied by Society members only and all members are eligible for any of the roles. No member of the Committee, Trustee or otherwise, is paid for his or her role. For the season ended 30 June 2020 the members in these roles were:

Society Members

Chairman	+	Sarah Hendry
Vice-Chairman	+	Isla Smith
General Secretary	+	Tracy Sherman
Treasurer	+	John Gale
Publicity Officer	+	Anna Lemmon
Concert Co-ordinator	+	Helen Edwards
 Sponsorship Officer	 #	 unfilled
 Membership Secretary		 Laura Stewart
Librarian		Vicky Isaacs
Voice Representatives	*	Gwen Clayton, Sharon Smith
	*	Angela Wake, Sarah Harris
	*	Andrew Oliver
	*	Jeremy Collis, Peter Hickson

Ex Officio Appointment

Music Director	Neil Ferris
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- + Trustees of the Society and Members of the Executive Group.
- # These posts are appointed or co-opted by the Committee as permitted by the Constitution and are, therefore, not elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- * Voice Representatives are elected for a two-year period, one of each voice part retiring each year.

Employees

The Society has no employees. During the 2020/2021 season, two professional musicians, the Music Director and Rehearsal Accompanist, were hired on a renewable contract or ad hoc basis. An Assistant Music Director, who is also a choir member, was hired on an ad hoc basis, to take rehearsals when the Music Director is unavailable.

Advisers

Bankers
Independent Examiner

Santander, Barclays & NS&I
Annette Cowley, BA FCA

Public Benefit

Mindful of the guidance on public benefit by the Charity Commission in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011, our aim is always to perform a varied repertoire in a range of venues and provide the widest possible access to our events in terms of ticket prices charged. We work hard to keep up the profile of the Society in our community, despite the limited number of venues suitable for large scale performances locally.

Despite the uncertainty over when Covid-19 restrictions would be relaxed we planned a full and varied programme for the season and kept it under constant review throughout the season, always in the hope that we would be able to put on a concert at some stage. This proved impossible however. We also had to postpone again the recording of the major new choral requiem commissioned by us from Cecilia McDowall.

Apart from a brief period in the autumn when choirs were allowed to rehearse live under social distancing precautions, we maintained weekly online sessions for choir members throughout the season, recognising the importance to many of our members of maintaining social contact as well as providing stimulating and informative content relevant to choral music. We are extremely grateful to our Musical Director Neil Ferris and to Michael Higgins for their energy, inventiveness and enthusiasm in keeping up the momentum and everyone's spirits over such a long difficult period.

- The Society values diversity and membership is open to all; but as with many similar organisations, subject to applicants undergoing a voice test to ensure their vocal ability meets the standard required. The standard is agreed between the Society's Committee and the Music Director.
- Reduced membership subscriptions are available for full-time students, those under the age of 26 and those who are registered as unemployed.

Events for the year ended 30 June 2021

Although we could in the end not perform live, we produced a virtual Christmas concert, the highlight of which was a brand new Christmas Carol Fantasy specially commissioned by WCS from Michael Higgins for performance at Christmas 2020. We also partnered Sonoro Choir in their project to rehearse online and record Fauré's Requiem, which was released online on Good Friday, to raise funds for Cancer Research UK.

Responsibilities of the Trustees in relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable it to ensure that financial statements comply with the applicable law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Financial Matters

With the exception of the professional musicians in the capacity of Music Director, Assistant Music Director and Rehearsal Accompanist, the Society is dependent on the services of its membership and others as unpaid volunteers. Full details of the financial statement of accounts for this past financial year are filed with the Charity Commission with this Annual Report.

The Society's income from both charitable and social and fundraising activities was inevitably lower than in recent years as a result of our not being able to meet as normal and the fact that no concerts were possible in the year. Our main source of income, members' subscriptions, remained healthy and expenditure was much reduced, resulting in a surplus for the year.

We did not award a young singer bursary during the season.

Society Representatives

Gift Aid Officer: John Gale

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider it prudent that the Society should maintain reserves sufficient to cover the cost of at least two concerts and preferably the costs for a whole season.

Risk Management

The Trustees perform regular reviews of its operations and strategic objectives to ensure adherence to its principal charitable objects and financial controls. They are satisfied that there are sufficient systems and procedures in place to identify and address in a timely manner those risks that the Society may face from time to time. A constant potential risk throughout any season is that of having to cancel one or more concerts at short notice. Implementation of the Reserves Policy above together with subscription to Making Music's insurance scheme is agreed by the Trustees as being of an adequate nature to minimise this particular risk.

Financial Controls

The Trustees perform regular reviews of its financial controls to ensure compliance with the Charity Commission's guidance of internal financial controls for charities. Controls include:

- Annual budgets are prepared and approved by the Trustees and full Committee.
- Performance is measured against the budget at regular intervals.
- Financial management information is discussed by the Executive and full Committee at regular meetings.
- As required by law, the Annual Accounts are subject to Independent Examination.
- There are no trading activities other than the direct sales of tickets for events in furtherance of the Society's Objects
- The Society does not make grants to any third party.
- All payments from the Society's bank accounts require two signatures from an approved list of signatories. This includes cheques, BACS payments and transfers between accounts.
- Expenses are reimbursed only in those cases where both (1) an individual has incurred those expenses in the course of carrying out the Society's business and (2) prior agreement has been obtained from either the Society's appointed Treasurer or Chairman or both.



Signed - Sarah Hendry
Chairman for the year ending 30 June 2021
For and on behalf of the Trustees

15 September 2021

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wimbledon Choral Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 30th June 2021 set out on pages 5 and 6.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act")

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(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 which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Signed : Annette Cowley BA FCA
Cowley & Co, Chartered Accountants
210 Worple Road, London SW20 8RH

Dated: 17th September 2021

WIMBLEDON CHORAL SOCIETY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2021

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	2021 Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Actual £
Receipts				
Members subscriptions	19,430		19,430	30,740
Friends subscriptions	980		980	1,465
Donations	2,325		2,325	1,605
Tax recovered (gift aid)	10,016		10,016	8,803
Easyfundraising and similar receipts	394		394	474
Music hire to other choirs	574		574	1,183
Sale of folders (net)	-		-	(48)
Da Vinci recording donations	2,048		2,048	16,636
Da Vinci recording fundraising	-		-	8,258
Refreshment income (net of expenses)	-		-	574
Bank interest	395		395	182
Collections for third parties received	-		-	600
	<u>36,162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,162</u>	<u>70,472</u>
Payments				
Rehearsal hall hire	420		420	4,021
Musicians fees	10,160		10,160	12,935
Virtual choir expenses	3,800		3,800	1,220
Marketing & publicity			-	3,330
Website costs	252		252	435
Insurance	151		151	151
Making Music and other subscriptions	365		365	465
Administration & sundries	90		90	436
New music commissions	4,000		4,000	-
Collections for third parties paid			-	600
	<u>19,238</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,238</u>	<u>23,593</u>
Net ordinary receipts / (payments)	<u>16,924</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,924</u>	<u>46,879</u>
Concert receipts				
Ticket sales	-		-	24,187
Programme sales	-		-	478
Advertising	-		-	500
Music hire and purchase	-		-	5,730
Singfest	-		-	1,050
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,945</u>
Concert payments				
Hire of venues	-		-	7,305
Staging	-		-	2,999
Musicians	-		-	10,613
Instrument tuning & hire	-		-	1,697
Music hire and purchase	-		-	7,086
Program design & printing	-		-	1,580
Advertising expenditure	-		-	3,295
Royalties	180		180	1,254
Singfest costs	-		-	364
Singfest - WCS costs	-		-	775
Sundry concert expenditure	-		-	128
<i>Paid in prior or future year</i>	<i>0</i>		<i>-</i>	<i>(2,794)</i>
	<u>180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>34,302</u>
Net concert receipts / (payments)	<u>(180)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(180)</u>	<u>(2,357)</u>
Net receipts / (payments) for year	<u>16,744</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,744</u>	<u>44,522</u>
Cash funds at 1st July 2020	<u>112,010</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,010</u>	<u>67,488</u>
Cash funds at 30th June 2021	<u>£ 128,754</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 128,754</u>	<u>£ 112,010</u>

WIMBLEDON CHORAL SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 30th JUNE 2021

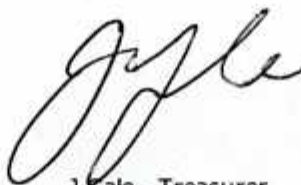
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	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Cash Funds				
Bank current accounts	45,549	-	45,549	49,200
Bank deposit accounts	83,165	-	83,165	62,770
Cash in hand	40	-	40	40
	<u>128,754</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>128,754</u>	<u>112,010</u>
Other Monetary Assets				
Income Tax recoverable	-	-	-	-
Other amounts owed to the society	-	-	-	79
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79</u>
Investment Assets				
M&G Charifund Units	<u>14,933</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,933</u>	<u>11,861</u>
Liabilities				
Amounts owed by the society	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Approved by the Committee on *15* September 2021 and signed on its behalf by



S Hendry - Chairman



J Gale - Treasurer

ADDITIONAL NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (for the benefit of members only)
YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

1 Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis.

Our society is classified as a small charity because gross receipts do not exceed £250,000.

2 Other funds

Assets include the following balances which are specifically allocated:

	At 1-Jul-20	Receipts	Payments	At 30-Jun-21
Recording fund	25,542	7,176	-	32,718
Singfest surplus available for future years	686	-	-	686
Surplus on previous overseas tours	878	-	-	878
Surplus on previous social events	1,296	-	-	1,296