

WIMBLEDON CHORAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30th JUNE 2022

Reg. Charity No.: 263150



PRESIDENT
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ian Partridge CBE
Neil Ferris BMus (Hons) ARCM MMus

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 30 June 2022

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 2022 the members in these roles were:

Society Members

Chair	+	Sarah Hendry
Vice-Chair	+	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, half of them retiring/standing for re-election each year.

Employees

The Society has no employees. During the 2021/2022 season, two professional musicians, the Music Director and Rehearsal Accompanist, were hired on a renewable contract or ad hoc basis.

Advisers

Bankers
Independent Examiner

Santander & 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.

After a break of two years due to Covid-19, we collaborated again with Merton Music Foundation in 2022 to put on the 4th Merton Singfest, our borough's very own choral festival for school and adult choirs, showcasing the richness of choral music making.

The net proceeds of £2,793 from our summer concert were donated to Unicef's Ukraine Children Appeal, along with a further £1,929 donated by the concert-goers, making a total of £4,722 we were able to pass over to the charity.

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 2022

Despite the continuing uncertainty over Covid-19 restrictions, we planned a full and varied programme for the season and held regular live rehearsals. We were delighted in the event to be able to perform three major concerts: Mozart's Mass in C minor with the London Mozart Players, at Cadogan Hall, London; Handel's Messiah, with Florilegium at Fairfield Halls Croydon; and Rachmaninov's All-Night Vigil together with movements from Britten's Cello Suites and two Ukrainian-themed pieces, at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square. All three were extremely well received by our audiences, after such a long break from performing live.

Unfortunately the reintroduction of lockdown restrictions just before Christmas 2021 meant that we had to cancel our Christmas concert for the second year running. On the bright side, however, we were finally able to go ahead with the twice-postponed professional recording of Cecilia McDowall's Da Vinci Requiem, commissioned by the choir and premiered in 2019. The recording is due for release in 2023.

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.

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.

Financial Matters

With the exception of the professional musicians in the capacity of 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.

Having returned to the holding of normal weekly rehearsals in September 2021, the Society's income from both charitable, social and fundraising activities has begun to return to what it was prior to the pandemic, although average attendance is still only about two thirds of what it was prior to the outbreak of Covid. However, our main source of income, members' subscriptions, has remained healthy. Audience numbers, with the exception of our benefit concert in June 2022, were lower than anticipated and our Christmas 2021 concerts were cancelled as a result of a spike in Covid infections. This has resulted in significant losses for the November 2021 and March 2022 concerts without any compensating profit from the Christmas Concerts. The recording of the DaVinci Requiem finally took place in February 2022, having been postponed in both 2020 and 2021. The expenditure in relation to that appears in this year's accounts. The overall financial result for the year is a substantial reduction in our cash balances.

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

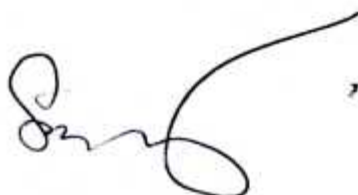
Risk Management

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 Chair or both.



Signed - Sarah Hendry
Chair for the year ending 30 June 2022
For and on behalf of the Trustees

14 September 2022

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 2022 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")

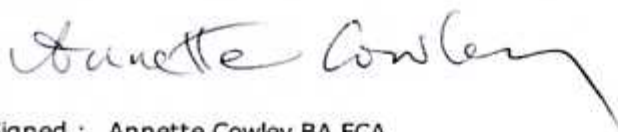
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5)(b) of the Act.

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: 26th September 2022

WIMBLEDON CHORAL SOCIETY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2022

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	2022 Unrestricted Funds £	2022 Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Actual £
Receipts				
Members subscriptions	25,415		25,415	19,430
Friends subscriptions	1,525		1,525	980
Donations	1,480		1,480	1,700
Tax recovered (gift aid)	4,287		4,287	10,016
Easyfundraising and similar receipts	465		465	394
Music hire to other choirs	1,362		1,362	574
Sale of folders (net)	42		42	-
Da Vinci recording donations	40		40	2,048
Christmas Commission donations	100		100	625
Bank interest	8		8	395
Collection for UNICEF Ukraine Appeal	-	1,929	1,929	-
	<u>34,724</u>	<u>1,929</u>	<u>36,653</u>	<u>36,162</u>
Payments				
Rehearsal hall hire	5,055		5,055	420
Musicians fees	13,675		13,675	10,160
Virtual choir expenses	-		-	3,800
DaVinci Recording costs	40,745		40,745	-
Marketing & publicity	275		275	-
Website costs	319		319	252
Insurance	150		150	151
Making Music and other subscriptions	365		365	365
Administration & sundries	247		247	90
Librarian's expenses	277		277	-
New music commissions	-		-	4,000
UNICEF Ukraine Appeal	2,793	1,929	4,722	-
	<u>63,901</u>	<u>1,929</u>	<u>65,830</u>	<u>19,238</u>
Net ordinary (payments) / receipts	<u>(29,177)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(29,177)</u>	<u>16,924</u>
Concert receipts				
Ticket sales	28,586		28,586	-
Programme sales	2,389		2,389	-
Card charges	(1,000)		(1,000)	-
Music hire and purchase	1,261		1,261	-
Singfest income	719		719	-
	<u>31,955</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,955</u>	<u>-</u>
Concert payments				
Hire of venues	18,220		18,220	-
Staging	3,271		3,271	-
Musicians	30,686		30,686	-
Instrument tuning & hire	1,193		1,193	-
Music hire and purchase	1,105		1,105	-
Program design & printing	2,805		2,805	-
Advertising expenditure	3,116		3,116	-
Royalties	674		674	180
Singfest costs	775		775	-
Singfest - WCS costs	79		79	-
	<u>61,924</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,924</u>	<u>180</u>
Net concert (payments) / receipts	<u>(29,969)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(29,969)</u>	<u>(180)</u>
Net (payments) / receipts for year	<u>(59,146)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(59,146)</u>	<u>16,744</u>
Cash funds at 1st July 2021 (2020)	<u>128,754</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>128,754</u>	<u>112,010</u>
Cash funds at 30th June 2022 (2021)	<u>£ 69,608</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 69,608</u>	<u>£ 128,754</u>

WIMBLEDON CHORAL SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 30th JUNE 2022

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		Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Cash Funds					
Bank current accounts		11,395	-	11,395	45,549
Bank deposit accounts		58,173	-	58,173	83,165
Cash in hand		40	-	40	40
		<u>69,608</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,608</u>	<u>128,754</u>
Investment Assets					
M&G Charifund Units	TBA	<u>15,211</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,211</u>	<u>14,933</u>
Total Assets of the Society		<u>£ 84,819</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 84,819</u>	<u>£ 143,687</u>

Approved by the Committee on 14 September 2022 and signed on its behalf by



S Hendry - Chairman



J Gale - Treasurer