

Banstead Musical Society (St Cecilia Chorus)

Charity Number 270480

Trustees' Annual Report for the period July 2023 to June 2024

1. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Society's constitutional objectives remain the same as those agreed back in 1922 when the Society was formed: i.e., 'the study and practice of choral music in order to foster the public knowledge and appreciation of such music by means of public performance'. These are at the heart of everything we plan for and do.

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's Guidance on Public Benefit plus guidance from Making Music, of which we are a member.

This season was a transition to 'back to normal' after three seasons of careful planning which minimised the impact of covid 19. Thanks to the flexibility of our Music Director, James Dixon, we have been able to continue to provide a hybrid rehearsal solution: in-person or via Zoom, thus ensuring maximum opportunity for singing members to learn and practice the repertoire and participate in our concerts. Our pastoral support for our members through a weekly bulletin by email and the sectional coordinators who take registers and actively communicate with those who are absent or unfamiliar with IT as also continued.

We have started to benefit from the loyal support and continued engagement from our singing members and supporters which has led to former members returning and new members joining, which in turn has increased our audience numbers and allowed us to engage in outreach activities with our local community e.g. singing at Hampton Lodge care home and partnering with St Josephs School for a family-friendly Christmas Concert - our first since 2019: Alexander L'Estrange's rousing 'Wassail' accompanied by a brass ensemble.

We were delighted to be able to socialise again and support the choir with some much-needed income. In October Alison Jones and Martin Haynes led our eagerly awaited Quiz Night. Together, this and our 'St Cecilia and Friends Entertains' evening hosted by our choral Scholar, 'Miss Harmony Heaven' featuring a variety of singing, instrumental pieces, poetry and renditions wonderfully performed by current and former members, raised over £2k.

Our commitment and focus on local emerging musical talent through the Judith McEwan Choral Scholarship led to the appointment of two Choral Scholars for the 2023/24 season: the soprano Harim Oh together with tenor Harry/Hope Heaven.

The Society performed four high quality concerts to our local community and organised a 'Come and Sing' workshop entitled 'Waterways' in January, all testament to the enthusiasm and versatility of our members, accompanist, Ian le Grice, and Musical Director, James Dixon.

Our Autumn 2023 concert featured the ever-popular Vivaldi's Gloria plus Bach's *Lobet den Herren* and Pergolesi's *Requiem*, supported by the London Collective Orchestra with our Choral Scholars Harim Oh and Harry Heaven and former Choral Scholar Francesca Pringle as three of the soloists. This was followed in December by 'Wassail'.

For Spring 2024 we were equally challenged and rewarded by performing Dvorak *Mass in D Minor*, Bruckner Motets and Mendelssohn's *Ave Maria*.

For the final concert of the season, and the last before James Dixon takes a year's sabbatical, our concert entitled 'A Musical Menagerie' was one of two halves – starting with the eccentric poetry of Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb* and beautiful Finzi's *Lo, the Full Final Sacrifice* and, after the interval, a wonderful rendition of Rossini's *Cat Duet* by Harim Oh and Alexander van Dijk, followed by *Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo* (Flanders & Horovitz). The Mayor of the London Borough of Sutton, Colin Stears, who attended our concert, advised he'd never been to such an enjoyable and varied concert – a very fitting and moving testament to James Dixon's chosen repertoire. He has stretched and raised the musicality of the choir with a combination of choral favourites and new repertoire over the past seven years delivered in a sensitive and fun manner. He'll be sorely missed....

Moving forward, we will focus on supporting Ed Walters, our Interim Music Director, maintaining and increasing our membership and audiences and ensuring financial security in a fluctuating environment. We will continue to invest in emerging talent, to ensure that the Society continues to thrive.

2. GOVERNANCE

The Society is constituted under a set of Rules most recently revised in September 2018. Our policies are reviewed annually or every 3 years by the Committee and updated if relevant.

The Officers for 2023/24 included a President and Vice-Presidents as follows:

President

- Richard Stangroom

Vice-Presidents

- Geoff Barham
- David Birt (until Jan 24)
- Kevin Shears
- Bery Radford

The Trustees of the Society are the members of the Committee who are elected annually by members present at the Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees for 2022/23 were:

Chair: June Parsons

Deputy Chair: Stephen Oliver

Committee Secretary: Rosemairi Evison

Honorary Treasurer: Margaret Stevens

Marianne Adams

Alison Jones

Graham Little

Jenny Miller-Slights

The Society's Musical Director for 2023/24 was James Dixon, and its accompanist is Ian le Grice.

3. FINANCIAL POSITION

Details of the Society's income and expenditure for the year under review and for the previous year are shown on the attached financial statements.

We are extremely grateful to the Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust for its generous support of the Society during a time of recovery with a grant of £4,000.

Throughout the season, James Dixon, our Musical Director, has led us with his usual enthusiasm. We are very pleased to report that, partly due to the performance last year of Handel's *Messiah*, our membership has increased to 56 people.

I am pleased to report that, although we did not have a blockbuster concert like *Messiah* in November 2022, our net costs were £242.82 less than last year. We were able to do this as 2 of our concerts were accompanied by the estimable Ian le Grice and we are also building a faithful core audience not only due to the quality of our performances but also because Alison Jones, our publicity guru, is maximising all avenues of communicating what we do.

Fund-raising for this year was boosted by a very well-attended Quiz Night and the addition of 'St Cecilia and Friends Entertain' which show-cased the wide range of performing talents of all concerned. Encouraged by these events, we will be hoping to do a major fund-raiser every term in the 2024-25 year.

At 20th June 2024 we had £268.94 in our current account and £288.96 in our savings accounts. Our investments, which earned £700.15 this year, were valued at £17,409.04 at the end of June 2024.

We recognise that our ability to continue meeting our central objective of providing concerts of the highest quality will depend on continued efforts to sustain our financial position at a time when audiences are building again post pandemic and fund-raising efforts are once more being rewarded.

I would like to thank Robert Collier very much for, once again, being our External Examiner.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Society's principal address is:
101 Blenheim Gardens
Wallington
SM6 9PU

Our bankers for 2023/24 have been:
CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

Independent Examination of the Accounts has been kindly provided by Robert Collier.

5. DECLARATION

I declare, in my capacity as a Trustee, that the Trustees have approved the above report and authorised me to sign on their behalf.

Signature.....

June Parsons: Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BANSTEAD MUSICAL SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on the accounts of the Banstead Musical Society ("the Society") for the period ended 20 June 2023, which are set out on Schedule A: Receipts and Payments, Schedule B: Statement of assets and liabilities and notes 1 to 8 thereon.

Responsibilities and basis of report.

As the charity trustees of the Society, 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 Society's accounts, comprising the Receipts and Payments account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Robert Collier

Date:

BANSTEAD MUSICAL SOCIETY**Receipts and Payments Accounts for the period 21 June 2023 to 20 June 2024**

A. Receipts and Payments	Marjorie Hall		Total	
	Main fund	Fund	2023/24	2022/23
	2023/24	2023/24		
<u>RECEIPTS</u>				
Subscriptions from members	9,850.00	-	9,850.00	8,420.00
Patrons and Friends	20.00	-	20.00	95.00
Music hire contributions	1,030.00	-	1,030.00	1,000.00
Bequests	-	-	-	0.00
Concert Receipts (Notes 6,8)	4,143.50	1,321.50	5,465.00	4,718.20
Financial support for concerts	4,000.00	-	4,000.00	4,000.00
Gift Aid	1,750.35	-	1,750.35	2,332.31
Income from fund raising (Note 5)	5,115.24	-	5,115.24	2,592.00
Judith McEwan scholarship	-	-	-	-
Workshop	-	693.81	693.81	513.15
Interest on deposits	46.87	8.25	55.12	43.90
Current tour	-	19.90	19.90	24,775.50
Centenary Celebrations	-	-	-	520.00
Distributions from Unit Trusts	-	700.15	700.15	980.68
Miscellaneous (Note 7)	-	-	-	154.80
<i>Subtotal</i>	25,955.96	2,743.61	28,699.57	50,145.54
<i>Sales of investments</i>		-	-	9,628.48
<i>Main loan / MH loan</i>	-	3,800.00	3,800.00	6,750.00
Total receipts	25,955.96	6,543.61	32,499.57	66,524.02
<u>PAYMENTS</u>				
Subscription refund	61.32	-	61.32	-
Music hire and copying	988.70	-	988.70	883.82
Cost of concerts	11,124.77	2,736.68	13,861.45	11,942.29
Concerts in other years	90.00	-	90.00	-
Professional fees	9,445.23	-	9,445.23	9,412.57
Hall hire	1,748.05	-	1,748.05	1,755.50
Miscellaneous (Note 7)	865.00	-	865.00	1,584.15
Cost of fundraising	948.26	-	948.26	910.01
Judith McEwan scholarship	1,800.00	-	1,800.00	600.00
Workshop	-	859.90	859.90	1,033.52
Current tour	-	2,836.03	2,836.03	34,781.99
Centenary celebrations	-	-	-	2,414.10
<i>Subtotal</i>	27,071.33	6,432.61	33,503.94	65,317.95
<i>Main loan/MH loan</i>	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	9,750.00
<i>Investment purchases</i>	-	-	-	-
Total payments	27,071.33	7,432.61	34,503.94	75,067.95
Net receipts	(1,115.37)	(889.00)	(2,004.37)	(8,543.93)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	(417.71)	2,979.98	2,562.27	11,106.20
Cash funds this year end	(1,533.08)	2,090.98	557.90	2,562.27

B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	<u>20 Jun 2024</u>	<u>20 Jun 2023</u>
<i>Cash funds</i>		
Petty cash	-	-
CAF current account	268.94	821.82
CAF Deposit accounts	288.96	2,151.56
<i>Subtotal</i>	<u>557.90</u>	<u>2,973.38</u>
<i>Less cheques/lodgements outstanding</i>	-	(411.11)
<i>Total</i>	<u>557.90</u>	<u>2,562.27</u>

Other monetary assets

<i>Investment assets (Values)</i>	<u>20 Jun 2024</u>	<u>20 Jun 2023</u>
M&G Charifund (481.327 units)	7,226.88	6,700.00
COIF Charities Ethical (3,269.59 units)	10,182.16	9,329.78
<i>Total</i>	<u>17,409.04</u>	<u>16,029.78</u>

Assets retained for the charities own use

The Society retains some assets for its own use, for example music, staging and refreshments, with an estimated value of less than £300.

<i>Liabilities</i>	<u>20 Jun 2024</u>	<u>20 Jun 2023</u>
Deposits to be used in the following year	597.50	-
Loans	2,800.00	-
Total	<u>3,397.50</u>	<u>-</u>

Approved by the committee on:

June Parsons (Chair)

Margaret Stevens (Hon. Treas.)

Notes to the Accounts

1 Charitable Status

The Society is an unincorporated association registered as a charity with number 270480 under the Charities Act 1960.

2 General Accounting policies

The Society's Committee agreed at its meeting on 17 April 2013 that its accounts should be prepared as Receipts and Payments Accounts rather than on an accruals basis. This is permitted for charities which are not also a company and which have gross income under £250,000. The Committee also agreed at the same meeting that its small stocks of music and refreshments should be treated in the accounts as of zero value.

3 Trustees and other related parties

During the year neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration. The Society employs no staff.

During the 2023-24 year the Society accepted £3,800 in short term loans from a Trustee to ensure that sufficient cash funds were available to pay the outstanding costs of the tour in 2023. £1,000 has been repaid.

4 Funds

The Marjorie Hall Fund was established for general development purposes as a result of a legacy of £37,389 bequeathed to the Society in 2000 by the late Marjorie Hall. The Fund has been used for example to support our development workshops, Christmas concerts, the costs of our professionals on overseas visits, commissioning music from local composers and subsidising subscriptions where appropriate. The fund is not formally restricted, enabling cash management in the interests of the Society as a whole. At its meeting on 24 May 2017 the Committee agreed that bequests for 2016/17 and in future should generally be credited to the Marjorie Hall Fund

5 Fundraising

	2023/24	2022/23
Provision of choirs for various occasions	20.00	-
Sale of rehearsal refreshments	102.33	60.00
Sale of rehearsal produce	112.65	-
Quiz Night	1,256.07	789.99
St Cecilia & friends entertain	803.70	-
Supporters' donations	234.00	175.00
Members' donations	900.73	657.00
In memoriam David White	140.00	-
Miscellaneous - presentation	597.50	-
Net receipts	4,166.98	1,681.99
Cost of fundraising	948.26	910.01
Gross receipts	5,115.24	2,592.00

6 Christmas Concert

Total receipts	1,321.50	-
Total costs	2,736.68	-
Net cost	(1,415.18)	-

7 Miscellaneous expenses

	2023/24	2022/23
Subscriptions and insurances	377.00	449.67
Christmas hospitality	-	153.68
Banking costs	60.00	63.00
AGM expenses	200.00	-
Making Music m'ship platform fee	78.00	78.00
Publicity photos	-	550.00
Gifts	-	50.00
Portable router	150.00	-
Miscellaneous: router SIM card	-	40.00
Membership expenses	-	45.00
Miscellaneous expenses (net)	865.00	1,429.35
Miscellaneous income	-	154.80
Miscellaneous expenses (gross)	865.00	1,584.15

8 Net costs of main concerts

		Nov-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Non specific	TOTAL 2023/24	TOTAL 2022/23
		<i>Bach, Vivaldi & Durante</i>	<i>Dvorak, Bruckner & Mendelssohn</i>	<i>Musical Menagerie</i>	<i>Season tickets</i>		
Receipts	Gate	995.00	1,310.00	970.00	-	3,275.00	3,840.00
	Season ticket sales	-	-	-	286.00	286.00	200.00
	Refreshments	221.50	188.00	173.00	-	582.50	678.20
	TOTAL	1,216.50	1,498.00	1,143.00	286.00	4,143.50	4,718.20
Costs	Professional expenses	(4,933.00)	(2,315.00)	(2,375.00)	-	(9,623.00)	(9,779.57)
	Gate	(18.99)	(23.63)	(14.60)	-	(57.22)	(93.06)
	Season tickets	-	-	-	(3.99)	(3.99)	-
	Programmes/flyers	(43.98)	(43.27)	(39.12)	-	(126.37)	(155.23)
	Refreshments	(89.32)	(214.89)	(17.48)	-	(321.69)	(586.68)
	Misc/venue	(449.00)	(39.00)	(504.50)	-	(992.50)	(1,327.75)
	TOTAL	(5,534.29)	(2,635.79)	(2,950.70)	- (3.99)	(11,124.77)	(11,942.29)
Net loss		(4,317.79)	(1,137.79)	(1,807.70)	282.01	(6,981.27)	(7,224.09)
Financial support received							
	Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust					4,000.00	4,000.00
	Borough of Banstead and Reigate Arts Council					-	-
Concerts in other years						(90.00)	-
NET LOSS						(3,071.27)	(3,224.09)