

Charity registration number: 273757

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

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EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Epsom Choral Society is a registered charity: No 273757

The Society is governed by its constitution which was adopted on 2nd March 1977 and last amended on 24th March 2021.

The Trustees of the Society are the members of the committee, which is constituted in accordance with clause 13 of the 2021 constitution.

Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Helen Phillips Chairman until 26th October 2022

Isobel Squire Chairman from 26th October 2022

John Steward Treasurer

Hamish Young Secretary

Pauline Adams (until her death in April 2023)

Kasumi Brooker (became a Trustee on 26th October 2022)

Nina Kaye

Sheila Lawton (stood down as a Trustee on 26th October 2022)

John Orr

Helen Page

Sally Paterson

Mike Vogado

Rosie Welton

Independent Examiner

Gerald Dunn
112 Barnett Wood Lane
Ashted
Surrey KT21 2LS

**EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY
TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Society are to further and assist in the musical education of people of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell and neighbouring areas, to provide facilities for the study and rehearsal of choral and other music by promoting and participating in public performance and to support and participate in the Leith Hill Musical Festival and other festivals and activities related to its objects.

A review of achievements and performance during the year

In the 2022-23 season we had a full year of music-making with no lockdowns or social distancing. In early December we marked the end of our 2022 centenary celebrations by singing Handel's *Messiah* to an almost full house at Epsom Playhouse. Our Christmas carol concert was also well-received, though audience numbers were still a bit down on pre-pandemic years. Our festive singing also supported the local community: one local charity raised funds at our carol concert, and we sang to local shoppers to help another. ECS singers also entertained local care home residents with Christmas favourites.

In our spring and summer concerts we sang some more unusual repertoire, performing several 21st century works in our spring concert, and tackling David Fanshawe's *African Sanctus* in the summer. We also sang in the Leith Hill Music Festival, which is continuing to rebuild support after the Covid hiatus.

We arranged a short tour to Krakow, teaming up with members of another choir. Perhaps because of high inflation at the time, relatively few singers chose to take part, but for those who did, it was a very enjoyable weekend. We thank our Musical Director, Julian Collings, and our accompanist, Marion Lea, for all their encouragement and support in helping us to rise to the varied musical challenges of the season.

Members also enjoyed socialising at two very popular fund-raising events, a quiz organised by Helen Phillips and a plant sale organised by John Taylor. We thank Helen, John, and all their helpers for their hard work in making these events such a success.

On a sadder note, we were shocked to hear of the sudden death of Pauline Adams in April, just a few days after she sang with us at the Leith Hill Music Festival. She had recently taken on the role of librarian, after assisting with it for several years. Her support, her friendship and her ready smile are greatly missed.

Review of financial position at end of reporting

There was a concert deficit of £10,788 which arose mainly from the Summer 2023 concert with smaller deficits arising from the Autumn 2022 and Spring 2023 events. This deficit has been met by a transfer from Legacy Funds to General Reserves in line with the Reserves Policy below.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Society to maintain the level of reserves necessary to ensure the financial commitments of the Society can be achieved on a regular basis from the income produced by subscription income and other sources. The Trustees have considered the needs of the Society and have agreed that the Society needs to hold in reserve an amount at least equal to a term's expenses that we could not cover from income, or a large concert that drew no audience. The Trustees consider that we should set aside £7,000 for this.

Plans for the future

The trustees do not propose to deviate from the current objectives and activities of the Charity as detailed above.

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

Trustees' responsibility statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and in accordance with the latest Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the charity's constitution. 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.



Isobel Squire
Chairman

12 October 2023

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	Concerts	Unrestricted Funds	Legacy Funds	Total 2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
<i>Incoming resources from members</i>						
Membership subscriptions	-	-	14,400	-	14,400	14,195
Gift Aid		-	2,469	-	2,469	2,244
Donations and Friends		-	122	-	122	506
		-	16,991	-	16,991	16,945
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Concerts		15,131	-	-	15,131	11,589
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
<i>Other income</i>						
Sally Stuart Legacy		-	-	-	-	20,000
Away Days		-	450	-	450	612
Tour		-	25,062	-	25,062	2,760
Music and Lighting Hire		-	3,285	-	3,285	2,821
Publicity		-	950	-	950	1,060
Fund raising activities		-	2,358	-	2,358	1,928
Bank interest		-	120	98	218	148
		-	32,225	98	32,323	29,329
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£ 15,131	£ 49,216	£ 98	£ 64,445	£ 57,863
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
PAYMENTS						
Concerts		25,919	-	-	25,919	19,669
Legacy transfer		(11,100)	-	11,100	-	-
<i>Running costs</i>						
Professional musicians' rehearsal fees		-	11,438	-	11,438	11,005
Away Day costs		-	703	-	703	1,094
Tour		-	25,062	-	25,062	2,704
Hire of Hall and Church		-	2,881	-	2,881	3,228
Music and Lighting Hire		-	3,218	-	3,218	2,695
Fund raising activities		-	289	-	289	-
Publicity		-	-	-	-	1,431
Legacy costs		-	-	-	-	240
Admin costs		-	1,389	-	1,389	-
Payments in advance		-	225	-	225	941
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£ 14,819	£ 45,205	£ 11,100	£ 71,124	£ 43,007
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	2	£ 312	£ 4,011	£ (11,002)	£ (6,679)	£ 3,424
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

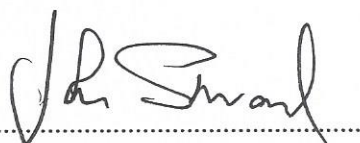
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Bank – deposit account		25,443	45,834
Bank – current account and cash in hand		<u>38,834</u>	<u>25,122</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2	£ 64,277	£ 70,956
Represented by:			
Unrestricted legacy funds	3	57,285	68,287
Other unrestricted funds	4	<u>6,992</u>	<u>2,669</u>
		£ 64,277	£ 70,956

Approved by the Trustees on 12 October 2023 and signed on their behalf.



Isobel Squire (Chairman)



John Steward (Hon. Treasurer)

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Funds

General unrestricted funds represent the funds that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for general use of the Society. Funds designated for a particular purpose are also normally unrestricted.

Incoming resources

Donations, legacies and grants are recognised on receipt. Income tax recovered on gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are fully written off in the year of purchase.

2 RECONCILIATION OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT TO MONETARY ASSETS

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	£	£	£	£
At 1 September				
Bank - deposit account	45,834		45,708	
Cash in hand	150		150	
Bank - current account	<u>24,972</u>		<u>10,242</u>	
		70,956		56,100
Net (payments)/receipts for the year		<u>(6,679)</u>		<u>14,856</u>
		<u>£ 64,277</u>		<u>£ 70,956</u>
At 31 August				
Bank – deposit account	25,443		45,834	
Cash in hand	150		150	
Bank - current account	<u>38,684</u>		<u>24,972</u>	
		<u>£ 64,277</u>		<u>£ 70,956</u>

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

3 UNRESTRICTED LEGACY FUNDS

	Balance at 1 Sept 2022	Cash/other movements:		Balance at 31 Aug 2023
	£	Incoming £	Outgoing £	£
Cecil Wiltshire Legacy	23,794	49	3,700	20,143
Mary Craddock-Jones Legacy	24,733	49	3,700	21,082
Sally Stuart Legacy	19,760	-	3,700	16,060
	<u>£ 68,287</u>	<u>£ 98</u>	<u>£ 11,100</u>	<u>£ 57,285</u>

Whilst there is no restriction on the use of these three Legacies which have been gratefully received and are proving invaluable to the Society, a record is being kept of how each fund is being used.

£11,100 has been transferred from Legacy Funds into the General Unrestricted Funds in compliance with the Reserves Policy to hold £7,000 in Reserves.

£25,443 of the legacy funds are currently held on deposit and a further sum will be deposited in due course.

4 OTHER UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1 September	2,669	7,721
Receipts for the year	49,216	26,126
Payments for the year	(45,205)	(23,098)
Concert receipts	15,131	11,589
Concert payments	(14,819)	(19,669)
	<u>£ 6,992</u>	<u>£ 2,669</u>

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

The Society owns the following assets at nil net value: a piano, staging and a music library.

6 CAPITAL AND OTHER COMMITMENTS

The Society had no capital, operating lease or other commitments.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Epsom Choral Society

I report on the accounts of the Epsom Choral Society for the year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Receipts and Payments Account, the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and associated Notes.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act and Regulations 3(c);
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

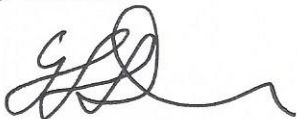
An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Society and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section s.130 of the 2011 Act and Regulations 3(c) or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Gerald Dunn
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner
112 Barnett Wood Lane
Ashted
Surrey KT21 2LS



Date: 13 October 2023