

Holst Singers Annual General Meeting

18th December 2023

Chair's report for the year 2022-2023

This was James William's last year as Chair of the Holst Singers and I would like to pass on my thanks to James for the huge amount of time that he put into helping the choir. Always diligent and supportive and quick to respond to questions, James helped to steer the choir through the very challenging Covid period, when concerts had to be cancelled at short notice and plans shelved.

Our first event of the season was recording the choral parts for the soundtrack to the film Kensuke's Kingdom, a new feature-length animation of the well-loved story by Michael Morpurgo. We were invited by the composer Stuart Hancock and directed by Michael Waldron. We recorded a single session on 19th September, coincidentally the day of the Queen's funeral, at the Air-Edel Studio in London. The general release of this touching film is set for 7 February 2024.

On 29th October we gave a self-promoted concert at St Gabriel's Church, Pimlico of English church music all dating from the decade surrounding the first world war. The concert was directed by Stephen though most of the rehearsals were taken by Michael Waldron. The challenging programme included Bax's Mater Ora Filium, Stanford's Magnificat and Vaughan William's Mass in G alongside works by Parry and Holst.

We performed two Christmas Carol concerts in 2022. Our self-promoted Carol Concert in St Gabriel's Pimlico on 17th December was directed by Stephen and included Warlock's Bethlehem Down, Howells' A Spotless Rose and Leighton's Lully lulla, thou little tiny child, and some close-harmony style arrangements of Silent Night by Jonathan Rathbone and How far is it to Bethlehem by Robert Rice. We also performed at the Lords Taverners Christmas Carol Concert with the Stars, conducted by Nicholas Cleobury on 12th December. The Lords Taverners concert programme featured a new commission by John Rutter, All the stars looked down, and we were delighted to have the composer in attendance.

We were invited by the Barnes Festival to perform on 5th March and presented an 'Earth theme' programme centred around Aaron Copland's In the beginning. Our programme also included music by John Tavener, Eric Whitacre, Judith Weir, Owain Park (his extraordinary 'Upheld by Stillness'), Eriks Esenvalds, Kenneth Leighton and Rene Clausen. We were conducted by Eamon Dougann and also joined by mezzo-soprano Martha McLorinan for the Copland. The concert sold out and was well received by the festival who invited us back for 2024.

Both the October concert in Pimlico and the March concert in Barnes had ambitious programmes, and in the case of Barnes this was coupled with working with a new conductor. We always welcome choir feedback, which helped us to recognise that, while the music was really good and interesting to sing, overall it was challenging to tackle so much difficult new music at once, a point which has been taken into account in our programming going forward.

On 6th June we returned to the Temple Church at the invitation of the Temple Music Foundation. We performed a programme of English choral classics including Britten's Hymn to St Cecilia, Finzi's Lo, the full, final sacrifice and Rutter's Hymn to the Creator of Light alongside works by Harvey, Hadley and Walton, achieving a capacity audience for the church. We were directed by Stephen and also pleased to welcome back Jeremy Cole, who had returned to London after a spell at Wells

Cathedral. Jeremy accompanied us and also performed Stanford's Fantasia and Toccata in D Minor on the organ.

The last event of this year was our cathedral away weekend at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford on 19th and 20th August, directed by Michael Waldron, singing familiar music by Byrd, Stanford, Howells and others and enjoying a social meal together. The feedback generally was that people felt this was a well-organised and well-directed away weekend. Lots of the choir appreciated the fact that we had chosen music which was well-known and well-loved that people could perform to a good standard on minimal rehearsal.

Damian Eley

17th December 2023



Receipts and pay

For the period
from

Period start date
01/09/2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts		
Concert fees	6669.81	-
Donation	615	-
Misc income	739.95	-
Ticket sales	4134.93	-
Interest	455.92	-
Insurance payout	13725.68	-
Programme and merchandise sales	-	-
	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	26,341	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).		
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total receipts	26,341	-
A3 Payments		
Musician fees	6376.25	-
Music costs	1795.88	-

Online services	354.14	-
Misc expenditure	250	-
Publicity	80	-
Venue hire	1497.31	-
Library storage	236.4	-
Fixing Fees	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	10,590	-

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)		
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-

Total payments	10,590	-
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Net of receipts/(payments)	15,751	-
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A5 Transfers between funds

A6 Cash funds last year end

Cash funds this year end	55,718	-
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Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories

Bank Account

B1 Cash funds

Business current
Business reserve
Cash Float

Total cash funds

(agree balances with receipts and payments account (s))

B2 Other monetary assets

Details

B3 Investment assets

Details

B4 Assets retained for the charity’s own use


Details

B5 Liabilities

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Details

Signature


CMKinsella

	No 278024	CC16a
ments accounts		
To	Period end date 31/08/2023	



Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
-	6,670	5,384
-	615	41
-	740	495
-	4,135	6,242
-	456	18
-	13,726	-
-	-	3
-	-	-
-	26,341	12,183

-	-	
-	-	-
-	-	-

-	26,341	12,183
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-	6,376	9,776
-	1,796	2,039

-	354	-
-	250	1,178
-	80	15
-	1,497	2,993
-	236	-
-	-	1,400
-	-	-
-	10,590	17,401

-	-	
-	-	
-	-	

-	10,590	17,401
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-	15,751	- 5,218
-	-	-
-	39,966	45,184
-	55,718	39,966



Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
564	-	-
55,122	-	-
31	-	-
55,718	-	-

OK	OK	OK
Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	-	
	-	
	-	
	-	
	-	

Print Name	Date of approval
Samuel Lipworth	09/06/2025
Christine Kinsella	11/06/2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

THE HOLST SINGERS

On accounts for the year
ended

31 / 8 / 2023

Charity no
(if any)

278024

Set out on pages

2 - 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

J. S. Robson Brown

Date:

11 / 9 / 25

Name:

JEREMY SIMON ROBSON BROWN

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ICAEW Chartered Accountant

Address:

110 MAWSON ROAD
CAMBRIDGE
CB1 2EA

Section B: Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity name and account number	CC16a
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/09/2022	To	31/08/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Concert fees	6670	-	-	6,670	5,384
Donation	615	-	-	615	41
Misc income	740	-	-	740	495
Ticket sales	4135	-	-	4,135	6,242
Interest	456	-	-	456	18
Insurance payout	13726	-	-	13,726	-
Programme and merchandise sales	0	-	-	-	3
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	26,341	-	-	26,341	12,183
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	26,341	-	-	26,341	12,183
A3 Payments					
Musician fees	6376	-	-	6,376	9,776
Music costs	1796	-	-	1,796	2,039
Online services	354	-	-	354	-
Misc expenditure	250	-	-	250	1,178
Publicity	80	-	-	80	15
Venue hire	1497	-	-	1,497	2,993
Library storage	236	-	-	236	-
Fixing Fees	-	-	-	-	1,400
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	10,590	-	-	10,590	17,401
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	10,590	-	-	10,590	17,401
Net of receipts/(payments)	15,751	-	-	15,751	5,218
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	39,966	-	-	39,966	45,184
Cash funds this year end	55,718	-	-	55,718	39,966

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

Categories

B1 Cash funds

Bank Account	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
Business current	664	-	-
Business reserve	55,122	-	-
Cash float	31	-	-
Total cash funds	55,718	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

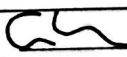
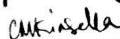
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Samuel Lipworth	09/06/2025
	Christine Kinsella	11/06/2025