



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 01 APRIL 2023 – 31 MARCH 2024

A. Legal and administrative information

1. Full name: Truro Choral Society (The Truro Singers)
2. Registered Charity number: 281902
3. Correspondent: Hon. Treasurer
4. Governing document: Constitution, revised 12 July 2022
5. Trustees: Officers and elected committee
6. Bank: Lloyds Bank
7. Activities: Choral music rehearsals and concerts (usually in Cornwall)
8. Investment powers: None specifically mentioned in the governing document, apart from “control of finance to be in hands of the committee”

B. Aims and organisation

1. Aim: 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.
2. The Charity is organised entirely by volunteers. The Director of Music and the accompanist are fee-paid per rehearsal at an agreed hourly rate.
3. The activities of the Charity are:
 - (i) Regular choir rehearsals
 - (ii) Presenting choral concerts
4. There are no major changes in the aims and organisation to report this year.

C. Review of progress and achievements

It was a good year for recruiting new members, with membership close to pre-COVID years at 133, an increase of 19 from the previous year. Particularly welcome were new members for the tenor and bass sections.

A significant change to our usual concert cycle was a “Come and Sing Mozart’s *Requiem*” event, which we held in Truro Cathedral, and which attracted over 250 singers.

Scheduling clashes meant that only two concerts fell into this financial year, rather than our usual three, with the Spring concert being postponed until April 2024. Nevertheless, there was still a full programme of choral activities, and the new choir season in September started with a particularly busy term, as we were invited to take part in two events held at Truro Cathedral: (i) Matthew Coleridge *Requiem* and (ii) Haydn’s *The Creation* Pt 1 as part of a Gaia Festival concert, all the while rehearsing for our performance of *Messiah*. The choir was keen to offer support to the Cathedral, and we offered to open two choir rehearsals to singers who had signed up for the Gaia event - a gesture much appreciated by the Cathedral. We also provided the management of and box office services for a concert by Truro Symphony Orchestra on 15 July 2023. All those taking part gave their services for free, with proceeds going to support the Music Department of Truro Cathedral.



The following Truro Choral Society concerts were performed:

11 June 2023 – “Come and Sing Mozart’s *Requiem* in Truro Cathedral”

This was a joint event with Truro School, with the school providing a chamber orchestra and soloists, and the Society covering all other staging arrangements. It was widely publicised to choirs and churches in Cornwall, Devon and beyond and resulted in a choir of over 250 voices, with participants coming from as far afield as Kent, Essex and South Wales. In order to fit in with the Cathedral’s services on a Sunday, there was a two-hour gap between the rehearsal and the performance; we filled this with a standing-room-only lecture on Mozart by Russell Pascoe, after which many participants elected to attend Evensong. The 6:00 pm performance had an audience of around 230, and was very well received. We later received many compliments from those who had taken part, including comments that the age of the singers spanned seven decades, and how nice it was for young singers and their parents to sing together in a concert. Organising the event took several months and around a third of our membership was involved with running the day’s activities.

23 September 2023 – Matthew Coleridge Requiem

Although this was an event organised by the composer himself, the Society was deeply involved in the all-day workshop and evening performance in Truro Cathedral. Several months before the event, Mr Coleridge attended one of our rehearsals and introduced us to the work, and at the start of the new season, we used half of our rehearsal time to learn the piece. Many members took part in the event, and our contribution (including supplying him with a Cornish pasty in his hectic day) was much appreciated by Mr Coleridge.

09 December 2032 – Handel: *Messiah*

We were pleased that 11 local schoolchildren were able to join us and take part in this concert, and our vocal forces were swelled further by half a dozen Lay Vicars and Choral Scholars from the Cathedral, who were keen to sing *Messiah*. The concert in the Cathedral was sold out at full capacity (our last *Messiah* required socially-distanced seating in the Cathedral). We were accompanied by Truro Symphony Orchestra (leader: Philip Montgomery-Smith) and soloists Imogen Dowse (soprano), Alison Kettlewell (alto), Toshi Ogita (tenor) and Charlie Murray (bass), with Katie Martin (trumpet), Martin Palmer conducting.

D. Review of financial activities and affairs

Membership subscriptions from new members provided a welcome boost in income. However, the residual balance at the end of the financial year was artificially inflated due to firstly, the delay in the spring concert pushing the concert accounts into the next financial year, hence only two concerts in this financial year, and secondly, a very generous donation from a choir member who wished to remain anonymous. The financial account and statement from the Financial Examiner are shown below. The Society is planning for a “low cost” event every other year, which enables the remaining 5 concerts to continue to be major works performed in the Cathedral.



Truro Choral Society
Registered Charity No 281902

Balance Sheet

As at the 31st March, 2024

	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Current Assets		
Balance at Bank:		
Current	578.46	
Deposit	32,286.75	
	<u>32,865.21</u>	
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	0.00	
	<u>0.00</u>	
Net Current Assets		<u>32,865.21</u>
Represented by		
Capital Account		
Truro Choral Society (Charity No 281902)		
Opening Balance	15,283.96	
Profit (Loss) for year	17,581.25	
		<u>32,865.21</u>

Truro Choral Society
Registered Charity No 281902

Profit and Loss Accounts

Year ended 31st March, 2024

2023

Income		
Concert Income	15,171.46	10,951.08
Annual Membership Subscriptions	17,447.00	13,634.00
Annual Friend Subscriptions	995.00	845.00
Sponsorship	1,000.00	1,000.00
Music sales and hire to members	1,205.02	1,057.31
Fundraising (including donations)	6,176.55	2,557.32
Programme - sales & advertising	839.31	
Sundries	10.00	
Interest on Bank Account	240.16	34.78
	<u>43,084.50</u>	<u>30,079.49</u>
Expenditure		
Concert expense	14,844.73	30,391.36
Salaried Officer fees	5,680.00	5,065.00
Rehearsal venue hire	2,504.48	2,083.28
Social Event	300.00	1,100.00
Music Scores (Purchase, Hire and Printing)	790.54	1,641.20
Publicity	687.80	843.95
Making Music & website	646.00	604.74
Sundries	49.70	110.59
	<u>25,503.25</u>	<u>41,840.12</u>
Net Profit/(Loss) for Year	<u>17,581.25</u>	<u>-11,760.63</u>



Independent Financial Examiner's Report

To the trustees of

Truro Choral Society

Registered Charity No 281902

I report on the Financial Receipts and Payments Accounts set out on the attached Financial Statement for the above named organisation for the year ended 31st March 2024

Basis of 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 Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present 'a true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

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 130 of the Charities Act 2011: and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met: or

2) To which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Chris Harris'.

Chris Harris
31 Chainwalk Drive
Truro Cornwall TR1 3ST

Report prepared by: Travis Mason (Secretary)

Signed by: Kathryn Routledge (Chair)

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'K. Routledge'.

Date: 19 December 2024