

# Twickenham Choral Society



## Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

Twickenham Choral Society (Registered Charity number 284847, and operating as "Twickenham Choral") exists for *"the promotion for public education in the art and science of Choral and Orchestral Music by the presentation of public concerts and recitals"*. It is governed by the Rules of the Society.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees believe that the organisation meets the public benefit requirements of the Charity Commission because the charitable objectives (as noted above) clearly demonstrate the public benefit in the public education in the art and science of Choral and Orchestral music;

- the organisation provides the opportunity for participants to develop their musical skills and vocal technique in performing a wide range of choral repertoire;
- the organisation presents public concerts to a high standard in the local area; and
- financial assistance is provided to those in hardship by offering reduced rates of both membership and concert tickets.

### Membership

During the year (1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023) the following served on the committee:

Chairman*:	Helen Coulson	Concert Manager:	Paul Hehir
Treasurer*:	Tim Lidbetter	Publicity	Sarah Herrick
Secretary*	Gill Zettle	Front of House:	Deborah Meyer
Sponsorship	Margaret Crisell	Membership	Barbara Orr
Librarian:	Rosemary Fulljames	Social Secretary:	Annette Duffy (to 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec)
* Trustees.			Katrina Lidbetter (from 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan)

Conductor: Christopher Herrick      Assistant Conductor: Rebecca Taylor

Other than the Conductor, who is a member of the committee *ex officio*, neither the trustees nor any other committee members receive any remuneration for their duties, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses.

The committee met four times during the year.

There were a total of 100 members during the year (previous year 96) of whom 86 claimed Gift Aid from HMRC (previous year 88).

Independent Examiners: Simon Bartlett and Alison Williams (see below).

### Bankers

1. CAF Bank (Charities' Aid Foundation), Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent;
2. Scottish Widows

It is our policy to invest surplus funds into our higher-earning CAF Gold account and the Scottish Widows deposit account.

## **Financial Review of the Year**

The Financial Statements are presented in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice.

### **Summary**

The Choir marked its Centenary in the Calendar year 2022 with a number of special events, the final two of which took place during the early part of the period covered by this review. Two further concerts took place in the latter part of the period.

## **Accounting policies**

### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

### **Basis of preparation**

Twickenham Choral Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

### **Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement**

As permitted by FRS 102, the choir has opted to exercise the exemption for smaller charities from preparing a cashflow statement.

## **Taxation and Gift Aid**

The Choir is a registered charity and therefore exempt from taxation. The choir's charitable aims include presenting public concerts, which are therefore considered to be in support of the choir's charitable aims, and so members' subscriptions and other donations are eligible for Gift Aid.

Until 2014 the choir used Richmond Adult College's facilities as a rehearsal venue and in consequence was registered as an evening class of that college, with the Conductor paid as a member of the teaching staff. It was agreed with HMRC that part of the subscription was deemed to be paid in respect of musical tuition and therefore not eligible for Gift Aid. The remainder of the income from membership subscriptions was considered to be of the nature of a gift, made in order to further the choir's charitable aims (in particular, supporting the presentation of public concerts) and recognised by HMRC on the same basis as a donation. Although the choir is no longer registered as an evening class, the nature of the rehearsals has not changed and so the tuition/donation split has been maintained.

### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, its probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Expenditure outstanding at the year end is measured at the transaction price and included within Creditors.



### ***Expenditure on Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the choir in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

### **Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets are held in the balance sheet at historic cost. From 2022 these are depreciated in the accounts at 10% of the purchase value per annum. Investment assets are held at fair value at the balance sheet date. The choir holds no intangible assets.

### **Stock**

The choir holds stocks of music scores and folders. These are held in the accounts at cost.

### **Creditors/Debtors**

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amount at the balance sheet date, that is, the transaction value less any impairment required. The debtors represent sponsorship for the July concert that have been invoiced but have not yet paid. Conversely, a number of sponsors have already paid for advertisements in the programme for the concert planned for December 2023, and they are recorded as creditors. A few members have already paid for their music for the autumn 2023 term, and they are also recorded as creditors.

### **Activities**

#### **Public Benefit**

In planning the choir's activities, the Trustees have considered Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, including the relationship between public benefit and fee charging. We rely primarily on the income from ticket sales and membership subscriptions to cover our operating costs. In setting the levels of subscriptions and ticket prices, the Trustees give careful consideration to the accessibility of the choir and its concerts for those on low incomes.

We encourage singers to join us whatever their means. We offer reduced or free subscriptions for younger members and registered disabled.

For concerts, we offer a range of ticket prices to suit different incomes.

### **Concerts**

Four concerts were staged during the accounting year

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 – St Martin in the Fields: Mozart *Requiem* and “*Then Sing We All*” – TCS Centenary commission from Iain Farrington. Promoted by the Brandenburg Festival as the opening of their first season post-lockdown – TCS made a contribution to the funding for this concert

10<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Holy Trinity, Twickenham Green - Bach *B Minor Mass*

25<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - St Marys, Twickenham including works by Parry and Elgar, and the first public performance of “*Wild Music*”, commissioned from Roxanna Panufnik

8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 - Landmark Centre, Teddington – Rachmaninov *Vespers*

The financing of these large-scale concerts, including those in September and December 2022, was made possible by some generous donations and support from the Centenary Fund.

## **Rehearsals**

The sale of refreshments at rehearsals resumed in September 2022, having been suspended during 2021/22 following resumption of rehearsals in September 2021.

## **Cash Handling**

A card reader has been obtained to reduce the volume of cash and cheques handled.

## **Finance**

### **Income and Expenditure – Unrestricted Fund**

For the Unrestricted Funds, total income for the year (£62,404, including a transfer of reserves from the Centenary Fund) and expenditure (£50,778, including a transfer of a recent bequest to a new Restricted Fund) resulted in a net surplus of £1,618. This compares with a surplus of £91 (income (£64,022 and expenditure £63,931 respectively) in the previous year (a deficit of £9,931 net of the bequest).

Comparisons with previous years are difficult because of the extra spending on Centenary activities in 2021/22, and because 2019/20 and 2020/21 were untypical because of COVID restrictions. Membership numbers have recovered from a low of 90 in 2020/21, but are not yet back to pre-COVID levels (107 in 2019/20). This affects not only subscription income but also ticket sales, as the members of the choir are its principal sales force.

#### **- Centenary Fund**

In September 2011, TCS started a Centenary Fund, a restricted fund for the purposes of funding a special programme of events to celebrate the choir's Centenary in 2021/22. (Because of the effect of COVID restrictions, the first Centenary event was postponed by a year, so they all took place in the calendar year 2022). This included the commissioning of two new works, and the promotion of concerts on a larger scale than usual.

At the beginning of the Accounting Year 2021/22, excluding funds already committed or paid for the two commissioned works, the balance of the Centenary Fund stood at £20,497. This included several grants, donations and sponsorship for specific purposes, such as sponsoring the hire of Cadogan Hall. Further income accrued to the Fund in the form of grants, donations, sponsoring of soloists' fees, and the sale of copies of "Wild Music" from stock.

As well as the funding for specific purposes referred to above, part of the Centenary Fund was used, as intended, to support the concerts in the Centenary programme, to reduce the deficit on the Unreserved Funds. At the beginning of the accounting year 2022/23, the Centenary Fund stood at £10,717, not counting Centenary brochures remaining in stock. After further expenditure on Centenary events in the latter half of 2022, sale of further brochures, and donations, the Centenary Fund ended the Centenary season in December 2022 with a surplus of £3,026. Sales of Panufnik scores to new and returning members in advance of the March 2023 concert, added a further £50.

A Legacy Fund, to support new commissions, was launched at the Gala Concert in May 2022, and a collection made at that concert raised an initial £799 to start that fund. The surplus from the Centenary fund was added to this Legacy Fund and this, plus bank interest, brings the value of the Legacy Fund at 31/7/23 to £3,931



## Reserves

In line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission, the choir's policy is to hold adequate funds in reserves to be able to cover the majority of a typical year's gross expenditure should the need arise. Larger reserves may be appropriate to cover special projects, - it is expected that expenditure in 23/24 will be greater than a typical recent year because of two large-scale concerts planned for 2024.

The years of 2019/20 and 2020/21 recorded very low expenditure because of COVID restrictions, and there was additional expenditure in 2021/22 and 2022/23 covered by the Centenary Fund, so we need to look back to the years 2017/18 and 18/19 to find a "typical" year, when average annual expenditure was in the region of £40,000 - taking into account inflation since 2019, that is equivalent to about £45,000 now. The Unrestricted funds currently stand at £45,277

## **Going concern**

The Treasurer and other Trustees monitor the choir's financial position on a regular basis and consider whether any material uncertainties may have arisen which may call into question the status of the choir as a going concern. The Trustees have assessed that there are currently no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.



(TIMOTHY LIDDETER - TREASURER)

## **Independent Examiners' Report to members of the Twickenham Choral Society.**

We are giving our report on the accounts of the Twickenham Choral Society for the year ended **31 July 2023** which are set out on the following pages.

## **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Trustees of the Twickenham Choral Society are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; they consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply, and that an Independent Examination is needed. It is our responsibility as Independent Examiners to:

examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

## **Basis of independent examiners' report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records and a comparison of the accounts 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 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 statement below.

## **Independent examiners' statement**


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

(1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements have not been met:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act,

or

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

Simon Bartlett ACA   
21 Jubilee Avenue, Whitton, TW2 6JA  
Dated: 1/9/23

  
Alison Williams ACA  
20 Dawson Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 3AT  
Dated: 1/9/23

**Twickenham Choral Society - Accounts 2022-23**  
**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 July 2023**

		2022-23	2022-23	2022-23	2022-23	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Sutton Bequest (restricted)	Centenary/ Legacy Fund (restricted) £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Centenary Fund (restricted) £	Total Funds £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>								
Subscriptions	2	20,509			20,509	17,374		17,374
Donations/Grants		523		290	813	412	3,261	3,673
Sutton bequest	3					10,007		10,007
Tax recovery on subscriptions and other donations	4	4,060		48	4,107	3,524	235	3,760
Gala Concert/Legacy Fund	12			59	59		7,952	7,952
Centenary Brochures	12			94	94		1,148	1,148
Centenary Fund Support for Centenary events						11,550		11,550
Concerts	11	23,354			23,354	21,021		21,021
Salisbury Tour Income	10	12,617			12,617			
Investment income		249	127	17	393	29	16	44
Social events	5	969		393	1,362		90	90
Other incoming resources	6	123		50	173	104	170	274
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>62,404</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>63,480</b>	<b>64,022</b>	<b>12,872</b>	<b>76,894</b>
<b>Transfer to Restricted Fund</b>	3	<b>-10,007</b>	<b>10,007</b>					
<b>Resources Expended</b>								
Rehearsals		11,383			11,383	11,240		11,240
St Martins concert (Gala concert 2022)	12			987	987		8,963	8,963
Centenary Brochure	12						2,958	2,958
Centenary events	12			5,769	5,769		11,550	11,550
Salisbury Tour costs		12,201			12,201			
Concerts	11	23,866			23,866	50,447		50,447
Social Events	5	424		42	466	275		275
Sundry expenditure	6	2,903			2,903	1,969	118	2,087
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>50,778</b>		<b>6,798</b>	<b>57,576</b>	<b>63,931</b>	<b>23,589</b>	<b>87,520</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources</b>		<b>1,618</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>-5,848</b>	<b>5,904</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>-10,717</b>	<b>-10,626</b>
<b>Balance brought forward as at 1st August 2022</b>		<b>43,659</b>		<b>9,780</b>	<b>53,438</b>	<b>43,567</b>	<b>20,497</b>	<b>64,065</b>
<b>Balance carried forward as at 31st July 2023</b>		<b>45,277</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>3,932</b>	<b>59,342</b>	<b>43,659</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>53,438</b>

Balance Sheet as at 31st July 2023		2022-23	2022-23	2022-23	2022-23	2021-22	2021-22	2021-22
		Unrestrict ed Funds £	Sutton Bequest (restricted) £	Centenary/ Legacy Fund (restricted) £	Total Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Centenary Fund (restricted) £	Total Funds £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>								
Equipment	7	920			920	867		867
<b>Current Assets</b>								
Cash at bank and on deposit		42,863	10,134		52,997	32,642	8,981	41,623
Legacy Fund				3,932	3,932		799	799
Cash in hand								
Stock		357			357	223		223
Prepayments	8	3,024			3,024			
Debtors	9	845			845			
<b>Total</b>		<b>48,010</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>3,932</b>	<b>62,075</b>	<b>33,732</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>43,512</b>
<b>Liabilities: amounts falling due within two years</b>								
Salamanca Tour deposits	8	1,500			1,500			
Other Creditors	10	1,233			1,233	80		80
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>45,277</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>3,932</b>	<b>59,342</b>	<b>33,652</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>43,432</b>
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>45,277</b>	<b>10,134</b>	<b>3,932</b>	<b>59,342</b>	<b>43,659</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>53,438</b>

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## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). The Unrestricted funds are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use.

The Centenary Fund was a restricted fund for the purposes of funding a special programme of events to celebrate the choir's 100th Anniversary in 2021-2022. This includes the commissioning of two new works, and the promotion of concerts on a larger scale than usual. A detailed breakdown of income and expenditure of the Centenary Fund is attached as an annex to this report. At the end of the Centenary Year (December 2022) there was a surplus. This remnant has been renamed a "Legacy Fund", and (together with the proceeds of a collection made at the 2022 gala Concert to launch the project) is to be used to support commissions to young composers.

### 2. Subscriptions

Subscription income was up 18% compared with the previous year's figure, due to an increase in the subscription rate, a small increase in the number of members - 100 - up from 96 in 2020/21, but still lower than the peak of 107 in 2019/20), and more people joining early in the year (and therefore paying for all three terms). Two people were eligible for half rate and one for zero rate subscription.

### 3. Bequest

In 2021/22 a bequest of £10,000 was received from the estate of the late Trevor Sutton. This, together with the interest it has earned, has now been designated as a restricted fund, to be used to provide financial support for the Verdi concert in 2024.

### 4. Tax Recovery

The tax recovery relates to Gift Aid claims in respect of the current year. It has been allocated between the Unrestricted and Legacy funds on the basis of the funds on which the Gift Aid was claimed.

### 5. Social Events

This figure covers surpluses accrued over several years made on the refreshments at rehearsals, and a surplus on the 2023 summer party, which was better attended than had been budgeted for. Some of this surplus will be used to fund refreshments at the 2023 AGM

### 6. Sundry income/ expenditure

These include a net surplus made on music hire, and expenditure on the Making Music subscription, general publicity (not specific to a concert), annual insurance, setting up the new website and bank and card reader charges, and depreciation of equipment (see note 7).

### 7. Equipment/ Stock

The "equipment" figure relates to the staging, lighting equipment and the librarian's trolley. A new podium was purchased in 2023. From 2022, a figure is included in the accounts for depreciation of all equipment. This is set at 10% of the original purchase price.

### 8. Prepayments

This figure relates to deposits paid to venues for forthcoming concerts. The deposits paid by members and forwarded to the travel agent in respect of the planned tour to Spain in 2024 are recorded separately.

### 9. Debtors

These relate to sponsored adverts in the July 2023 programme, invoiced but not yet paid at the accounting date.

### 10. Creditors

These relate to advertisers who have paid in advance for a series of advertisements in the programmes for the three concerts in the calendar year 2023, including that which is planned for December 2023, and for a few early payments for scores for the autumn term



## 11. Concerts

	Dec-22	Mar-23	Jul-23	
	B Minor Holy Trinity	Parry/Panufnik St Mary	Rachmaninov Landmark	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>				
Tickets	4,299	3,126	4,433	11,858
Transfer from Centenary Fund	4,500			4,500
Other income (refreshments, advertising, sponsorship, donations, Centenary funding)	3,106	2,001	1,889	6,996
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,906</b>	<b>5,126</b>	<b>6,322</b>	<b>23,354</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Fees	8,608	2,830	2,180	13,618
Venue and staging (inc VAT)	2,433	2,524	900	5,857
Instrument and music hire	490			490
Publicity, programme printing, PRS & other costs	1,744	792	1,365	3,901
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,275</b>	<b>6,146</b>	<b>4,445</b>	<b>23,866</b>
<b>SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-1,369</b>	<b>-1,020</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>-512</b>

## Prior year comparison

	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jul-22	
	Handel/ CPE Bach Landmark	Elijah Cadogan Hall	Mozart/Farrington All Saints Kingston	£
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>				
Tickets	4,609	8,521	3,536	16,666
Transfer from Centenary Fund		2,250	1,900	4,150
Other income (advertising, sponsorship, donations)	25	7,840	3,890	11,755
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,634</b>	<b>18,611</b>	<b>9,326</b>	<b>32,571</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Fees	8,156	14,232	9,544	31,932
Venue and staging (inc VAT)	840	10,156	500	11,496
Instrument and music hire	480	150	100	730
Publicity, programme printing, PRS & other costs	760	3,667	1,862	6,289
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,236</b>	<b>28,205</b>	<b>12,006</b>	<b>50,447</b>
<b>SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-5,602</b>	<b>-9,594</b>	<b>-2,680</b>	<b>-17,876</b>

12. Centenary Fund / Legacy Fund								
	INCOME				EXPENDITURE			NET
	to July 2021	2021-22	2022-23		to July 2021	2021-22	2022-23	
Commissions								
				Panufnik	6,000			
				Farrington	5,000			
sale of Panufnik scores	870	170	50	Purchase of Panufnik Scores	964			
				Printing Farrington scores		87		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>50</b>		<b>11,964</b>	<b>87</b>		<b>-10,961</b>
donations and grants				Support for concerts from Centenary fund				
donations (not otherwise listed)	31,591	881	290	Cadogan Hall	2,250			
Gift Aid		235	48	publicity etc	150			
HHTaylor		1,000		Donation (from 2020)	7,250			
other inc social events		405	393	Mozart/Farrington	1,900			
				PRS for Farrington concert			204	
				St Martins			987	
				Bach			4,500	
		1,065		Advance payments in support of December 2022 concert			1,065	
<b>Total donations/grants</b>	<b>31,591</b>	<b>3,586</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>Total Support</b>		<b>11,550</b>	<b>6,756</b>	<b>17,602</b>
Gala Concert								
tickets		2,833		Venue	150			
Member Support inc Gift aid		3,750		Programme design	746			
Adverts and donations		570		Programme printing	405			
collection to launch Legacy Fund		799		staging	1,886			
				Catering (inc cake)	3,141			
				professional fees	450			
				Drinks	1,998			
				Flowers	186			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,952</b>			<b>8,962</b>			<b>-1,009</b>
Booklet								
Sales		1,148	94	design	1,665			
				Printing	1,286			
				postage	7			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,148</b>	<b>94</b>		<b>2,958</b>			<b>-1,716</b>
Other Centenary funding and expenditure								
Interest (Centenary and Legacy Funds)		16	75	bank charges		32		59
				social events			42	-42
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>32,461</b>	<b>12,873</b>	<b>949</b>		<b>11,964</b>	<b>23,589</b>	<b>6,798</b>	<b>3,932</b>

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The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

### **Basis of preparation**

Twickenham Choral Society meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

### **Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement**

As permitted by FRS 102, the choir has opted to exercise the exemption for smaller charities from preparing a cashflow statement.

## **Taxation and Gift Aid**

The Choir is a registered charity and therefore exempt from taxation. The choir's charitable aims include presenting public concerts, which are therefore considered to be in support of the choir's charitable aims, and so members' subscriptions and other donations are eligible for Gift Aid.

Until 2014 the choir used Richmond Adult College's facilities as a rehearsal venue and in consequence was registered as an evening class of that college, with the Conductor paid as a member of the teaching staff. It was agreed with HMRC that part of the subscription was deemed to be paid in respect of musical tuition and therefore not eligible for Gift Aid. The remainder of the income from membership subscriptions was considered to be of the nature of a gift, made in order to further the choir's charitable aims (in particular, supporting the presentation of public concerts) and recognised by HMRC on the same basis as a donation. Although the choir is no longer registered as an evening class, the nature of the rehearsals has not changed and so the tuition/donation split has been maintained.

### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, its probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Expenditure outstanding at the year end is measured at the transaction price and included within Creditors.

### ***Expenditure on Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the choir in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

### **Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets are held in the balance sheet at historic cost. From 2022 these are depreciated in the accounts at 10% of the purchase value per annum. Investment assets are held at fair value at the balance sheet date. The choir holds no intangible assets.

### **Stock**

The choir holds stocks of music scores and folders. These are held in the accounts at cost.

### **Creditors/Debtors**

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amount at the balance sheet date, that is, the transaction value less any impairment required. The debtors represent sponsorship for the July concert that have been invoiced but have not yet paid. Conversely, a number of sponsors have already paid for advertisements in the programme for the concert planned for December 2023, and they are recorded as creditors. A few members have already paid for their music for the autumn 2023 term, and they are also recorded as creditors.

### **Activities**

#### **Public Benefit**

In planning the choir's activities, the Trustees have considered Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, including the relationship between public benefit and fee charging. We rely primarily on the income from ticket sales and membership subscriptions to cover our operating costs. In setting the levels of subscriptions and ticket prices, the Trustees give careful consideration to the accessibility of the choir and its concerts for those on low incomes.

We encourage singers to join us whatever their means. We offer reduced or free subscriptions for younger members and registered disabled.

For concerts, we offer a range of ticket prices to suit different incomes.

### **Concerts**

Four concerts were staged during the accounting year

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 – St Martin in the Fields: Mozart *Requiem* and “*Then Sing We All*” – TCS Centenary commission from Iain Farrington. Promoted by the Brandenburg Festival as the opening of their first season post-lockdown – TCS made a contribution to the funding for this concert

10<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Holy Trinity, Twickenham Green - Bach *B Minor Mass*

25<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - St Marys, Twickenham including works by Parry and Elgar, and the first public performance of “*Wild Music*”, commissioned from Roxanna Panufnik

8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 - Landmark Centre, Teddington – Rachmaninov *Vespers*

The financing of these large-scale concerts, including those in September and December 2022, was made possible by some generous donations and support from the Centenary Fund.



## **Rehearsals**

The sale of refreshments at rehearsals resumed in September 2022, having been suspended during 2021/22 following resumption of rehearsals in September 2021.

## **Cash Handling**

A card reader has been obtained to reduce the volume of cash and cheques handled.

## **Finance**

### **Income and Expenditure – Unrestricted Fund**

For the Unrestricted Funds, total income for the year (£62,404, including a transfer of reserves from the Centenary Fund) and expenditure (£50,778, including a transfer of a recent bequest to a new Restricted Fund) resulted in a net surplus of £1,618. This compares with a surplus of £91 (income (£64,022 and expenditure £63,931 respectively) in the previous year (a deficit of £9,931 net of the bequest).

Comparisons with previous years are difficult because of the extra spending on Centenary activities in 2021/22, and because 2019/20 and 2020/21 were untypical because of COVID restrictions. Membership numbers have recovered from a low of 90 in 2020/21, but are not yet back to pre-COVID levels (107 in 2019/20). This affects not only subscription income but also ticket sales, as the members of the choir are its principal sales force.

#### **- Centenary Fund**

In September 2011, TCS started a Centenary Fund, a restricted fund for the purposes of funding a special programme of events to celebrate the choir's Centenary in 2021/22. (Because of the effect of COVID restrictions, the first Centenary event was postponed by a year, so they all took place in the calendar year 2022). This included the commissioning of two new works, and the promotion of concerts on a larger scale than usual.

At the beginning of the Accounting Year 2021/22, excluding funds already committed or paid for the two commissioned works, the balance of the Centenary Fund stood at £20,497. This included several grants, donations and sponsorship for specific purposes, such as sponsoring the hire of Cadogan Hall. Further income accrued to the Fund in the form of grants, donations, sponsoring of soloists' fees, and the sale of copies of "Wild Music" from stock.

As well as the funding for specific purposes referred to above, part of the Centenary Fund was used, as intended, to support the concerts in the Centenary programme, to reduce the deficit on the Unreserved Funds. At the beginning of the accounting year 2022/23, the Centenary Fund stood at £10,717, not counting Centenary brochures remaining in stock. After further expenditure on Centenary events in the latter half of 2022, sale of further brochures, and donations, the Centenary Fund ended the Centenary season in December 2022 with a surplus of £3,026. Sales of Panufnik scores to new and returning members in advance of the March 2023 concert, added a further £50.

A Legacy Fund, to support new commissions, was launched at the Gala Concert in May 2022, and a collection made at that concert raised an initial £799 to start that fund. The surplus from the Centenary fund was added to this Legacy Fund and this, plus bank interest, brings the value of the Legacy Fund at 31/7/23 to £3,931



## Reserves

In line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission, the choir's policy is to hold adequate funds in reserves to be able to cover the majority of a typical year's gross expenditure should the need arise. Larger reserves may be appropriate to cover special projects, - it is expected that expenditure in 23/24 will be greater than a typical recent year because of two large-scale concerts planned for 2024.

The years of 2019/20 and 2020/21 recorded very low expenditure because of COVID restrictions, and there was additional expenditure in 2021/22 and 2022/23 covered by the Centenary Fund, so we need to look back to the years 2017/18 and 18/19 to find a "typical" year, when average annual expenditure was in the region of £40,000 - taking into account inflation since 2019, that is equivalent to about £45,000 now. The Unrestricted funds currently stand at £45,277

## **Going concern**

The Treasurer and other Trustees monitor the choir's financial position on a regular basis and consider whether any material uncertainties may have arisen which may call into question the status of the choir as a going concern. The Trustees have assessed that there are currently no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.



(TIMOTHY LIDDETER - TREASURER)

## **Independent Examiners' Report to members of the Twickenham Choral Society.**

We are giving our report on the accounts of the Twickenham Choral Society for the year ended **31 July 2023** which are set out on the following pages.

## **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Trustees of the Twickenham Choral Society are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; they consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply, and that an Independent Examination is needed. It is our responsibility as Independent Examiners to:

examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

## **Basis of independent examiners' report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records and a comparison of the accounts 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 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 statement below.

## **Independent examiners' statement**


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

(1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements have not been met:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act,

or

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

Simon Bartlett ACA   
21 Jubilee Avenue, Whitton, TW2 6JA  
Dated: 1/9/23

  
Alison Williams ACA  
20 Dawson Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 3AT  
Dated: 1/9/23