

# South West Essex Choir Trustees Report

Season 2022 – 2023

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# South West Essex Choir Trustees Report

Season 2022 – 2023

## 1. Society Objectives

In 2022 – 2023 South West Essex Choir continued successfully to meet its primary objective, which is 'to educate the public in the arts and sciences, and in particular the art and science of choral music, by the presentation of concerts and other activities'.

The Society has adopted the following **Mission Statement**:

South West Essex Choir

- Is open to all who enjoy singing
- Performs a wide range of music
- Practises in a friendly and supportive atmosphere
- Aims to develop individual musicianship
- Presents public performances to the highest achievable standards
- Involves young people in music making

The first part of this Report considers how these elements have been achieved in 2022 – 2023. The Report then goes on to consider budgetary matters, volunteer input and plans for the future.

tabulates performance indicators.

## 2. SWEC is open to all who enjoy music.

The Society is a traditional mixed voice, mixed ability SATB choir. It remains a non-auditioning choir and is not constrained in numbers by the size of its rehearsal space. All are welcome. The Committee is aware that there are occasions when sections become unbalanced, but is anxious that this shall not affect the current 'open door' policy.

Table 1 sets out the Society's membership in recent years and shows a slight reduction in the number of members returning after the end of the Covid-19 restrictions.

## 3. SWEC performs a wide range of music

SWEC has always endeavoured to produce seasons covering a wide range of music spanning many years of composition

Our concert programme for the season included Mozart *Verperae Solennes de Confessore* and Haydn *Missa Sancti Nicolai* (December 2022); Bob Chilcott *St John Passion* and Vaughan Williams *Five Mystical Songs* (March 2023); Beethoven *Choral Fantasy, for Piano, Chorus and Orchestra* and *Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage* (July 2023)

# **South West Essex Choir Trustees Report**

## **Season 2022 – 2023**

### **4. SWEC practises in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.**

The Society is fortunate in having a very suitable and hospitable rehearsal space, with a separate room for sectional rehearsals when needed, and a separate socialising area for a well-earned mid-rehearsal break. Rehearsals are well attended and the mid-session break is a chance for people to mix, and for members to speak with the Committee or the Musical Director about any issues.

Evidence of the Society achieving high standards in its performances is largely anecdotal. It comes from the expressed opinion of the Musical Director, comments received from the audience and members' own opinion of their performance. Our Musical Director maintained the already high standard of the choir which has been built up over many years.

In choosing orchestral accompaniment and soloists the Society is necessarily constrained by what it can afford. The Musical Director has booked excellent soloists and orchestras. The high quality of the orchestra has enhanced the performances.

### **5. Fundraising**

#### **6. Our fundraising involved various social activities including Christmas & Summer Social evenings.**

The events were well supported by members, friends and families and the Society exceeded its fundraising target by a third as well as providing very enjoyable social events for its members. Table 3 sets out the details.

### **7. Volunteer input**

The Society continues to be very ably served by its Committee who give unstintingly of their free time. They are:

Chairman	Anissa Msallem
Vice Chairman	Susannah Pickering-Saqqa
Treasurer	John Bridger
Deputy treasurer	Kathryn Ronnau-Bradbeer
Secretary	Vanessa Watling
Membership Secretary	Mary McElarney
Concert Manager	Anissa Msallem
Social Secretary	Joanne Stone-Williams
Music Librarian	Monica Richardson
Publicity officers	Robert Young
Members without portfolio	Maureen Galloway
Ex-officio Musical Director	Andrew Sackett

# **South West Essex Choir Trustees Report**

## **Season 2022 – 2023**

8. The Committee meets at least three times a year.

The organisational skills of Concert Manager have been evident on concert days and social evenings.

Andrew Sackett has produces the concert notes in our programmes and Robert Young drafts the printed programmes.

### **9. Plans for the future**

We plan to hold our normal rehearsals at Loughton Methodist church and have three concerts in our 2023 -2024 season.

The concert programme for next season ranges from Benjamin Britten *Ceremony of Carols* (December 2023); Verdi *Requiem Mass* (March 2024) and Will Todd *Mass in Blue* (July 2024) all held at Chingford Parish Church.

# **South West Essex Choir Trustees Report**

**Season 2022 – 2023**

## **Appendix 1 Performance Indicators**

**Table 1 Number of Singers on Register in last few years**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number on register</b>	<b>Number covenanting or Gift Aid</b>
<b>2009/10</b>	115	92
<b>2010/11</b>	108	94
<b>2011/12</b>	107	86
<b>2012/13</b>	107	89
<b>2013/14</b>	103	88
<b>2014/15</b>	104	82
<b>2015/16</b>	110	92
<b>2016/17</b>	95	82
<b>2017/18</b>	109	88
<b>2018/19</b>	105	89
<b>2019/20</b>	104	87
<b>2020/21</b>	40	36
<b>2021/22</b>	73	67
<b>2022/23</b>	75	68

# South West Essex Choir Trustees Report

## Season 2022 – 2023

**Table 2 Audience Take-up**

Season	Date & Venue	Total seats	Tickets sold	Comp tickets	Total attending	
					No.	%
<b>2020/21</b>	24/3/2020 Chingford Parish Church (Cancelled due to Pandemic)					
	4/7/2020 Chingford Parish Church (Cancelled due to Pandemic))					
	<b>Season Total</b>				<b>317</b>	

2020/21 No public concerts due to Covid 19

<b>2021/22</b>	4/12/2021 St Gabriel's Church (Christmas Celebration)	<b>212</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>60</b>
	26/3/2022 Chingford Church (Rutter Requiem and Puccini Messa di Gloria)	<b>320</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>30</b>
	2/7/2022 St Gabriel Church (Duke Ellington Sacred Concert and Brazilian Songs of Nature arranged by Roland Perrin)	<b>212</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>52</b>
	<b>Season Total</b>				<b>317</b>	

<b>2022/23</b>	3/12/2022 St Gabriel's Church (Mozart <i>Verperae Solennes de Confessore</i> and Haydn <i>Missa Sancti Nicolai</i> )	<b>212</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>60</b>
	25/3/2023 Chingford Church (Bob Chilcott <i>St John Passion</i> and Vaughan Williams <i>Five Mystical Songs</i> )	<b>212</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>51</b>
	1/7/2023 St Gabriel Church (Beethoven <i>Choral Fantasy, for Piano, Chorus and Orchestra</i> and <i>Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage</i> )	<b>212</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>84</b>
	<b>Season Total</b>				<b>415</b>	

**South West Essex Choir  
Trustees Report**

**Season 2022 – 2023**

**Table 3 Fundraising**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Out-goings</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Net profit</b>	<b>% of £1000 target</b>
<b>Christmas social</b>	£960	£602	£358	36
<b>Rehearsal cakes</b>	£0	£102	£102	10
<b>Walk</b>	£0	£105	£105	10
<b>Books</b>	£0	£62	£62	6
<b>General</b>	£0	£5	£5	1
<b>Total 2022/23</b>	<b>£960</b>	<b>£876</b>	<b>£632</b>	<b>62</b>

# FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF CONCERTS

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	TOTALS
Haydn Missa Sancti Nicolai	Chilcott	Brazilian Songs of Nature	
Mozart Regina Coeli	St John's Passion	Beethoven Mass in C	
Mozart Solemn Vespers	Vaughan Williams 5 Mystical Songs	Choral Fantasy Calm Sea	

## EXPENDITURE

				TOTAL
Conductors/arranger	500.00	500.00	500.00	1500.00
Soloists	1000.00	1080.00	1200.00	3280.00
Orchestra/Accompanist	350.00	350.00	5335.00	6035.00
Stiffeners				0.00
Posters/publicity	295.00	275.00	140.40	710.40
Tickets/Programs	195.00	215.00	225.00	635.00
Hire - music	694.83	386.90	711.83	1793.56
Hire - instruments				0.00
Hire - venue/staging	1477.60	1506.40	1401.60	4385.60
Miscellaneous	63.60	53.65	63.00	180.25
	<u>4576.03</u>	<u>4366.95</u>	<u>9576.83</u>	<u>18519.81</u>

## INCOME

Tickets/programs	2129.62	1008.33	2344.14	5482.09
Sale/hire music	0.00			0.00
Patrons	60.00	120.00	75.00	255.00
Adverts	0.00			0.00
Donation	0.00			0.00
Grants	0.00			0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00			0.00
	<u>2189.62</u>	<u>1128.33</u>	<u>2419.14</u>	<u>5737.09</u>
Net profit/deficit	<u>-2386.41</u>	<u>-3238.62</u>	<u>-7157.69</u>	<u>-12782.72</u>

I have examined the above Balance Sheet and Expenditure Account with the records and vouchers produced to me and in my opinion the above Balance Sheet and Accounts are correct and in accordance therewith and with the information and explanations given to me.

Signed

*Brenda Chappin*

Independent Examiner

Date 9.1.24



**SOUTH WEST ESSEX CHOIR                      SEASON 2022/2023**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2021/2022</u>	<u>2022/2023</u>
Income from concerts	5152.85	5737.09
Choir subscriptions	12055.00	16036.99
Donations & grants	25.00	0.00
Social & fund raising	450.00	1457.97
Bank interest	29.64	538.02
Patrons account		14007.28
Inland Revenue	1614.49	3015.92
Miscellaneous	20.00	16.39
Choral Workshop	620.00	0.00
	<hr/> 14814.13	<hr/> 40809.66
 <u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Expenditure on concerts	20530.28	18519.81
Publicity	0.00	195.00
Subscriptions/donations	322.00	712.64
Social & fund raising	253.60	602.00
Professional fees	6161.95	6480.00
Hire of rehearsal hall	3575.00	4120.00
Miscellaneous	132.48	90.00
Chingford festival	0.00	0.00
Choral workshop	382.00	0.00
<b>BALANCE for year</b>	<hr/> 31357.31	<hr/> 30719.45
Surplus/deficit	 <hr/> <hr/> -16543.18	 <hr/> <hr/> 10090.21

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st AUGUST 2022**

**ACCUMULATED FUND**

Balance at 31      19163.03

Plus surplus      10090.21

Creditors      

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29253.24

**CASH IN HAND**

Cash at bank

Current a/c      17337.33

Deposit a/c      11915.91

Debtors      

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