

Teddington Choral Society

TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended

31 August 2022

TRUSTEES REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2022

TRUSTEES

The following served as trustees during the chorus year:

Rebecca Clarke - Chair

Roz Barder - Secretary

Richard Hudspith – Treasurer

Alison McGregor - Librarian

Catherine Carrere - Website Manager

Jean Leonard – Assistant Publicity

Michael Hancock - Concert Manager

Karen Hockaday - Membership

Peter Maple – Care Officer

REGISTERED OFFICE

43 Heath Gardens

Twickenham

TW1 4LY

Website: www.teddingtonchoral.co.uk

Email: infoteddchoral@gmail.com

CHARITY NUMBER: 299421

BANKERS

National Westminster Bank

22 George Street

Richmond

Surrey

TW9 1JW

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Andrew Stanley FCA DChA

29 School House Lane

Teddington

TW11 9DP

TRUSTEES REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2022

Introduction

The Trustees of the Charity have pleasure in presenting their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022.

The income of the Society this year exceeded £30,000, and the Trustees have chosen to produce a full report outlining its activities over the year, in accordance with Charity Commission Guidance.

Status

Teddington Choral Society was founded in 1951 and it is a registered charity number 299421.

It has a rich and illustrious history, as has been mentioned in previous reports.

Objects

The objects of the Society are:

- to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.
- to further such charitable purpose or purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit but in particular through the making of grants and donations.

Public benefit

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

The Trustees believe that the Charity meets the public benefit requirements which are inherent in its objectives by:

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

TRUSTEES REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2022

Review of the Year

It has been wonderful to return to a 'normal' kind of TCS after two years of lockdowns and restrictions. To kick off the singing year with our 70th Anniversary concert was simply joyful! The singers and audience alike revelled in the success of our last 70 years and celebrated the community that has been created by all who have sung before us and those who sing with us now. It was an honour to award lifetime membership to some of our long-term singers and it was wonderful to be able to present photo boards and programmes covering the great history of our choir.

Our spring concert was the first orchestral concert in three years. The works we performed were challenging but I was so proud of the final performance and the way our singers trusted Julian's judgement and embraced the challenge. I think the performance in April was a musical success although I understand the concerns of the Hon. Treasurer regarding the cost; especially when the performance size of the choir was at about 2/3 its pre-Covid size.

The Summer concert, featuring music of modern America, was great fun. Once again, some of the music presented some challenges but the singers threw themselves at those challenges and well and truly conquered them. The concert was received enthusiastically by the audience and the singers came off stage beaming. I think I have mentioned this before, but I find it really interesting that we get some resistance from the choir when proposing "lighter" music. However, I find the singers more joyful after performing this repertoire than with some of the more traditional works.

We are currently knee-deep in preparation for our Christmas concert. Our numbers have almost reached pre-Covid levels, which is great for morale and for the bank account! We have had Nina (voice coach) working with us for two terms now and it seems to be a successful venture, although it is one that we will keep re-appraising to make sure that it is working for the choir. I thank Nina for the work she has been doing with us on a group and individual level.

We have started back with some social activities including offering tea and coffee at break times during rehearsals. We also have, at the time of writing, a talent night coming up which looks like being a great night.

Julian and Phil are, as ever, leading us with expertise, imagination and humour and I think I can speak on behalf of all singers when I say that we are so lucky to have two such talented and personable musicians working with us.

Rebecca Clarke
Chairperson, Teddington Choral Society

TRUSTEES REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2022

Musical Director Report

The season began with our first 'normal' concert since the beginning of the Covid pandemic. It felt amazing to be back in a regular indoor venue in front of a live audience for our 70th anniversary performance. The repertoire selection came exclusively from a request list from choir members resulting in a wonderfully eclectic mix of music from Vivaldi and Brahms to Gershwin's Porgy and Bess. The enjoyment of everyone to be performing or listening to live music again was fully evident throughout and the choir gave a most spirited performance joined by soprano soloist Lisa Swayne and ably accompanied by Phil on the piano.

The Spring term brought about our first larger scale concert for a number of years in Britten's St Nicolas and Chilcott's Song and Cries of London Town. This was a challenging programme not least because of the more unfamiliar style of the Britten. The challenge was however more than met by the time the concert came around - the Chilcott was as exciting a performance as I have ever conducted! I know there were some initial concerns over the choice of the Britten and perhaps some members felt it was a little out of their comfort zone. I am however hugely grateful that you embrace whatever we throw at you, and I would suggest, from what I have heard, that many if not all members were converted to the piece by the end of the term! The resulting performance, with the added colour from the orchestra, boys' choir and a virtuosic solo contribution from tenor Joe Doody, made for engaging listening and the dramatic storytelling was clearly enjoyed by the appreciative audience.

As is traditional the summer concert was a more relaxed affair featuring music of modern America. The main work was the colourful set of spirituals arranged by John Rutter. With tricky rhythms abound these are not easy, but the choir took an instant liking to them and much enjoyment was had during rehearsals grappling with alternating time signatures! Judy Brown provided the mezzo solos and was most certainly 'feeling the spirit'! The remainder of the programme consisted of shorter pieces of many different styles and periods which the choir embraced well. The performance of Bernstein's Wonderful Town was particularly memorable with some wonderful solo contributions from members of the choir. Phil as always provided a tour de force of piano accompaniment throughout.

Finally, I must thank Rebecca and the committee for all the work they do throughout the year - having such a great team makes my job so much easier! And of course, a huge thank you to Phil and Nina for their assistance and support at rehearsals.

Julian Collings
TCS Musical Director

TRUSTEES REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2022

Financial review

The good news is that TCS were able to hold three concerts during the chorus year, having been unable to hold any the previous year due to the pandemic, and those concerts were judged successes on musical and entertainment grounds. We had 108 members during the course of the season and we were able to restore subscription prices to previous levels, giving us a healthy income.

On the other hand, I have to report that our chorus made a considerable loss of nearly eleven thousand pounds in the year, though thanks to the excellent stewardship of my predecessor we were in a position to sustain such a loss, and in the event did not need to delve into our reserve account, though we came close.

There are two factors in the scale of the loss – the lavish forces we employed for the Spring (Britten and Chilcott) concert (the string section alone – English Sinfonietta – cost over £2k), and the amount we are now having to expend on the purchase and printing of our music having lost the services of (deceased) Peter Moore.

Though we had plenty of praise for the All Saints Kingston concert, so arguably it was money well spent, we clearly have to be careful about the number of musicians and singers we employ for the next year or two. We also suffered from low ticket sales as people have been more wary of meeting in public post-Covid. The Summer concert was particularly disappointing in that respect. It should be noted that some of the cost of the following year's music has gone on this year's accounts, adding to the costs, but it will of course reduce next year's expenditure on music.

Recognising the difficulties that all musicians and choruses have had to face in the last few years we gave our wonderful director Julian and pianist Phil a "pandemic bonus" of £1,000 each and raised their fees (which hadn't been altered for a few years).

Regarding membership fees we felt we had to raise them for the following chorus year but we hope most members agree that it is still great value, and members are getting their music at subsidised prices.

The Income for the year was bolstered by almost £2.5k by tax recovery (Gift Aid) from HMRC, and the task was made easier by the changes I made to the treasurer's spreadsheet at the start of the chorus year. Those changes have been beneficial in other ways, reducing some of the work of keeping the spreadsheet up to date, though the introduction of card payments has meant an increase in the complexity of keeping track of who has paid how much for what purpose, so one does need to make careful notes at rehearsals and other gatherings and update the spreadsheet at regular intervals. My thanks to Rebecca and especially Alison for helping to keep note of who paid and how much for music, tickets and singing lessons etc.

TRUSTEES REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2022

The card reader appears to have been a great success but since there is a fee of 1.69% on every transaction, we urge members to pay large amounts like subscriptions by bank transfer, cash or cheque. My thanks to secretary Roz Barder for cooperating so well in keeping our records of subscriptions in line at the start of each season.

In summary, although our finances have taken a hit TCS is in a healthy position with several new members and some old ones returning, ready to spread our harmonies in a hopefully post-pandemic world, though the increase in living costs we are all now facing is a matter of concern.

My thanks to Andrew Stanley who has agreed to continue as our independent examiner.

Richard Hudspith, Hon Treasurer

Rebecca Clarke, Chair of Trustees

28th November 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT for the year ended 31 August 2022

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts set out on pages 9 to 12. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether any particular matter has come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

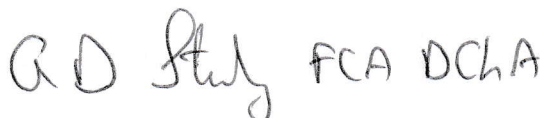
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from 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 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; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave 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



Andrew David Stanley FCA DChA

29 School House Lane
Teddington
Middlesex
TW11 9DP

Date: 28th November 2022

Teddington Choral Society

Charity Number 299421

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

31 August 2022

	2022	2021
RECEIPTS		
Members subscriptions	£15,089.90	£9,030.00
Tax recovery on subscriptions (Gift aid)	£2,498.24	£903.49
Concert receipts	£6,110.48	-
Music sales to members and external	£4,697.28	-
Choral workshops	£770.00	-
Singing lessons	£747.96	-
Other receipts from members (clothing, CDs)	£59.00	£130.00
Social Events and refreshments	£380.26	£42.90
Fundraising and donations	£151.93	£12.72
Bank interest	£6.47	£1.69
Total Receipts	£30,511.52	£10,120.80

Teddington Choral Society

Charity Number 299421

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 31 August 2022

	2022	2021
PAYMENTS		
Fees paid to director and accompanist	£13,150.00	£11,960.00
Concert expenditure	£13,825.90	£645.00
Rehearsal costs incl venue hire, rehearsal CDs	£2,293.00	£1,587.58
Music costs incl purchase, hire, storage	£8,127.99	£79.50
Music printing for next chorus year	£1,016.00	-
Singing lessons	£1,505.00	-
Clothing accessories (scarves, ties)	£414.50	-
Social events and refreshments	£290.75	£143.32
Making Music, other societies subs,	£273.00	£544.00
Choral workshops	£348.00	-
Video-audio editing	-	£130.00
Website, advertising	£141.58	-
Sundry expenses incl card reader	£43.99	£205.00
Total Payments	£41,429.71	£15,294.40
Net outgoing resources/(deficit)	-£10,918.19	-£5,173.60

Teddington Choral Society

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

31 August 2022

	2022	2021
Balance at 1 September 2021(20) brought forward	£29,945.93	£35,119.53
Plus/minus net incoming resources	-£10,918.19	-£5,173.60
Assets at 31 August 2022(21)	£19,027.74	£29,945.93
Represented by:		
Current account	£2,075.03	£13,050.69
Business reserve account	£16,902.71	£16,895.24
Cash for floats	£50.00	
Total Bank and cash	£19,027.74	£29,945.93

The financial statements on pages 9 to 12 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th November 2022 and are signed on their behalf by

Richard Hudspith
Hon Treasurer

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Charity has income over £10,000 in the financial year ended 31st August 2022. The Trustees have opted to continue to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account as allowed under "Charity Reporting and Accounting: the essentials" (CC15d) published in November 2016.