



**Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir  
Trustees' Annual Report  
for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**

**Charity registration number: 506586**

**Season Summary**

The choir returned to in-person rehearsals once weekly during school term times. The choir continues to employ a Musical Director, Lee Dunleavy, and a professional pianist as accompanist, Colin Druce.

Concerts performed:

1. Jubilate Deo by Dan Forrest, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021, All Saints Church, Royal Leamington Spa
2. Christmas Concert, Carols composed or arranged by previous RSLBC Musical Directors, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021, All Saints Church, Royal Leamington Spa
3. Motets by J S Bach, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022, All Saints Church, Royal Leamington Spa
4. Gloria by Vivaldi, Magnificat by Leonarda and Dixit Dominus by G F Handel, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023, All Saints Church, Royal Leamington Spa

Other Events:

1. Come and Sing, various Jubilee Proms Music, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022, All Saints Church, Royal Leamington Spa

**Chairman's Report**

Our new season began in the Autumn with Jubilate Deo, our first concert for 18 months and hugely enjoyable for singers and audience alike. The Christmas concert in December also attracted a full church and received positive and enthusiastic responses from our audience. The idea of heritage Carols of the area, and especially former MDs, has been enthusiastically received and we must thank our Musical Director Lee Dunleavy for his mammoth efforts at procuring these works.

Last December we were in the throes of the Omicron-variant wave, and Covid precautions were on everyone's mind. It was not at all clear then how much of the planned season was going to happen, and although more lockdowns seemed unlikely, it was still unclear whether enough members would feel confident in meeting together for us to be able to carry on with in-person rehearsals, but we took the decision in early January that, unless we were legally obliged to, we would not cancel or postpone the first event of the New Year, which was the Come & Sing at All Saints, Leamington. It went ahead as advertised on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and proved to be a great success. We were very pleased to have 94 singers take part, with

around 50 in the audience at the end of the afternoon to hear a rousing Promenade-style programme to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee.

A concert of four Bach Motets and organ works went ahead on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at All Saints, Leamington with around 120 in the audience. On 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022, we presented Handel's Dixit Dominus, with the Leonarda Magnificat and Vivaldi's Gloria, again at All Saints Leamington. Ticket sales were rather slow to pick up, but there were over 100 in the audience on the night.

That concluded Lee's first full season with us as Musical Director. A successful season, and all the more so remembering the uncertainties of Covid and its effect on audiences and on the choir.

The committee and Lee have brought together a programme for next season, 2022/23. Lee proposed and the committee agreed that the time was right to try new venues and the varied musical programmes which would suit them. Through the spring term we visited various venues to assess their suitability. All the details of music, dates and how to finance the programme then had to be brought together, and the finished programme was completed in June.

We had a very successful social quiz evening with bring and share supper on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022, at our rehearsal venue, Lillington School, with thirty members and guests.

Members sang for two weddings, at St Mary's Warwick, on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021; and at St Mary Immaculate Catholic Church, Warwick, on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2022 in return for a welcome fee.

We held the full Annual General meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021, and two extra General Meetings in the year, to adopt a revised constitution [*16<sup>th</sup> March 2022*] and to set the 2022/23 annual subscription [*15<sup>th</sup> June 2022*].

We now have 76 singing members, including 20 who have joined in the last 12 months and stayed the course.

## **Treasurer's Report**

With quite large ensembles of professional musicians contracted for the concerts this season we made a loss of >£3k on the Autumn concert and a loss of >£3.5k on the Summer concert. Other concerts and events were close to break even, so our overall concert loss was ~£7k which is similar to that of 4-6 years ago. It is worth noting that we did receive >£2k in donations towards concerts, but these are shown separately in our accounts.

We pulled in some funds through performance fees for two wedding services, a Coventry Cathedral performance, and through hiring out our staging at All Saints.

Our costs, in the form of venue hire fees and professional musician fees, have risen significantly and are likely to rise again this season. This led to the officer's decision to propose a rise in our subs from £150pa to £180pa to help towards these ongoing rehearsal and operating costs, which was accepted at an EAGM.

Our net asset position has dropped by >£3k but is still at a comfortable level to see us through a few potentially costly seasons – plus we received no Gift Aid for the season (normally around £3k) so we are likely to recoup that next season.

Our budget for the next season (2022-23) has been compiled with the assumption of some rising costs and it remains to be seen if that allowance will be sufficient – it is likely that venue costs may go up above that budgeted (for rehearsals and concerts) due to rising energy costs.

A larger pot for advertising and publicity has been budgeted – both printed and digital. The budget also predicts an overall loss on concerts to be around £10k – as we trial some higher quality new venues and put on some large ensemble pieces to attract larger audiences and new singers as we recover from the lockdown and compete for those returning to music.

## **Governance**

The Choir is governed by a constitution which sets out the Membership, Officers & Committee, Trusteeship, etc. Relevant extracts of the constitution are included here:

### **3) Membership**

- i) The membership of the Society shall comprise
  - a) Patron
  - b) President
  - c) Vice Presidents
  - d) Members
  - e) Associate Members
- ii) The position of Patron may be offered to a suitable person by a resolution of a General Meeting.
- iii) The position of President shall be reserved for the Mayor of Royal Leamington Spa ex officio.
- iv) Vice Presidents may be elected by a General Meeting in recognition of exceptional service to the Society.
- iii) Applications for Member must be made using the prescribed form and are subject to appraisal by the Musical Director as to the applicant's musical suitability.
- iv) Associate Members may be appointed by the committee.
- v) The Committee shall ensure that a record is kept of the membership of the Society.
- vi) Communications with the membership will be made in electronic form except as the committee may direct otherwise.

### **4) Officers & Committee**

- i) The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall elect from among the Members of the Society a committee which shall manage the Society comprised as follows:
  - a) Chairman
  - b) Secretary
  - c) Treasurer
  - d) Publicity Officer
  - e) Librarian
  - f) Not more than five other committee members
- ii) A quorum at a committee meeting shall be not less than half the number of members and must include at least the Chairman or the Secretary or the Treasurer.
- iii) Casual vacancies may be filled by the Committee from among the Members of the Society.

- iv) The committee may co-opt not more than two additional persons as members at any time.
- v) The Chairman shall have a second or casting vote at committee meetings only.
- vi) A committee meeting may be called at any appropriate time by the Secretary.
- vii) All committee members shall be eligible to stand for re-election except that no Member shall hold the office of Chairman for more than three years in immediate succession.

### **5) Musical Director**

The Society may engage and remunerate a suitably qualified Musical Director whose duties shall include rehearsing the choir, conducting the choir at public concerts, appraising the musical suitability of applicants for membership, proposing for the approval of the committee a programme of music for performance which will advance the objects of the Society, and other duties as may be agreed from time to time.

### **13) Trusteeship**

- i) All music or other property purchased by or presented to the Society shall be vested in the committee.
- ii) For the purposes of charitable registration, the trustees of the Society shall be the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- iii) No trustee or committee member or any connected person shall receive any financial benefit from the Society except that
  - a) Out-of-pocket expenses incurred in conducting any approved business of the Society shall be reimbursed.
  - b) As provided by the Charities Act 2011 Section 185 a financial benefit may be given to a trustee or committee member or connected person in return for services provided under a written contract if the trustees and the committee agree that the best interests of the Society are thereby served and that in no circumstances do a majority of trustees or committee members receive any such benefit.

*Adopted 31<sup>st</sup> January 1945 and last amended Day Month 2022.*

*Ref: v2*

### **Other Matters**

Trustees have been made aware of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

## Financial Review

### Accounts at end August 2022

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR							
ANALYSIS OF CONCERT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE							
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022							
	Autumn	Xmas	Workshop	Spring	Summer	Total	
Ticket sales	1,703	1,645	2,193	1,899	1,755	9,195	
Programme sales	144	63	0	196	136	538	
Programme advertising	0	0	0	0	20	20	
Music sale/hire	105	576	0	162	387	1,229	
Other concert income	206	271	317	230	134	1,158	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£ 2,157</b>	<b>2,555</b>	<b>2,510</b>	<b>2,488</b>	<b>2,431</b>	<b>12,141</b>	
Orchestra/instrumentalists	2,625	900	400	1,100	2,630	7,655	
Soloists/conductor	1,350	450	425	450	2,075	4,750	
Music/instrument hire	429	576	240	685	414	2,343	
Venue hire/staging costs	550	375	520	555	378	2,378	
Concert printing/advertising	393	213	68	456	407	1,537	
Other concert expenses	40	352	19	107	115	634	
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£ 5,387</b>	<b>2,866</b>	<b>1,672</b>	<b>3,353</b>	<b>6,019</b>	<b>19,297</b>	
<b>Concert surplus/deficit</b>	<b>£ (3,230)</b>	<b>(311)</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>(865)</b>	<b>(3,587)</b>	<b>(7,156)</b>	

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR							
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022							
	31.08.22	31.08.21	05.08.20	31.08.19	31.08.18	31.08.17	31.08.16
<b>Equipment</b>							
At cost at 1 September	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482
Additions in year	0	0	60	0	0	0	0
Depreciation to date	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,151)	(3,713)
	0	0	60	0	0	331	769
<b>Working capital</b>							
Debtors, advance payments & cash floats	1,977	1,760	355	824	580	1,201	1,372
COIF charity deposit	5,328	5,310	5,309	5,271	5,251	5,237	7,213
Lloyds current account	18,100	18,686	21,881	10,752	4,614	3,900	3,388
	25,404	25,756	27,605	16,847	10,445	10,669	12,742
Income in advance and creditors	2450	0	2,890	808	296	756	400
<b>Net asset position</b>	<b>£ 22,954</b>	<b>25,756</b>	<b>24,715</b>	<b>16,039</b>	<b>10,149</b>	<b>9,913</b>	<b>12,342</b>
<b>Surplus funds as per previous page</b>	<b>£ 21,686</b>	<b>22,255</b>	<b>25,779</b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>9,983</b>	<b>10,079</b>	<b>12,342</b>
					166	-166	

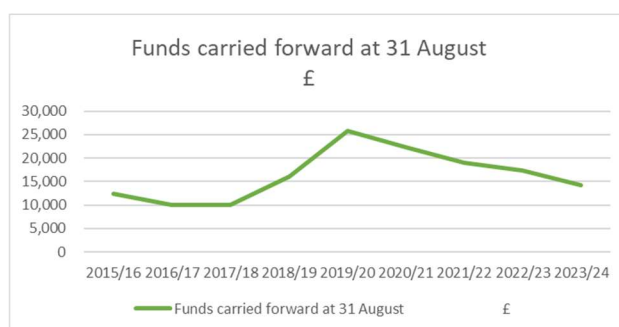
## Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir Trustees' Annual Report, Season 2021 to 2022

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR							
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022							
	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
Total concert income as per attached schedule	12,141	571	11,563	14,022	9,991	10,320	12,515
Members' subscriptions incl Gift Aid recovery	10,630	5,095	15,014	14,804	11,364	9,459	8,825
Friends' subscriptions	1,179	710	1,240	1,028	1,060	1,220	900
Performance Fees	1,200	480	-	-	-	-	-
Grants, donations, fundraising & bequest	2,773	2,237	1,765	56	-	0	570
Refreshments and raffles	1,127	72	1,310	1824	1495	1232	1,126
Bank deposit interest received	18	39	38	20	15	24	32
Miscellaneous income	2,450	0	395	-1,349	204	218	0
<b>Total income</b>	<b>31,518</b>	<b>9,204</b>	<b>31,325</b>	<b>30,405</b>	<b>24,129</b>	<b>22,473</b>	<b>23,968</b>
Total concert expenditure as per attached schedule	19,297	2,248	10,406	15,772	15,647	16,246	17,997
Rehearsal venue	2,343	1,698	1,590	577	1573	1240	1,490
Conductor/accompanist	7,174	6,037	6,143	6458	5571	5265	5,787
Printing/publicity	577	393	2,626	307	68	172	350
Miscellaneous (inc prepayments)	2,118	1,634	256	648	453	803	305
Insurance, PRS & Making Music	578	718	567	586	583	572	600
Depreciation of equipment	0	0	0	0	331	438	438
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>32,086</b>	<b>12,728</b>	<b>21,587</b>	<b>24,348</b>	<b>24,225</b>	<b>24,736</b>	<b>26,967</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit for the year</b>	<b>(569)</b>	<b>(3,524)</b>	<b>9,739</b>	<b>6,057</b>	<b>(96)</b>	<b>(2,263)</b>	<b>(2,999)</b>
<b>Funds brought forward at 1 September</b>	<b>22,255</b>	<b>25,779</b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>9,983</b>	<b>10,079</b>	<b>12,342</b>	<b>15,341</b>
<b>Funds carried forward at 31 August</b>	<b>21,686</b>	<b>22,255</b>	<b>25,779</b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>9,983</b>	<b>10,079</b>	<b>12,342</b>

The accounts were independently reviewed by Ms Yasmi Roberts of 40 Priorsfield Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 1DB on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

## Reserves

It is the policy of the choir to maintain a balance of funds in the current account of £12,000, which equates to the typical level of professional fees for an average concert. This level was recently re-established during the period of the pandemic when no concerts and very limited rehearsals were held.



The choir also maintains an emergency COIF Charities Deposit Fund with CCLA Investment Management. The balance of this fund at 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 was £5,334.15.

## Choir Officers

Chairman	Richard Taulbut	Autumn 2021 to present
Secretary	Jude Robinson	Autumn 2019 to present
Treasurer	Nicola Deards	Autumn 2019 to present

**ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR**

**ANALYSIS OF CONCERT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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# ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR

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<b>Funds brought forward at 1 September</b>	<b>22,255</b>	<b>25,779</b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>9,983</b>	<b>10,079</b>	<b>12,342</b>	<b>15,341</b>
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ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

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At cost at 1 September	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482
Additions in year	0	0	60	0	0	0	0
Depreciation to date	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,151)</u>	<u>(3,713)</u>
	0	0	60	0	0	331	769
<b>Working capital</b>							
Debtors, advance payments & cash floats	1,977	1,760	355	824	580	1,201	1,372
COIF charity deposit	5,328	5,310	5,309	5,271	5,251	5,237	7,213
Lloyds current account	<u>18,100</u>	<u>18,686</u>	<u>21,881</u>	<u>10,752</u>	<u>4,614</u>	<u>3,900</u>	<u>3,388</u>
	25,404	25,756	27,605	16,847	10,445	10,669	12,742
Income in advance and creditors	<u>2450</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,890</u>	<u>808</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>756</u>	<u>400</u>
<b>Net asset position</b>	£ <u>22,954</u>	<u>25,756</u>	<u>24,715</u>	<u>16,039</u>	<u>10,149</u>	<u>9,913</u>	<u>12,342</u>
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Approved on 9 September 2022

R. J. T. Aulbut  
Chairman

DBK's  
Secretary

N. D. L.  
Treasurer



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 August 2022

Charity no  
(if any)

506586

Set out on pages

See below

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signed:

*Yasmi Roberts*

Date:

30 September 2022

Name:

Yasmi Roberts

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

Retired bank manager with experience of reviewing audited accounts for lending purposes.

Address:

40 Priorsfield Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 1DB