

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 31 August 2023

Purpose and Trustees

Ely Choral Society is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, registration number 802308.

Its charitable purpose is 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. Also 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.

The Society is managed by a committee of Trustees elected from the Society's membership.

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Jeremy James (chairman)
Ruth Ogden
Angela Major
Elizabeth Burton
Linda Rogers
Colin Batchelor
Clarke Brunt
Elisabeth Every
Roger Young
Ruth James

Chair's report

The chair's report is, above all, an opportunity to look back at the year - celebrating everything that was good - and to thank those who contribute to making it so good.

Musically, our 2022/23 season, as Andrew has reminded us, was a good and varied one.

- We began with Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle - a cause to wonder why on earth it is called either Petite or Solennelle, and an opportunity for some members to be introduced to the mysteries of the harmonium.

- Our Christmas concert was as enjoyable as ever. We realised the care and skill with which Andrew had devised the programme, and we had the pleasure of being almost the first to use the Renewed St Mary's building and to enjoy the revitalised acoustics.

- In the spring, we had the pleasure of singing once more with Camerata East led by Helen Medlock. I remember the lovely playing of the Mozart Divertimento with which they began the concert and our performance of the Mozart Requiem felt quite epic.

- And then, an added bonus, in July we had another opportunity to sing with an orchestra - Ely Sinfonia. And, as we enjoyed our singing of Vaughan Williams, Chilcott and Beethoven, we were dazzled by the keyboard artistry of Natalia Williams-Wandoch.

Not only do we get to enjoy singing but we get to enjoy what our fellow-performers do – including, of course, the vocal soloists whom Andrew engages for us and, perhaps especially, the amazing

musicianship of Glen Dempsey whether he is playing the piano as he did for the Rossini, the organ as he did at Christmas, or the chamber organ as he did in the spring concert. So we have had a great year of music-making.

It has been good to see our numbers grow steadily over the course of the year. And, as always, there has been a spirit of cooperation within the choir. Very recently, for example, when there has been a request for help with chairs, or the need of a new treasurer or someone to assist with organising concerts, people have stepped forwards.

There are lots of people to thank for their particular contributions over the past year:

Our committee must be thanked for their work which includes:

- reviewing past concerts to see what lessons (positive or negative) can be learnt for future concerts;
- planning the practicalities of upcoming concerts and agreeing the budgets for them;
- looking at future plans;
- monitoring our financial position;
- receiving regular reports on Ely Youth Choir which we support.

Some particular thank yous:

- to our librarians who, with great efficiency, make sure that we always have the music we need;
- to Angela Major, our publicity guru, who makes sure that our concerts are well advertised, both physically and on social media;
- to Roger Young who produces the programmes for our concerts;
- to Ruth James who looks after and communicates with the Friends of ECS;
- to Clarke Brunt who ticks us off in the register week by week, and who manages all our communications;
- to Linda, Lis, Jonathan and all involved in the smooth running of Ely Youth Choir;
- to Linda and Ruth Ogden for their secretarial duties;
- to Roger Hill who manages our website and also designs our publicity material;
- and, once again, to Colin Batchelor for his many years as our treasurer.

A couple of weeks ago, I was contacted by someone doing research for the Arts Council; one of her questions was: "What is good about Ely Choral Society?" Out of the many things I could have said, I picked out three. Firstly, we put on great concerts. Secondly, there is a real sense of enjoyment among the members as they sing together week by week. And the reason those two things are happening is the third thing: we have a great conductor. Year by year, Andrew chooses great music for us to sing; and week by week, he helps us to find that singing can be just a wonderfully fulfilling pleasure. So, as we look back at another year's music-making, once again, there is so much to celebrate' and so much to thank Andrew for.

Financial review

The accounts show that we made an overall deficit in 2022/23 of £4,935, comprising a small surplus on central and other activities of £1,401 and a deficit on concerts of £6,337.

The Society's aim is that its central costs should be covered from central income, such as members' subscriptions. This we achieved.

Before the pandemic, we also aimed to balance concert income and expenditure, over a period of years, so that popular concerts pay for the more artistically-challenging programmes. Post pandemic, we have been focusing on re-establishing our programme of concerts. This we achieved with considerable success in 2022/23, generating concert income of £14,974 compared with £6,488 the year before. The deficit for 2022/23 was unusually high because ticket revenue from the summer 2023 concert did not come in until the following year. We will continue to work towards breaking even on concert activity. In the short term, however, the Society's reserves are sufficient to meet small deficits.

Reserves at the year-end amounted to £29,031. The Society aims to hold cash reserves at a level sufficient to cover the costs of a concert in the event that no income is generated. Currently this is set at £23,000.

Jeremy James

Chair

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended

31st August 2022			31st August 2023	
£	£		£	£
10,406.50		CENTRAL INCOME		
200.00		Subscriptions	11,452.50	
1,354.25		Friends	757.50	
2,770.00		Gift Aid	2,578.88	
28.26		Donations	530.00	
402.00		Interest and bank refunds received	122.74	
		EYC: Unrestricted	405.00	
		EYC: Restricted		
	<u>15,161.01</u>			<u>15,846.62</u>
		CENTRAL EXPENDITURE		
(502.00)		Making Music	(507.99)	
(863.97)		Hire of rehearsal room	(1,326.00)	
(5,761.70)		Musical Director and guests	(7,045.80)	
(400.00)		Accompanist	(541.20)	
(300.00)		Website	(300.00)	
(98.00)		Subscription Refund		
(4.95)		Publicity	(336.61)	
(74.69)		Bank Charges	(94.50)	
(3,023.00)		EYC: Unrestricted	(3,633.70)	
0.00		EYC: Restricted	0.00	
	<u>(11,028.31)</u>			<u>(13,785.80)</u>
	<u>4,132.70</u>	NET TOTAL		<u>2,060.82</u>
		CONCERT PROFITABILITY		
2,610.00		Autumn 2022 Income	2,170.50	
(2,684.45)		Autumn 2022 Expenditure	(5,812.74)	
	<u>(74.45)</u>			<u>(3,642.24)</u>
	0.00	Autumn 2023 Expenditure	(30.00)	
				<u>(30.00)</u>
(649.00)		Christmas 2022 Income	2,562.50	
	<u>(649.00)</u>	Christmas 2022 Expenditure	(2,465.22)	
				<u>97.28</u>
2,000.00		Easter 2022 Income	2,559.80	
(3,715.75)		Easter 2022 Expenditure	(1,651.20)	
	<u>(1,715.75)</u>			<u>908.60</u>
	0.00	Easter 2023 Income	9,042.01	
		Easter 2023 Expenditure	(10,078.48)	
				<u>(1,036.47)</u>
		Summer 2022 Expenditure	(90.00)	
				<u>(90.00)</u>
1,878.00		Summer 2023 Income	291.00	
(2,581.87)		Summer 2023 Expenditure	(2,835.20)	
	<u>(703.87)</u>			<u>(2,544.20)</u>
	<u>(1,427.32)</u>	NET TOTAL		<u>(6,337.03)</u>
		OTHER ACTIVITIES		
527.50		Music hire and sales: Income	1,368.00	
(1,168.20)		Music hire and sales: Expenditure	(1,976.00)	
	<u>(640.70)</u>			<u>(608.00)</u>
	0.00	Social/fundraising Income		
		Social/fundraising Expenditure		
				<u>0.00</u>
60.00		Folders Income	90.00	
(69.00)		Folders Expenditure	(141.00)	
	<u>(9.00)</u>			<u>(51.00)</u>
(3,000.00)		Commission Income		
	<u>(3,000.00)</u>	Commission Expenditure		
				<u>0.00</u>
	<u>(3,649.70)</u>	NET TOTAL		<u>(659.00)</u>

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY
SUMMARISED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
for the year ended

31st August 2022			31st August 2023
15,161.01	Central	Income	15,846.62
(11,028.31)		Expenditure	(13,785.80)
4,132.70			2,060.82
6,488.00	Concerts	Income	14,974.61
(9,631.07)		Expenditure	(21,311.64)
(3,143.07)			(6,337.03)
587.50	Other activities	Income	1,458.00
(4,237.20)		Expenditure	(2,117.00)
(3,649.70)			(659.00)
(2,660.07)			(4,935.21)
BALANCE SHEET as at			
31st August 2022			31st August 2023
36,626.18		Value of funds brought forward	33,966.11
(2,660.07)		Surplus/(Deficit)	(4,935.21)
33,966.11		Value of funds carried forward	29,030.90
Funds			
33,214.30		Unrestricted Funds	28,279.09
751.81		Restricted Funds	751.81
33,966.11			29,030.90
Invested			
15,992.29		Current accounts	10,937.08
17,973.82		Deposit account	18,093.82
33,966.11			29,030.90

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended

31st August 2022

£	£
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	<u>15,161.01</u>
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	<u>4,132.70</u>
2,610.00	
(2,684.45)	
	<u>(74.45)</u>
	0.00
(649.00)	
	<u>(649.00)</u>
2,000.00	
(3,715.75)	
	<u>(1,715.75)</u>
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(2,581.87)	
	<u>(703.87)</u>
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31st August 2023

	£	£
CENTRAL INCOME		
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Friends	757.50	
Gift Aid	2,578.88	
Donations	530.00	
Interest and bank refunds received	122.74	
EYC: Unrestricted	405.00	
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CENTRAL EXPENDITURE		
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NET TOTAL		<u>2,060.82</u>
CONCERT PROFITABILITY		
Autumn 2022	Income	2,170.50
	Expenditure	(5,812.74)
		<u>(3,642.24)</u>
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	Expenditure	(10,078.48)
		<u>(1,036.47)</u>
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Summer 2023	Income	291.00
	Expenditure	(2,835.20)
		<u>(2,544.20)</u>
NET TOTAL		<u>(6,337.03)</u>
OTHER ACTIVITIES		
Music hire and sales	Income	1,368.00
	Expenditure	(1,976.00)
		<u>(608.00)</u>
Social/fundraising	Income	
	Expenditure	
		<u>0.00</u>
Folders	Income	90.00
	Expenditure	(141.00)
		<u>(51.00)</u>
Commission	Income	
	Expenditure	
		<u>0.00</u>
NET TOTAL		<u>(659.00)</u>

ELY CHORAL SOCIETY

SUMMARISED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
for the year ended

31st August 2022

31st August 2023

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(11,028.31)
<u>4,132.70</u>
6,488.00
(9,631.07)
<u>(3,143.07)</u>
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31st August 2022
36,626.18
<u>(2,660.07)</u>
<u>33,966.11</u>

33,214.30
<u>751.81</u>
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15,992.29
<u>17,973.82</u>
<u>33,966.11</u>

Central	Income	15,846.62
	Expenditure	(13,785.80)
		<u>2,060.82</u>
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		<u>(6,337.03)</u>
Other activities	Income	1,458.00
	Expenditure	(2,117.00)
		<u>(659.00)</u>
		<u>(4,935.21)</u>

BALANCE SHEET as at

Value of funds brought forward	31st August 2023
Surplus/(Deficit)	33,966.11
Value of funds carried forward	<u>(4,935.21)</u>
	<u>29,030.90</u>

Funds

Unrestricted Funds	28,279.09
Restricted Funds	<u>751.81</u>
	<u>29,030.90</u>

Invested

Current accounts	10,937.08
Deposit account	<u>18,093.82</u>
	<u>29,030.90</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Ely Choral Society

I report on my examination of the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st August 2023 which are set out on these 2 pages

Responsibilities and basis of report

The Charity's trustees 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 Society'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Society as required by section 130 of the Act:
or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records:
or
- 3 the accounts do 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:

19th October 2023

Address:

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53 Ward Way
Witchford
Ely
CB6 2JR