

WELLS CATHEDRAL ORATORIO SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30 JUNE 2016

**WELLS CATHEDRAL ORATORIO SOCIETY
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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Background History

The Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society has been in existence for over 100 years. Originally the Wells Music Association, it joined forces after World War 1 with the Street, Shepton Mallet and Wedmore Musical Societies. Since 1947 the Society has performed major choral works in Wells Cathedral twice every year until the 2013-2014 season when the Society moved to three concerts a year.

The Chorus numbers around 170 singers drawn from a wide area in Somerset. It is one of the leading choral societies in the South West of England. Despite its name, it has always been independent of Wells Cathedral, and became a registered charity in its own right in 1988. Legal and Administrative information may be found in Annex A.

Objects of the Society

- To educate the public in the art and knowledge of music, and in particular of choral music, by the presentation of choral concerts and other related activities.
- To assist and further such charitable institutions and purposes as the Committee shall from time to time determine.

The charity's trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. Our society contributes significantly to the cultural life of Wells and the surrounding area, and we are proud of our efforts to reach out to all music lovers through a wide choice of music, some of which is rarely heard. We provide opportunities for all the community locally and far afield to Come and Sing some music with us creating a new experience for some once a year, which is appreciated and enjoyed.

Management

The Officers and Committee of the Society, which has no employees, undertake arrangements for concerts and other related events, management of the Society's affairs and the control of finance.

Officers and committee members are drawn from the membership of the society and stand for re-election every year at the Annual General Meeting. The committee members who served during the past year are listed on Page 9

Activities during the year

We commenced our 2015/2016 season with two Bach items – a Lutheran Mass in F, BWV233, and a Cantata, number 140. Neither item was well known and, to our pleasure, we had a reasonably full Cathedral. Our orchestra was the incomparable Music for a While, a superb Baroque band led by Maggie Faultless, and was much enjoyed by all. Perhaps we might find another Lutheran Mass to sing in the future.

Our now traditional Handel Messiah followed on 5th December to a full house, and, for the first time, we had to turn away some audience hopefuls. We had the same orchestra as before.

For our Spring concert, we decided to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday on 23rd April with a concert of Great British Classics. Parry, Walton and Elgar were some of the composers included. We had a full house of happy, fun-loving, flag-waving folk!

Finally, for our Come and Sing Day in June (to encourage singers of all ages and abilities), we sang part of our November 2016 concert – Mozart's Vesperae Solennes KV339. The event was popular and great fun. It was conducted by David Ogden at very short notice, due to the unavailability of our musical director, Matthew Owens. This event contributed £549 to the Society's funds.

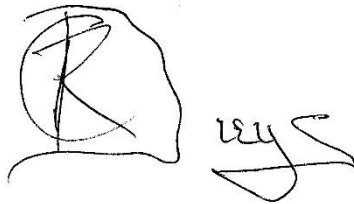
Our year finished with our reserves increased by £8,102 to £37,932

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Future Plans

In spite of the pressure of rising costs, we are through prudent management in a position to promote a programme which we hope will appeal to our audiences. In the 2016/17 Season our November concert will be Mozart's Vespers K339 and Haydn's Nelson Mass in D minor. For Christmas we plan our popular Messiah. And on the 1st April, Walton's Belshazzar's Feast and Holst's Planets. The Come and Sing will be Bach's Magnificat on 6th May.

For and on behalf of the trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robin Duys', written in a cursive style.

Robin Duys
Chairman

Date: 18 July 2016

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME & ENDOWMENTS		This Year	Last Year
		£	£
Donations and Legacies			
Legacies	Note 1	3,020	
Donations	Note 2	<u>787</u>	<u>595</u>
		<u>3,807</u>	<u>595</u>
Investment Income			
Bank Interest		<u>126</u>	<u>113</u>
Income from Charitable Activities			
Members subscriptions		18,155	17,879
Friends subscriptions		1,633	1,627
Music Procurement scheme (net)		321	159
Fundraising		230	397
Tax Refund		4,279	4,158
Miscellaneous		<u>24</u>	<u></u>
		<u>24,642</u>	<u>24,220</u>
Total Income & Endowments		<u>28,575</u>	<u>24,928</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Concerts and Events	Note 3	18,602	22,789
Making Music subscription & insurance		585	585
Office Expenses		634	634
Re-audition Costs		360	
Miscellaneous		<u>292</u>	<u>748</u>
		<u>20,473</u>	<u>24,756</u>
Net income for the year		8,102	172
<i>Reconciliation of Funds</i>	Note 4		
Total funds brought forward		<u>29,830</u>	<u>29,658</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>37,932</u>	<u>29,830</u>

Note 1: Legacies

This includes a legacy of £3,000 from the estate of the late Mrs Christina Goodall

Note 2: Donations

Sponsors	500	500
Members and Friends	<u>287</u>	<u>95</u>
	<u>787</u>	<u>595</u>

Note 3: Concerts and Events

See 'Concert and Event Accounts' on Page 7 for details

Note 4: Funds

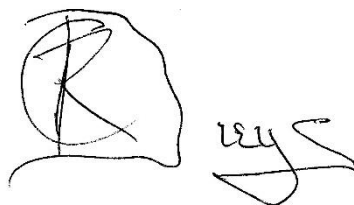
All activities are considered to be within a general, unrestricted fund

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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

		2016	2015
		£	£
DEBTORS & PREPAYMENTS			
Outstanding income	Note 1	4,291	
Payments re future concerts	Note 2	<u>134</u>	
		<u>4,425</u>	
CASH			
Current account		955	2,537
Savings account		2,241	4,375
COIF account		<u>31,041</u>	<u>22,918</u>
		<u>34,237</u>	<u>29,830</u>
CREDITORS	Note 3	(730)	
NET ASSETS		<u>37,932</u>	<u>29,830</u>
<i>Representing</i>			
General, unrestricted reserve	Note 4	<u>37,932</u>	<u>29,830</u>

Approved by the Committee on: 18th July 2016



Robin Duys
Chairman



David Flinders
Treasurer



Barbara Leuwer
Secretary

Notes

1. Outstanding Income

Gift Aid Claim	4,279
Unbanked income from Come & Sing Day	<u>12</u>
	<u>4,291</u>

2. Payments re future concerts

Advance payments relating to the November 2016 concert.

3. Creditors

This consists of £680 payable for Performing Rights for the Great British Classics concert and £50 sundry creditors.

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4a. Reserves Policy

The society needs to maintain reserves:-

- a) To provide a short-term cash flow buffer for the Spring concert in each season. The treasurer's assessment of the maximum amount required for this is £10,000.
- b) To provide for an uninsurable loss on concerts in excess of that forecast, for example catastrophic ticket sales. The trustees' assessment of the maximum risk is £10,000.
- c) To enable funds to be accumulated in some years for delivery of particularly resource-intensive and therefore expensive concerts in later years.

Our base level of required reserves to cover a) and b) is £20,000.

Our concert planning and budgeting process aims to deliver an overall annual result ranging between a deficit or surplus of £7,500. Whilst in the long run we will neither accumulate nor deplete reserves, we will accumulate cash in some years in order to provide funds for concerts demanding large resources, up to £15,000.

4b. Current Reserves

Reserves are £37,932 which includes an exceptional donation of £3,000 received during the year. The trustees' intention is to apply this donation to a specific use outside of normal operations. Our forecast of overall results for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 seasons based on currently planned concerts is a deficit of approximately £2,000 assuming membership and other general income remain unchanged.

General reserves at 30th June 2018 are therefore expected to be around £32,000.

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CONCERT AND EVENT ACCOUNTS

INCOME	This Year					Last Year				
	Autumn	Messiah	Spring	Come & Sing	Total	Autumn	Messiah	Spring	Come & Sing	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ticket Sales	7,005	12,801	11,810	1,570	33,186	9,335	12,587	8,075	1,393	31,390
Programme Sales	413	582	701		1,696	554	681	478		1,713
Programme adverts	240	240	240		720	80	140	240		460
Sponsors/donations								500		500
	7,658	13,623	12,751	1,570	35,602	9,969	13,408	9,293	1,393	34,063
EXPENDITURE										
Ticket sales commission	652	1,459	1,636		3,747	1,122	1,587	995		3,704
Programme Print	268	358	313		939	337	358	299		994
Ticket Print	86	86	121		293	58	61	91		210
Orchestra	6,000	7,900	9,500		23,400	5,656	7,570	9,597		22,823
Soloists	2,419	2,200			4,619	3,250	2,200	3,633		9,083
Conductor	1,010	1,010	1,010	450	3,480	1,000	1,000	1,000	430	3,430
Organist	151	151	151	140	593	150	360	150	140	800
Additional chorus & choristers	552	445	1,095		2,092	621		621		1,242
Performing Right fee		736	680		1,416	538	725			1,263
Rehearsal costs	2,875	1,260	2,896		7,031	2,857	1,176	3,339		7,372
Cathedral / Venue charges	1,712	1,712	1,788	215	5,428	1,579	1,573	1,900	100	5,152
Publicity	212	158	279	10	659	224	153	226		603
Miscellaneous expenses	118	98	84	206	507	25	68	67	17	176
	16,056	17,574	19,553	1,021	54,204	17,417	16,831	21,917	687	56,852
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(8,398)	(3,951)	(6,802)	549	(18,602)	(7,449)	(3,423)	(12,624)	706	(22,789)

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**Report of the Independent Examiner
to the Trustees of Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society**

I report on the accounts of Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society for the year ended 30 June 2016

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011("the Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act
- follow procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as trustees concerning 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 below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

1. to keep records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with accounting requirements of the Act, have 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.



Simon Bruce

Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)

Westbury Sub Mendip

Date: 8th August 2016

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ANNEX: LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity:	Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society	
Legal Status:	Unincorporated Trust	
Governing Document:	Constitution	
Charity Registration No:	800481	
Trustees (Officers of the Society):	Chairman	Robin Duys
	Hon. Secretary	Barbara Leuwer
	Hon. Treasurer	David Flinders
Committee Members		
	Membership Secretary	Pamela Pye
	Membership Subscriptions Secretary	Chris Jenkins
	Librarian	Richard Garstang
	Publicity Secretary	Della Menday
	Concert Manager	Robin Walker
	Website Secretary	Ben Clay
	Friends Secretary	Frances Rowe
	Programmes Secretary	Neill Bonham
	Come and Sing Secretary	Nancy McGiveron
Address of the Charity:	Barbara Leuwer Hon. Secretary Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society Grey Close, Top Road, Shipham BS25 1TB	
Bankers:	Lloyds 24/26 High Street Wells, BA5 2SJ	
Independent Examiner:	Simon Bruce Chartered Accountant Wester House Station Road Westbury sub Mendip BA5 1EY	