

**BICESTER CHORAL & OPERATIC SOCIETY  
(BCOS)  
Income & Expenditure Account  
Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	7,183	
Ticket Sales (net of commissions)	10,826	
Front of House	3,458	
Sponsorship	2,409	
Fundraising	527	
Gift Aid	1,556	
Advertising	480	
Other	573	
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<b>Total Income</b>		<b>27,012</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Music Director	6,735	
Accompanist	1,310	
Professionals Fees	4,188	
Music Hire & Purchase	902	
Venue Hire	3,106	
Properties & Sets	2,633	
Promotions	1,866	
Front of House	1,288	
Costume, Hair, Makeup	668	
Insurance & Fees	550	
Gifts, Subsistence & Sundry items	1,030	
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		<b>24,276</b>
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<b>Net Profit</b>		<b>£2,736</b>
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**BICESTER CHORAL & OPERATIC SOCIETY  
(BCOS)  
Registered No.1109779  
ANNUAL REPORT  
for the year to  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

The Charity is governed by a Constitution adopted by an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 16 March 2005.

The objects of the Society are to educate the public in the choral, orchestral, dramatic and operatic arts, and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts.

## **Activities and Achievements**

### **General**

The Society had 141 membership subscriptions across the 3 events, including from 2 life members, and 2 students. Most members participated in more than one of the Society's main activities. We are fortunate again, this year, to have had new members join us every term, particularly the second half of the year.

### **Productions**

The Trustees are mindful of their duty to ensure that the charity's activities exist for the public benefit. They have considered Charity Commission guidance, and are satisfied that the performance and achievements of the charity during the year, as outlined below, are consistent with this duty.

This year's staged production was *EVITA*. This performed financially beyond expectations, generating an unanticipated surplus of £511, following sell out performances. The choral work too, *Faure Requiem*, resulted in a surplus of £324. The Christmas concert, *Dashing Through The Snow*, generated the largest surplus of the year of £1076.

### **Fund-Raising**

*Give As You Live* continues to generate income, providing the society with £361 income this year. The society also registered with the Cherwell Lottery for the first time and this generated £60 of additional income. £450 was generated from the hiring out of the society's sound kit to another local group.

Once again, we received a grant from Bicester Town Council, this year for £500, which was used towards the production costs of *EVITA*.

Overall, the year's activities resulted in a larger than anticipated increase in the Society's cash reserves of £2733.91 at year-end, the cash reserve at year-end being £15,250.40.

The Trustees are conscious that the society is not a profit-making organisation. 2019's surplus was exceptional based, in part, on improved reputation and resultant increased membership. Additionally, the society made little /no capital expenditure in 2019.

### **Trustees**

Trustees are elected each year at the AGM. The elected trustees for 2019 were:

Ian Muddle, *Chairman*

Elizabeth Stiff, *Vice-Chairman*

Caroline Graham, *Treasurer*

Nikki Fine, *Secretary*

### **Executive Committee**

Additional Executive Committee members for 2019 were:

Jan Hartley

Laura Hudson

Alan Twigg

### **Address**

Bicester Choral & Operatic Society

c/o Caroline Graham 101 Kestrel Way Bicester Oxon OX26 6XZ

### **Bankers**

HSBC 1 Sheep Street Bicester Oxon OX6 7JA

### **Policy on Reserves**

The Trustees have adopted a policy of maintaining a financial Reserve to ensure the Society does not become insolvent as a consequence of income in any year falling significantly below expenditure. In years when the Reserve exceeds the target figure the Society will be able to consider staging more adventurous works or using more expensive techniques and equipment which might be more likely to result in a loss but which might be more artistically justified. In years when the Reserve falls below the target figure greater consideration will be given to conserving funds in order to increase the Reserve. The target figure for the Reserve has once again been set at £8,000 for 2020

The Society has no investments other than bank account balances and currently does not award grants.

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Caroline Graham (BCOS Treasurer)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF BICESTER CHORAL AND OPERATIC SOCIETY**

I report on the profit and loss account of the society for the year ended 31 December 2019, which are attached hereto.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 and that an independent examination is needed.

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

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

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 records, and seeking explanations from you as 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 next statement.

**Independent examiners' 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
  - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
  - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.



Michael Walker Associates, Holly House, Culworth, Banbury, OX17 2AT

Date 27 JAN 2020