

Registered Charity Number
1057242

Registered Company Number
3220578

London Concert Choir
(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Accounts

31st July 2016

**London Concert Choir
Annual Report and Accounts
Contents**

	Page
Charity References and Administrative Details	3
Trustees' Report	4-7
Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the accounts	11-14

London Concert Choir
Charity References and Administrative Details

Registered Charity	Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital Company No 3220578 Charity No 1057242
Management Committee	F P L Evans J M Greenway S C Rickett E L Cowie B A Whent T Strydom
Company Secretary	S L Livesey
Registered Office	7 Ildersly Grove Dulwich London SE21 8EU
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Ave Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner	Jenny Dewhirst ACMA Counterculture Partners Limited Institute of Contemporary Arts The Mall London SW1Y 5AH

Note:

*The Management Committee are the Directors of the company for company law purposes.
The Trustees of the charity for charity law purposes consist of the Management Committee and
the Company Secretary.*

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

The report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st July 2016

Introduction

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2016 which comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's governing documents and SORP FRSSE Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The financial statements will be submitted to the Charity Commission and Companies House after the AGM. The annual report and accounts help to provide timely and regular information on the charity and its funds, to help understand the charity's objectives, structure, activities and achievements and to gain appreciation of the financial transactions during the year and of its funds at the end of the year.

Trustees

Trustees who served during the year were the undermentioned members of the Management Committee and the Company Secretary.

Management Committee

F P L Evans
J M Greenway
S C Rickett
E L Cowie
B A Whent
K Pluto (resigned March 2016)
T Strydom (appointed April 2016)
S L Livesey

Company Secretary

The appointment and induction of new Trustees is reviewed regularly to cover areas of expertise required by the charity. The training requirements of current Trustees are reviewed regularly at Management Committee meetings. Trustees do not receive any benefits.

Objectives and Activities of the Charity

The Company is a registered charity formed to advance aesthetic education for the public benefit in the art and science of music. The Company continued to undertake choral concerts principally at Central London venues and also to perform by arrangement at concerts for the benefit of the public and other charities.

The Trustees of the Choir have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the choir believes it impacts on people's lives in three ways.

First, participants of all ages are involved in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing them with opportunity to develop vocal technique and musical repertoire. This is supported by workshops where members can develop their abilities.

Second, for our friends and supporters, educational activities such as talks about the works we perform are provided to broaden musical understanding and appreciation.

Third, for audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high-quality performances which should always be a pleasurable cultural experience, but will sometimes challenge and educate as well, by extending their musical knowledge.

In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audiences mentioned above, the Committee is conscious that its activities must be affordable, so concessionary rates are available for membership subscriptions and a wide range of ticket prices is offered to allow the concerts to be available to all. We continue to offer discounted membership to students and under-25s: any other member with financial difficulties can privately discuss a reduced subscription arrangement with the Treasurer.

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

Review of Achievements and Performance of the Charity during the year

Our 2015/16 season commenced with a performance of Mozart's Requiem Mass at Cadogan Hall. This was followed by an Advent Carol Concert at St Martin-in-the-Fields and two Christmas Carol Concerts at St Sepulchre's Church, Holborn Viaduct, at which collections were taken for Fairbridge Trust, a charity that supports young people in the most disadvantaged areas of the UK, and for BAPAM, a charity that helps deliver medical support to performing artists. We also organised a small group of choir members to sing for no charge at a Carol Service organised on behalf of Royal Trinity Hospice.

In March we performed Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 at St John's Smith Square with an ensemble of musicians playing period instruments. Our main concert of the year was a performance of Vaughan Williams's A Sea Symphony at Barbican Hall in June, to commemorate the First World War Battle of Jutland. This was promoted by London Concert Choir and performed in collaboration with the charity Seafarers UK, who were the main beneficiaries and who secured financial support from The Royal British Legion which enabled them to receive a significant sum from the proceeds of the concert towards their objective of assisting many organisations associated with seafaring. The success of the venture also meant that London Concert Choir did not, as it usually does, have to rely on its reserves in order to promote a concert on this scale. Southbank Sinfonia, a training orchestra with a growing reputation, was engaged for the performance.

In July, the choir went on tour to Krakow where we performed programmes of Hymns to the Virgin, sung a capella, in religious venues and more secular jazz concerts elsewhere. The religious concert was repeated in a performance at Holy Trinity Sloane Square on our return.

In the earlier part of the season, arrangements were made for members to attend vocal coaching sessions on a voluntary basis at their own expense and a substantial number of the choir took advantage of them. During the year the choir regularly offered significant reductions in ticket prices for pupils at London schools.

Plans for future periods

Our plans for this year involve a performance of Handel: Israel in Egypt in November, and Advent and Christmas Carol concerts. We expect to foster relations with at least one small charity who will benefit from a collection, and with Royal Trinity Hospice with whom we are in communication about a joint venture in the following season.

Our principal concert will include a performance of Rachmaninov: The Bells at Barbican Hall in March, and the season will conclude with a concert of opera music at Cadogan Hall in July.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have given due consideration to Charity Commission published guidance on the operation of the public benefit requirement and are satisfied that the charity meets these requirements.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution of the Charity

The charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee without a share capital. The registered company number is 3220578 and the registered charity number is 1057242. The charity's Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission regarding the public benefit test.

London Concert Choir Trustees' Report

Organisational Structure and Governance

The organisational structure of London Concert Choir consists of a Management Committee who meet regularly to consider and review the charity's activities, general progress and current financial position. Decisions are then made on matters such as the programme for the year and the level of expenditure to be incurred.

Reserves Policy

Following a review of our Reserves Policy during this year, the London Concert Choir now intends to maintain reserves sufficient to cover the maximum potential cost of the main concert during any 12-month period, currently judged to be £40,000, but subject to regular review. Funds in excess of this requirement will be used to meet the objectives of the charity.

Transactions and Financial position

The financial statements are set out on pages 9 to 13. The Trustees confirm that the charity's assets are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows an increase in reserves for the year of £12,266. The total reserves at the year end stand at £56,774.

A majority of the expenditure is spent on charitable activities.

Risk Assessment

Trustees are required to set a framework to identify and respond to risk and to provide a methodology for risk management and its reporting. The risks considered relate to the operational performance of the charity and the achievement of its aims and objectives, and are summarised as governance risks, operational risks, financial risks, external risks and compliance with law and regulations.

The Trustees confirm that the risks to which they believe the charity is exposed have been reviewed and that systems have been established to mitigate those risks. In order to identify relevant risks and appropriate controls the following matters were considered:-

- the charity's objectives and strategies;
- the nature and scope of the charity's activities;
- external legislation and regulations;
- the operating structure of the charity; and
- comparison with other similar size charities or working in the same sector.

During the period in question, the Committee continued to strengthen the risk mitigation systems, most notably by spreading the committee's operational responsibilities to a wider group of volunteers, and hereby strengthening the skill set required for committee membership within the choir.

Independent Examiner

Jenny Dewhirst has expressed her willingness to continue in office and in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 a resolution concerning the reappointment and remuneration of the Independent Examiner of the charity will be proposed at the forthcoming AGM.

**London Concert Choir
Trustees' Report**

Statement of Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Committee has elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing the financial statements the Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Trustees and Management Committee are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charitable company and that enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Method of preparation of accounts

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Trustees on

16th January 2017

and signed on their behalf by:

Eleanor Cowie

Print name:

ELEANOR COWIE

Member of the Management Committee/Director

London Concert Choir
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Charity

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st July 2016 which are set out on pages 9 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees, (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- a) examine the accounts under section 43 of the Act;
- b) to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act; and;
- c) to 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 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 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
 - i. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006;
 - ii. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities;

have not been met; or

- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in my report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached;

J. Dewhurst

Jenny Dewhurst ACMA
Counterculture Partners Limited
Institute of Contemporary Arts
The Mall
London
SW1Y 5AH

The date upon which my opinion is expressed is :- **7th December 2016**

London Concert Choir
Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31st July 2016

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2016 £	Restricted Funds 2016 £	Total Funds 2016 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2015 £
Income from:					
<i>Donations & legacies</i>	3a	42,650	-	42,650	35,907
<i>Charitable activities</i>	3b				
Concerts		151,953	-	151,953	79,216
Workshops		2,408	-	2,408	-
<i>Investments</i>	4	54	-	54	50
Total income		197,065	-	197,065	115,173
Expenditure on:					
<i>Raising funds</i>	5a	4,568	-	4,568	4,209
<i>Charitable activities</i>	5b				
Concerts		169,321	8,000	177,321	100,059
Workshops		2,910	-	2,910	-
Total expenditure		176,799	8,000	184,799	104,269
Net Incoming resources before transfers between funds		20,266	(8,000)	12,266	10,904
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		36,508	8,000	44,508	33,604
Total funds carried forward		56,774	-	56,774	44,508

The company made no recognised gains or losses other than those reported in the Statement of Financial Activities

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts.

London Concert Choir
Balance Sheet
as at 31st July 2016

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
Fixed assets	7	1,754	
Current assets			
Debtors	8	13,777	13,326
Cash at bank and in hand		63,641	31,026
		<u>77,418</u>	<u>44,352</u>
Creditors:-			
Amounts due within one year	9	22,398	(156)
Net current assets		55,020	44,508
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>56,774</u>	<u>44,508</u>
Net assets		<u>56,774</u>	<u>44,508</u>
 The funds of the charity :			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted revenue accumulated funds		56,774	36,508
Total unrestricted funds			
Restricted revenue accumulated funds		<u>-</u>	<u>8,000</u>
Total restricted funds			
Total charity funds		<u>56,774</u>	<u>44,508</u>

The directors are satisfied that for the year in question the charitable company was entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that no member or members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. However, in accordance with section 43 of the Charities Act 1993, the accounts have been examined by an Independent Examiner whose report appears on page 6.

The director(s) acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Eleanor Cowie

Signed
Member of the Management Committee/Director

ELEANOR COWIE

Print name

Date ...16th January 2017

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form an integral part of these accounts.

London Concert Choir
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31st July 2016

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16/07/14, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015) and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

Incoming Resources

Grants and donations are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which it has been received. Such income is only deferred when the donor specifies that the donation must only be used in future accounting periods or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Resources Expended

Liabilities are recognised on the accruals basis in accordance with normal accounting principles, modified where necessary in accordance with the guidance given in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting (FRSSE) issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Items of expenditure of £1,000 or above (on an aggregated basis) are capitalised, and are written off over the period of their expected useful lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Straight line basis over 3 years
----------------------------------	----------------------------------

Cash Flow Statement

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption applicable to small companies and not produced a cash flow statement.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only.

2 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or benefits were paid to trustees or persons connected with them during the year.

3 Income

	Unrestricted Funds 2016 £	Restricted Funds 2016 £	Total Funds 2016 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2015 £
3a Donations & legacies				
Donations and gift aid	15,126		15,126	12,502
Membership subscriptions	23,497		23,497	21,385
Friends subscriptions	240		240	210
Companions	1,200		1,200	1,350
Other income	2,587		2,587	460
	<u>42,650</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,650</u>	<u>35,907</u>
3b Charitable activities				
Concerts				
Ticket sales	68,121		68,121	69,815
Programme sales	2,399		2,399	2,208
Music score sales	7,153		7,153	5,541
Sponsorship	30,390		30,390	1,651
Touring income	43,890		43,890	
	<u>151,953</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,953</u>	<u>79,216</u>
Workshops				
Workshop/Event income	2,408		2,408	-
	<u>2,408</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,408</u>	<u>-</u>
4 Investment Income				
Bank interest	54		54	50
	<u>54</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>50</u>
5 Expenditure				
5a Raising funds				
Ticket commission	2,600		2,600	1,047
PRS commission on sales	1,105		1,105	1,997
Royalty licence fees	-		-	120
Programme commission	306		306	387
Subscriptions and donations	557		557	659
	<u>4,568</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,568</u>	<u>4,209</u>

	Unrestricted Funds 2016 £	Restricted Funds 2016 £	Total Funds 2016 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2015 £
5b Charitable activities				
Concerts				
Professional Fees	17,772		17,772	15,048
Orchestra	24,006	8,000	32,006	17,779
Concert venue hire	22,313		22,313	26,435
Staging/tx/hire etc	3,586		3,586	2,401
Instrument hire/tuning	244		244	1,198
Music hire incl orchestra	8,932		8,932	4,986
Refreshment costs	694		694	629
Presents/other concert costs	2,215		2,215	401
Programme print design	3,278		3,278	3,330
Flyers including distribution	2,471		2,471	1,196
Advertising	6,513		6,513	4,285
Rehearsal room	3,805		3,805	4,746
Rehearsal fees	12,188		12,188	9,325
Stationery/Post/Phone	1,101		1,101	640
Season leaflet print & distribute	431		431	402
Italy trip	102		102	1,096
Charitable donations	13,027		13,027	50
Finance costs	442		442	572
Library Storage System	-		-	441
Audit and accountancy fees	2,497		2,497	1,908
Touring expenditure	43,704		43,704	-
	<u>169,321</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>177,321</u>	<u>96,866</u>
Workshops				
Workshop/Event costs	2,910		2,910	3,193
	<u>2,910</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,910</u>	<u>3,193</u>

6 Staff costs
The charity did not employ any staff during the year

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
Cost		
At 1st August 2015	-	-
Additions	2,121	2,121
As at 31 July 2016	<u>2,121</u>	<u>2,121</u>
Depreciation		
At 1st August 2015	-	-
Charge for year	367	367
As at 31 July 2016	<u>367</u>	<u>367</u>

Net Book Value	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
As at 31 July 2016	<u>1,754</u>	<u>1,754</u>
As at 31 July 2015	-	-

The capitalised assets represent a recording system and staging purchased during the year

8 Debtors	2016	2015
	£	£
Trade Debtors	5,399	13,326
Prepayments	<u>8,378</u>	<u> </u>
	<u>13,777</u>	<u>13,326</u>
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2016	2015
	£	£
Trade creditors	9,336	(156)
Accrued expenses	<u>13,062</u>	<u> </u>
	<u>22,398</u>	<u>(156)</u>

10 Related party transactions

There were no transactions with related parties in the year

11 Restricted funds

Expenditure of £8,000 in the year was related to orchestra fees for the main concert - Vaughan Williams's A Sea Symphony at Barbican Hall in June (donation received in 2014-15 and carried forward)