

Registered Charity Number
1057242

Registered Company Number
3220578

London Concert Choir
(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Accounts

31st July 2017

**London Concert Choir
Annual Report and Accounts
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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 A 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	Andrew Wells Counterculture Partnership LLP Unit NH.204, E1 Business Studios, 7 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1DU

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 2017

Introduction

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2017 which comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's governing documents and SORP FRS 102 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
A T Strydom

Company Secretary

S L Livesey

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 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

The choir's 2016/17 season marked the 20th anniversary of the appointment of Mark Forkgen as Conductor and Music Director of the choir. The season commenced with a performance of Handel's oratorio *Israel in Egypt* at Cadogan Hall when we were accompanied by the Counterpoint period instrumental ensemble. This was followed by two concerts at St Martin-in-the-Fields: *Advent Carols by Candlelight* in the afternoon and a programme of English music for Advent in the evening. The choir performed a concert of *Carols for Choir and Audience* at Holy Trinity Church Sloane Street, at the end of which there was a collection for Action Medical Research, a charity which funds medical breakthroughs that change the lives of children. The choir also provided a small group of members to sing for no charge at a Carol Service organised on behalf of Royal Trinity Hospice.

The main concert of the year was a performance of Russian music, the main work being Rachmaninov's choral symphony *The Bells* at Barbican Hall in March 2017 with The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. In May, Southbank Sinfonia celebrated their 15th anniversary and invited about twenty members of the choir to join the chorus for a performance of Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* in the Royal Festival Hall. Our season ended with a concert entitled 'A Night at the Opera' at Cadogan Hall with Southbank Sinfonia which featured excerpts from Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Verdi's *La Traviata*, Bizet's *Carmen*, *The Rake's Progress* by Stravinsky and *Die Meistersinger* by Wagner.

Plans for future periods

Plans for the 2017/18 season include a performance of works by Schubert, including his rarely performed *Mass in E Flat*. We will be performing *Carols for Choir and Audience* shortly before Christmas as well as once again providing a small group of singers for a service on behalf of Royal Trinity Hospice. In March we plan a concert in support of the charity *Breast Cancer Now* which will include two works by Vaughan Williams and a new commission of a work by Alison Willis emphasising the sustaining power of a positive outlook on living with breast cancer. Our main concert of the year will be in conjunction with the Royal Air Force to celebrate its 100th anniversary and will include a newly commissioned choral work and the involvement of members of the RAF Central Band and a specially formed youth choir.

During the summer of 2017, members of the choir began to research the possibility of a tour to Granada in Spain in 2018. The choir prepared a detailed plan which was submitted to the organisers of the summer festival in the city. Although it has not been accepted this year, it will be re-submitted and the choir intends to tour there either as part of the festival or on its own in a succeeding year.

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 approximately £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 14. The Trustees confirm that the charity's assets are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a decrease in reserves for the year of £17,834. The total reserves at the yearend stand at £38,940.

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.

**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

4th December 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**

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31st July 2017 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees, who are also directors 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 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

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 145 of the 2011 Act;
- b) to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 the accounting records kept by the charitable company 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 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006;
 - ii. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 394 and 395 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Andrew Wells
Counterculture Partnership LLP
Unit NH.204
E1 Business Studios,
7 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1DU

The date upon which my opinion is expressed is:- 19th December 2017

London Concert Choir
Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31st July 2017

	Notes	Total Funds 2017 £	Unrestricted Funds 2016 £	Restricted Funds 2016 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2016 £
Income from:					
<i>Donations & legacies</i>	3a	40,228	42,650	-	42,650
<i>Charitable activities</i>	3b				
Concerts		75,303	151,953	-	151,953
Workshops		6,131	6,131	-	2,408
<i>Investments</i>	4	28	54	-	54
Total income		121,690	197,065	-	197,065
Expenditure on:					
<i>Raising funds</i>	5a	4,204	4,568	-	4,568
<i>Charitable activities</i>	5b				
Concerts		126,151	169,321	8,000	177,321
Workshops		9,169	9,169	-	2,910
Total expenditure		139,524	176,799	8,000	184,799
Net Incoming resources before transfers between funds		(17,834)	20,266	(8,000)	12,266
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		56,774	36,508	8,000	44,508
Total funds carried forward		38,940	56,774	-	56,774

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 2017

	Notes	2017 £	2016 £
Fixed assets	7	1,521	1,754
Current assets			
Debtors	8	8,340	13,777
Cash at bank and in hand		41,527	63,641
		<u>49,867</u>	<u>77,418</u>
Creditors:-			
Amounts due within one year	9	12,448	22,398
Net current assets		37,419	55,020
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>38,940</u>	<u>56,774</u>
Net assets		<u>38,940</u>	<u>56,774</u>
The funds of the charity :			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted revenue accumulated funds		38,940	56,774
Total unrestricted funds			
Restricted revenue accumulated funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total restricted funds			
Total charity funds		<u>38,940</u>	<u>56,774</u>

For the year ended 31 July 2017 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statement were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Eleanor Cowie.

ELEANOR COWIE

.....
Signed

.....
Print name

Member of the Management Committee/Director

Date: 4th December 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 2017**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the accounts and accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice and the Companies Act 2006. These accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017 are the first accounts prepared in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The reported financial position and financial performance for the previous period are not affected by the transition to FRS 102.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

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

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

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 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

	Total Funds 2017 £	Unrestricted Funds 2016 £	Restricted Funds 2016 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2016 £
3a Donations & legacies				
Donations and gift aid	12,483	15,126		15,126
Membership subscriptions	25,531	23,497		23,497
Friends subscriptions	210	240		240
Companions	1,710	1,200		1,200
Other income	294	2,587		2,587
	40,228	42,650	-	42,650
3b Charitable activities				
Concerts				
Ticket sales	66,554	68,121		68,121
Programme sales	3,022	2,399		2,399
Music score sales	5,127	7,153		7,153
Sponsorship	600	30,390		30,390
Touring income	-	43,890		43,890
	75,303	151,953	-	151,953
Workshops				
Workshops/Event income	6,131	2,408		2,408
	6,131	2,408	-	2,408
4 Investment Income				
Bank interest	28	54		54

	Total Funds 2017 £	Unrestricted Funds 2016 £	Restricted Funds 2016 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2016 £
5 Expenditure				
5a Raising funds				
Ticket commission	1,699	2,600		2,600
PRS commission on sales	1,585	1,105		1,105
Royalty licence fees	-	-		-
Programme commission	313	306		306
Subscriptions and donations	607	557		557
	4,204	4,568	-	4,568
5b Charitable activities				
Concerts				
Professional Fees	17,096	17,772		17,772
Orchestra	37,930	24,006	8,000	32,006
Concert venue hire	26,562	22,313		22,313
Staging/tx/hire etc	4,740	3,586		3,586
Instrument hire/tuning	144	244		244
Music hire incl orchestra	6,165	8,932		8,932
Refreshment costs	399	694		694
Presents/other concert costs	30	2,215		2,215
Programme print design	2,724	3,278		3,278
Flyers including distribution	1,010	2,471		2,471
Advertising	6,823	6,513		6,513
Rehearsal room	4,604	3,805		3,805
Rehearsal fees	10,993	12,188		12,188
Stationery/Post/Phone	1,064	1,101		1,101
Season leaflet print & distribute	346	431		431
Depreciation	367			
Charitable donations	586	13,027		13,027
Finance costs	690	442		442
Office, software & consumables	936			-
Audit and accountancy fees	2,942	2,497		2,497
Touring expenditure	-	43,806		43,806
	126,151	169,321	8,000	177,321
Workshops				
Workshops/Event costs	9,169	2,910		2,910
	9,169	2,910	-	2,910

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 2016	2,121	2,121
Additions	134	134
As at 31 July 2017	<u>2,255</u>	<u>2,255</u>
Depreciation		
At 1st August 2016	367	367
Charge for year	367	367
As at 31 July 2017	<u>734</u>	<u>734</u>
Net Book Value		
As at 31 July 2017	<u>1,521</u>	<u>1,521</u>
As at 31 July 2016	<u>1,754</u>	<u>1,754</u>

The capitalised assets represent a recording system and staging.

8 Debtors	2017	2016
	£	£
	920	5,399
	7,420	8,378
Trade Debtors	<u>8,340</u>	<u>13,777</u>
Prepayments		
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2017	2016
	£	£
Trade creditors	12,448	9,336
Accrued expenses	-	13,062
	<u>12,448</u>	<u>22,398</u>

10 Related party transactions

There were no transactions with related parties in the year

11 Restricted funds

There was no restricted funds in the year 2016-17. Expenditure of £8,000 in the 2015-16 year was related to orchestra fees for the main concert - Vaughan Williams's A Sea Symphony at Barbican Hall in June 2016. The restricted donation was received in 2014-15 and carried forward as restricted income in the opening balance of 2015-16.