

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

On accounts for the year
ended

31 AUGUST 2017

Charity no
(if any)

273757

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. [The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [named body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 (other than that disclosed below *)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

25 October 2016

Name:

A PAGE

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

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Address:

26 ASHLEY ROAD

EPSOM

KT18 5BB

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.(E.g. accounting records have not been kept in accordance with s132 of the Charities' Act 2011 and those accounts do not comply with the requirements of the 2008 Regulations setting out the form and content of charity accounts; any material expenditure or action which appears not to be in accordance with the trusts of the charity; any failure to be provided with information and explanations by any past or present trustee, officer or employee; and any material consistency between the accounts and the trustees' annual report.)

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

The accounts record an amount of £3454 that was outstanding at the end of the year. This debt was the balance of a debt of £7470 that the Treasurer incurred in the course of arranging the funding for the 2015 ECS annual tour.

The full debt of £7470 was correctly shown in the accounts at 31 August 2015. The accounts for the year to 31 August 2016 showed partial repayment in the amount of £4026, but omitted to show the balance of £3454 due to oversight. The accounts for the year to 31 August 2017 correctly show the outstanding debt and include a note explaining the debt.

The debt was overlooked in the 2016 accounts because the Treasurer incorrectly believed that he had repaid the debt in full. The Treasurer repaid the full remaining balance of £3454 shortly before the AGM on 25 October 2017. The accounts examiner and the Committee are content that this repayment closes the matter. The Committee and the Treasurer agree that in future the Treasurer will not incur any debt to the ECS without clear Committee oversight.

The items relating to the 2016 tour in the 2017 accounts represent the partial refund to members of surplus arising on the 2016 tour.

Epsom Choral Society

Epsom Choral Society

Annual Report

Year ending 25 October 2017

Registered Charity number 273757

Epsom Choral Society

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Society are to further and assist in the musical education of people of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell and neighbouring areas. To provide facilities for the study and rehearsal of choral and other music by promoting and participating in public performance and to support and participate in the Leith Hill Musical Festival and other festivals and activities related to its objects.

We have had a very busy year singing many different styles of music from a concert spanning a century of English music, through sacred music by Janáček and Rossini, to a dramatic finale of opera highlights.

We were able to put on the opera concert thanks to two generous bequests from long-serving members of the choir, Cecil Wiltshire and Mary Craddock-Jones. Their generosity also funded an entertaining choral workshop with Ghislaine Morgan last May.

Programme of Events

2016

Weds	14 th September	Come and Sing <i>Carmina Burana</i> .
Sat	8 th October	10am-4pm. Awayday at St Dunstan's, Cheam.
Weds	26 th October	Annual General Meeting of Epsom Choral Society.
Sat	19 th November	Autumn Concert at St Martin's. Tavener <i>Song for Athene</i>, Howells <i>Like as the hart</i>, Parry <i>I was glad</i> and <i>Blest pair of sirens</i>, Britten <i>St Nicolas</i>.
Thurs	8 th December	Carols in aid of Parkinson's Society
Mon	12 th December	Carols in aid of Epsom Medical Equipment Fund
Sat	17 th December	Christmas Concert – Carols at St Martin's.

2017

Sat	18 th February	New Year Party – Beetle Drive
Sat	11 th March	Spring Concert at St Martin's. Janáček <i>Otčenáš</i> and Rossini <i>Petite Messe Solennelle</i>.
Sun	12 th March	LHMF performance of Bach's <i>St. Matthew Passion</i>
Thurs	6 th April	LHMF Division 3 competition and concert day at Dorking Halls. Main works are Parry <i>Blest pair of sirens</i> and Vaughan Williams <i>Dona nobis pacem</i>.
Sat	6 th May	10am-4pm. Choral workshop at St Dunstan's, Cheam.
Sat	13 th May	Plant sale, hosted by John and Sue Taylor.
Sat	10 th June	Summer concert at St Andrews Opera Choruses
Thurs	6 th -9 th July	ECS Summer tour to Chantilly, France.

Epsom Choral Society

Concerts

In November 2016 the choir gave a performance of Benjamin Britten's Cantata Saint Nicolas in St. Martin's Parish Church. In this performance we were joined by both the Nonsuch School Chamber Choir and trebles from Unicorn Singers Kew. The concert also included works by Parry, Tavener and Howells and we were accompanied by Marion Lea and Ben Lewis Smith on piano with Peter Jaekel on the organ.

Our annual Carol concert on 17th December 2016 was held in St. Martin's Parish Church with the help of a lively brass band. At the end there was a retiring collection for The Children's Trust.

Early in March 2017 many choir members participated in the Leith Hill Musical Festival performance of Bach St. Matthew Passion conducted by Jonathan Willcocks.

On Saturday 11th March 2017, accompanied by organist Ben Lewis Smith, pianist Marion Lea, harpist Fontane Liang and four young student soloists, the choir performed, in St. Martin's Church, a Spring Concert comprising Rossini Petite Messe Solennelle and Janacek Otcenas (The Lord's Prayer).

On Saturday 10th June 2017, in St. Andrew's United Reformed Church Cheam, accompanied by a large orchestra and three soloists the choir gave a concert featuring Famous Choruses from Opera.

For season 2017/18 our planned programme of music is:-

18th November 2017 Carl Orff Carmina Burana, John Rutter Mass of the Children and Ralph Vaughan Williams Five Mystical Songs. For this concert we will again be joined by the Nonsuch School Chamber Choir.

7th and 11th December 2017 Carol Singing in Epsom Mall for Parkinson's UK and Epsom Medical Equipment Fund charities respectively.

23rd December 2017 Christmas Carol Concert.

11th March 2018 Handel Messiah with Leith hill Musical Festival choir at Dorking Halls

17th March 2018 Handel Israel in Egypt

14th April 2018 Rutter Mass of the Children and Ralph Vaughan Williams Five Mystical Songs at the Leith Hill Musical Festival in Dorking.

30th June 2018 Summer Concert - Duruflé Requiem and the premier performance of a work commissioned by the choir from Jonathan Willcocks entitled O Joyful Soul.

Epsom Choral Society

Leith Hill Musical Festival

March saw us join members of all the Leith Hill choirs to sing a performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion at the Dorking Halls. In April the choir participated in the Leith Hill Musical Festival in Dorking. The main works in the evening concert were Ralph Vaughan Williams Dona Nobis Pacem and Parry Blest Pair of Sirens.

Tour to Chantilly

Our Choir tour in July this year was a return visit to Chantilly in France where we gave a concert of music by Brahms, Stanford, Parry, Mendelssohn, Bach, Finzi, Fauré and Adrian Payne in the Eglise Notre-Dame de Chantilly. This was followed by singing in Mass in this church the following Sunday morning.

Fund Raising

In December choir members sang carols in Epsom's Ashley Centre which enabled Epsom Hospital Medical Fund to collect £398 and, later in the month, Parkinson's UK to collect £700. Thanks go to Martin Seath for conducting us on both occasions.

Our annual Carol concert on 17th December 2016 was held in St. Martin's Parish Church. At the end there was a retiring collection which enabled The Children's Trust to collect £470.62.

The Plant sale was once again held by Sue and John Taylor in their garden. They raised a magnificent total of £1310.25 for choir funds. Many thanks go to John and Sue and all their many helpers including Anne Richardson who made up many beautiful hanging baskets.

Social events

The beetle drive party held in February was tremendous fun with everyone concentrating on adding to their beetles and winners and losers moving round onto new tables. All was brilliantly organised by Helen Phillips and Roger Barnard and a whole host of helpers and £472 was raised for choir funds. Thank you to all.

Membership

At the end of April one of our Vice Presidents - Rosemary Gibbs sadly passed away.

We had 6 new members and 3 returning members join us over the course of the last season and ended with 50 Sopranos, 35 Contraltos, 12 Tenors and 21 Basses totalling 118 members.

Epsom Choral Society

Administrative Information

The Society is governed by its constitution which was adopted on 2nd March 1977 and amended on 23rd October 2013.

The trustees of the Society are the members of the committee, which is constituted in accordance with rule 10 of the society.

During the year ended 26th October 2016, the committee members were as follows:

Sarah Payne	David Pettigrew	John Gallop
Isobel Squire	Sally Stuart	Wendela Elsen
Carolyn Duke	Helen Phillips	Helen Page
Janet James	Sharron Chapman	Jean Clew
Steve Dow	John Steward	

Carolyn Duke resigned in March 2017 and was replaced by John Steward, Sharron Chapman left the choir to move away in June 2017 and Steve Dow was co-opted to fill her place until the AGM.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have considered the needs of the Choral Society and have agreed that Society needs to cater for a term's expenses that we could not cover from income, or a large concert that drew no audience. The trustees consider that we should set aside £7000 for this.

I declare that in my capacity of charity trustee, that the trustees:

- Have approved the report above; and
- Have authorised me to sign it on their behalf

Signature:



Full Name: Sarah Payne

Position: Chairman

Date: 1st October 2017

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY YEAR 2016-2017 ACCOUNTS

2015-16			2016-17
	<u>Income & Expenditure</u>		
£69,956.76	Income		£88,119.82
£58,969.49	Expenditure		£69,697.36
£10,987.27	Profit		£18,422.46
	<u>Funds</u>		
	Accumulated Funds		
£40,847.45	Balance at August 31, 2016		£51,834.72
£10,987.27	Profit/Loss		£18,422.46
£51,834.72	Total		£70,257.18
	<u>Represented by</u>		
£51,834.72	NWB Current A/C		£70,257.17
	Total Cash		£70,257.17
	Debtors	HMRC	£2,559.15
		<i>Note 1</i>	£3,454.00
	Creditors	Music Hire	£259.20
		Subscription	£240.00
		Bequests	£5,579.00
£51,834.72	"True" Cash		£70,192.12
£39,045.65	Of Which Bequests		£55,516.00
£12,789.07	Choir Funds		£14,676.12

J H Gallop
Treasurer

**A Page
Examiner**

Epsom Choral Society

2016-17 ANALYSIS

2015-16		<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>PROFIT</u>
-£1,350.58	Admin		£947.43	-£947.43
-£3,237.52	Concert Nov 16	£3,251.89	£5,400.74	-£2,148.85
£1,758.51	Concert Dec 16	£3,191.35	£2,185.40	£1,005.95
£793.32	Concert Mar 17	£2,609.35	£3,547.80	-£938.45
£2,005.65	Concert Jun 17	£5,201.50	£11,933.27	-£6,731.77
£1,000.00	HRT Trust			£0.00
£2,750.00	Donations	£550.00		£550.00
£2,541.75	Fund Raising	£2,557.99	£10.00	£2,547.99
£350.00	Friends	£310.00		£310.00
-£709.57	LHMF	£2,159.45	£2,840.50	-£681.05
-£12,302.00	Rehearsal	£1,005.00	£12,574.50	-£11,569.50
£11,483.45	Membership	£13,140.00		£13,140.00
-£482.00	Magazine		£470.00	-£470.00
-£749.96	Music Hire	£2,799.66	£3,314.78	-£515.12
	Music Hire 2017-18	£259.20		£259.20
-£475.00	Making Music		£607.75	-£607.75
	Insurance		£130.00	-£130.00
-£206.40	Publicity		£439.60	-£439.60
£4,866.00	Tax			£0.00
-£187.00	Staging	£448.00	£1,413.37	-£965.37
£850.46	Tour	£20,202.33	£19,971.48	£230.85
-£1,610.52	Legacy	£30,000.00	£2,977.40	£27,022.60
£4,026.00	Tour 2016	£357.00	£865.00	-£508.00
£42.18	CD	£60.00	£30.00	£30.00
-£200.00	Twinning Festival			£0.00
£30.50	Bank Adjustments	£17.10	£38.34	-£21.24
£10,987.27	TOTAL	£88,119.82	£69,697.36	£18,422.46

Note2

Note 3

Note 4

Note 5

Note 6

EPSOM CHORAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS 2016-17

Note 1:

In the accounts of 2014-15, a debt of £7470 was incurred by the Treasurer as an element of the 2015 tour. In the accounts of 2015-16, a partial repayment of £4026 is recorded in respect of this debt. Although the Treasurer believed that the debt had been fully repaid, efforts to identify the repayment of the balance of £3454 have not been successful. Hence it appears that an outstanding debtor of £3454 ought to have been included in the 2015-16 accounts. The Treasurer continues to investigate this matter, but in the event that full repayment cannot be clearly demonstrated, he will pay the balance of £3454 to ECS before the end of 2017.

Note 2:

The Opera concert was agreed by the committee, with the intention of using some legacy funding to cover the exceptional losses which would be made by such a major concert. I have allocated £5000 to the legacy expenditure, as the committee agreed that the loss should be similar to a normal "large concert".

Note 3:

The LHMF shows a loss, although each attendee pays the full fee, but I allocate the Musical Directors festival costs to this line.

Note 4:

Music Hire shows a loss, due to the charges now levied by the Parish for storage of our Library in the hall balcony.

Note 5:

We took the decision to invest in lighting, rather than hiring for each concert, as a sale of equipment came up, which meant that for the equivalent of a year's hire, we could own our own.

Note 6:

The legacy situation in total is summarised on the attached report.