

**Salisbury Chamber Chorus**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31/12/2017**

**1/. RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT :-**

<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>Budget 2017</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>		<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>Budget 2017</u>
<u>Income - Normal Activities</u>					<u>Expenditure - Normal Activities</u>				
Subscriptions		4,966.00	4,825.00	4,990.00	Chorus Fees		4,740.00	5,805.00	6,000.00
Ticket Sales - Playhouse		3,210.00	504.00	1,000.00	Soloists Fees		0.00	0.00	2,800.00
Ticket Sales - Other		3,975.00	2,796.00	2,500.00	Rehearsal venue hire cost		840.00	1,182.00	1,350.00
Programme Sales		580.50	293.90	300.00	Concert Venue hire cost		875.00	743.00	1,000.00
Bar		695.00	547.74	500.00	Concert Costs		8,548.30	1,917.21	2,500.00
Music books		375.00	1,030.00	400.00	Printing Incl Music		1,555.56	1,902.39	1,500.00
Advertising		1,450.00	1,968.50	1,500.00	Website / Advertising		135.77	93.52	8.00
Sponsorship Hi-Fi Plus		0.00	700.00	1,000.00	Events		128.96		100.00
Events		2,852.00	3,808.00	3,275.00	Friends		20.09	0.00	255.00
Friends		375.00	225.00	1,000.00	Making Music		418.04	387.53	390.00
Donations		1,005.87	324.00	0.00	Donations		50.00	650.00	150.00
					Misc		33.40	225.00	0.00
					Auditions		195.00		0.00
					STME Recording Costs		1,606.00		0.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>19,484.37</b>	<b>17,022.14</b>	<b>16,465.00</b>	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>19,146.12</b>	<b>12,905.65</b>	<b>16,053.00</b>
<u>Income from assets:-</u>									
Bank Interest		0.00	0.00	0.00					
<u>Miscellaneous :-</u>					<u>Miscellaneous :-</u>				
		127.85	15.00	50.00					
<b>Excess of Payments over Receipts carried down</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>Surplus of Receipts over Payments</b>		<b>466.10</b>	<b>4,131.49</b>	<b>462.00</b>
<b>Totals :-</b>		<b>19,612.22</b>	<b>17,037.14</b>	<b>16,515.00</b>	<b>Totals :-</b>		<b>19,612.22</b>	<b>17,037.14</b>	<b>16,515.00</b>

**Salisbury Chamber Chorus**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31/12/2017**

**3/. STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES :-**

**MONETARY ASSETS :**

**Brought forward 1/01/17:-**

**Bank & Cash Balances held :-**

Current account - Lloyds Bank	6,579.11
	<u>6,579.11</u>

Excess of Receipts over Payments	466.10
PrePayments	

Totals :-	<u><u>7,045.21</u></u>
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-0.00

**Carried forward 31/12/17:-**

Current account - Lloyds Bank	8,313.13
Cheques not cleared	-1,267.92
	<u>7,045.21</u>

Excess of Payments over Receipts	0.00
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Totals :-	<u><u>7,045.21</u></u>
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**Independent Examiner's Report :-**

I report on the accounts of the Salisbury Chamber Chorus for the year ended 31st.December 2017 as set out above.

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner.**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, 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 Commissioners. 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**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
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the 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.

Signature:



Name :  
Relevant professional qualification :  
Address :  
Date :

Mr Michael J Hughes  
Manager Retired, TSB Trust Co  
Sharminda, Bulford Road, Shipton Bellinger SO9 7TF  
06/02/18



## MD's Annual Report, 2017

2016 was obviously yet another busy year for us, though not quite as crazy as 2016. Starting with another *Come & Sing*, we only had four concerts after that. We've had a change of repetiteur, and some other faces coming and going, but most importantly, we've had more growth in our abilities and confidence.

We began with our Verdi *Requiem Come & Sing*, which was a great success. It was clear that those taking part relished singing with a good choir, and the experiment of sharing out solos, while exhausting, was also a good thing. The day as a whole was pretty full-on, but enjoyable. The recent Opera Choruses *Come & Sing* has cemented our reputation for providing a fun, interesting and challenging day, so there will of course be more. One a year seems plenty, though!

It was a shame only to do one concert of the Sacred Choruses concert, and even more so the Russian Opera concert, given the hard work that went into them. I think we have improved in many ways over the year, but I think our gradual increase in confidence has led to us being prepared to take greater risks in rehearsals, which leads to greater achievements in the long run. Taking the plunge with some of the Russian repertoire was sometimes daunting, but the more we grapple with difficult music with bravery and a sense of our own abilities, the better we get, including as readers, and as musicians generally. This was even clearer in our Christmas concert, which had some music I wouldn't have considered attempting even a year before. We're not the BBC Singers yet, but we are improving, and that improvement coupled with the strength of raw talent within our ranks makes me excited about the future.

Our sound has continued to develop as well. When we commit to making a great noise, we can be as impressive as any amateur choir, and sometimes as good as the best. We have worked at being convincing at every dynamic level. We need to add some precision to our strengths, as well as textual and emotional clarity. *Space Time Matter Energy* might give us a chance to do some of this work! And our concerts last year gave us a chance to shine as a group of soloists as well. I am, of course, very keen to encourage members of the Chorus to be the best singers they can be, and hearing solos and ensembles come together so well in so many cases was very pleasing.

We've added in a very small way to our numbers, but I'm still keen to drag us up to 40. It has been encouraging lately to receive a few applications from some very accomplished singers - seven sopranos, for example, auditioned last month, all with strong voices. But obviously, we need to keep our numbers even, and without more tenors (who match the calibre of our current members), we can't grow. Rosie and I have been charged with

trying to make that happen, so we'll see what we can do. We also have our three-yearly audition overhaul to look forward to this summer!

One reason for wanting this growth is to give us greater depth when we are missing people. We still have the problem of coping when people have to duck out for a while, which is always understandable, but not a small problem. Then there's the hardy perennial of dealing with absences in rehearsals. I think everyone has come to appreciate this is a big deal for a choir of our size, and a major headache for me, but at the same time I have come to realise that you simply can't have professional expectations of an amateur choir. No matter how much we all enjoy doing this, we have other calls on our time, some inescapable, that have to be balanced. I very much appreciate it when people give me advance warning, especially when it's couched in terms of 'I know this is going to be a pain, and I'm sorry but...'.

One of the reasons we only performed our first two programmes of the year once each was that there were scheduling difficulties for David Coram, who did us proud as our repetiteur for some years. However, it became clear that he was just too over-committed to be able to give us the priority we needed, so regretfully we had to look for a new rep. This turned out to be a pretty urgent requirement in advance of the Russian concert, but how fortunate we were when Peter Toye stepped in. We would have been mad not to ask him to stay with us, and he's proved eminently reliable, as well as being a fine and very supportive musician. I often feel he makes up for some of my shortcomings very effectively, so I think we complement each other rather well.

After changes in the committee last year, the ship has been kept on a very even keel with Derek at the helm. I know Derek did plenty of thanking of the committee - as he should, as it's a very hard-working one, and I feel privileged to have the support of such an amazing group of people who achieve so much. Everyone brings something extraordinary, and everyone always seems to do so much more than the necessary, giving far more than they need to of their time and expertise. But Derek didn't mention the hard work he's put in himself, for which I'd like to thank him on behalf of all of us. Apart from anything else, we have him to thank for the splendid wine-tasting evening last year, which would have been fantastic if it hadn't raised a penny, but as it happens, it added to our coffers as well.

I'd like to thank Derek and the committee too for their confidence in me. I was a little anxious about suggesting we perform another new bit of McEnery, not to mention spending a fair bit of money on a percussion ensemble, but everyone has been very enthusiastic, which is very good for the soul. I hope I - and *Space Time Matter Energy* - can live up to that enthusiasm, and with any luck add to our strengths, and our reputation.

Either way, 2017 is going to be another busy year!

SM, MD, 8 February, 2017

## **SALISBURY CHAMBER CHORUS**

### **Chairman's Report 2017**

2017 has proved to be another very interesting and busy year.

The Come & Sing Opera Choruses event, which was held in St Thomas's Church in January, attracted some 80 singers from the area, who joined the Chorus to rehearse the music and then performed a concert, which was well attended. The retiring collection raised a generous sum for the Church's Organ Fund. We are indebted to Genny for her excellent organisation and sheer hard work in the running of these events, which have proved so successful and enjoyable.

We were fortunate that Jeremy was able to organise, with the great kindness and generosity of Lady Bessborough, an evening of wonderful classical guitar music, played by Guilio Malaisi, with supper, in Roche Court Sculpture Park. The evening was a great success and raised valuable funds for the Chorus

The first half of the year was then spent learning Simon's new work: Space Time Matter Energy, which was first performed at London at St Mary-le-Strand and in again Salisbury in the Godolphin School Blackledge Theatre on consecutive Saturdays in June. We had the wonderful experience of singing with Beaten Track, a professional percussion orchestra, playing the accompaniment. Both concerts were a great success, particularly in Salisbury, where due to Rosie and Simon's excellent press coverage and advertising, we sang to an audience of well over 200. These concerts were also recorded for our own use.

In April we were delighted to be asked to sing Fauré's Requiem in Broadstone with two talented young professionals taking the solo parts; which came as a delightful interlude in our rehearsal programme.

In the summer auditions of candidates and re-auditions of existing members were held, a policy to which we are committed. Happily, this resulted in new members joining us.

In the November, we performed two concerts; one in Salisbury with a programme of Gesualdo Motets and Vivaldi's Gloria, with the Salisbury Sinfonia playing wonderfully as our accompanying Orchestra.

The second concert was performed in Malmesbury Abbey for the High Sheriff of Wiltshire in aid of her charity, Community First; where the Gloria was replaced by Fauré's Requiem. Both concerts were very successful and well attended and we were happy to learn that over £2000 was raised for the High Sheriff's charity.

We have been very privileged to continue to have Simon McEnery as our Musical director and Peter Toye as our accompanist. Their professionalism and coaching have, without question, raised the standard of our performances, to the enjoyment of all.

The number of people becoming "Friends" continue to rise and we are extremely grateful for their support and encouragement. The website has had a face lift our thanks goes to Simon, who continues to keep it fresh and appealing. Our thanks go to Hilary for her continued efforts to make this now so attractive for people to join.

Rosie, after seven years of hard work as our first Chair and since then as our hardworking and successful Publicist, guru and generally the source of much experience and common sense, has decided to stand down from the Committee for the time being. She has been an absolute tower of strength and frankly is largely responsible for the very good position the Chorus is in now. She will be very much missed on the Committee, but happily will continue to hit the high notes in the Sops. My heartfelt thanks go to her on behalf of us all for everything she has done for the Chorus.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee for their superb endeavours on behalf of the Chorus and particularly for the help and support they have all given me in the post and am grateful to the Members for the trust they have placed in the Committee.