

Bingham and District Choral Society

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended March 31st 2020

Legal and administrative details**Charity registration number 503557**

The charity was established on 14th February 1974

Address

Hill House Cottage
Burgage Lane
Southwell, Nottingham.
NG25 0ER

Trustees

The following officers of the Society shall act as joint Trustees of the Society:

Chair	Prof Richard Joyner
Vice Chair	Ms S Ashton
Secretary	Mrs V Morgan
Treasurer	Dr B Poulson

Bankers	Lloyds Bank
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Independent Examiners

Dr David Morgan
Mr Huw Cadwallader

Objective

The objective of the Society (Charity) shall be to educate and interest the public in music, particularly choral music, by the presentation of concerts and other activities.

Review of the activities during the year.

We said goodbye to our long-standing member and Independent Examiner Pam Brooks who died after a short illness. Pam had performed the role of Independent Examiner for over ten years. We welcome our previous Treasurer Mr Huw Cadwallader as a new Independent Examiner.

Concert Performances

As in previous years the choir observed its usual pattern of performing a major concert in May (a Springtime of English Song), at St Mary's Radcliffe-on-Trent; and a concert of 'Joyful Baroque' in November at St Mary's Church, Newark; a Christmas concert with children from Carnarvon School at St Mary's & All Saints Bingham, and a lunchtime concert performed at St Mary Magdalene Newark featuring folksongs from our national heritage and further afield.

A springtime of English Song: St Mary's Church Radcliffe-on-Trent, Saturday 11th May 2019. The evening involved works by five composers: Eric Thiman - The Lord is My Shepherd; Edward Elgar - Three Songs from the Bavarian Highlands; Our own Guy Turner's - Under the Wide Sky (with words from Robert Louis Stevenson); John Rutter's - Sprig of Thyme; and George Butterworth's - Banks of Green Willow (piano solo). We were delighted to welcome back Caroline Clemmow as accompanist and soloist, Harriet Astbury (Soprano), and Matthew Keighley (Tenor).

The choir once again took part in the 'Lunchtime Concert' series at St Mary's Parish Church, Newark, 6th July 2019. English folksongs, Scottish and Irish favourites and a splash of African sunshine! A most enjoyable collaboration with this group provided a no-cost concert opportunity, and for all those involved it was an uplifting and enjoyable experience.

Joyful Baroque: St Mary's Church Newark, Saturday 16 November 2019. A concert of Baroque music featuring four composers born within forty years of each other. Antonio Vivaldi (born in Italy in 1678) and George Frederic Handel (German born in 1685). Henry Purcell (born 1659) and Dietrich Buxtehude was born in Germany in 1637. He is well known for his works for organ, but this setting of the Magnificat is a comparative rarity for vocal forces. We were delighted to be joined by firm friends of BDCS, soloists Ellie Martin, Emily Hodkinson, Matthew Keighley and Stephen Cooper. BDCS Chamber Orchestra, Leader David Wood. Harpsichord Michael Overbury.

Our ever-popular Christmas concert was held on 14th December 2019 at St Mary's & All Saints Church in Bingham. Guy Turner conducted and we were accompanied by a previous Southwell Minster Organ Scholar Ben Mills, and the Bingham Brass Group, led by Colin Smith. We were again joined by the splendid Carnarvon Primary School Choir, led by Rebecca Cowling. As is customary this performance concluded with wine and mince pies and made a modest financial surplus. We were also pleased to raise £400 via a retiring collection in support of Framework (a local homeless charity), and the Alzheimer's Society. BDCS would like to thank our audience and everyone who took part in the concert for their generosity in supporting these very worthwhile causes.

Other activities throughout the year included:

Our summer concert marked the final appearance of Ed Turner as BDCS' accompanist and associate conductor after a wonderful four years. Richard Joyner, Chair of BDCS, made a presentation to Ed on behalf of the choir after the concert and his remarks drew attention to Ed's huge musical talent, his modest and

unassuming demeanour and his wicked sense of humour. Everyone in BDCS wishes Ed the very best and we look forward to seeing his career develop over the coming years.

August 3rd 2019, a group of 25 Bingham members had the privilege of singing evensong in Southwell Minster. Led by our Musical Director Guy Turner, himself a Lay Clerk of the regular Southwell Cathedral Choir, the group started with an unaccompanied rendering of Tallis's beautiful motet – 'If ye love me keep my commandments' – before processing to the choir stalls for the regular service. These were followed by settings in C by Stanford of the canticles – Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis whose 'Glorias' gave us a real chance to shine. The anthem 'O Thou the Central Orb' by Charles Wood offered another opportunity for us to sing out in the wonderful acoustic the Minster possesses, and we made full use of it.

We were delighted that Michael Overbury agreed to accept the position of accompanist to the choir, starting in September 2019. Michael played continuo in our performance of Haydn's Creation with Mansfield Choral Society in November 2017. Michael is already well known to many of our choir as a teacher, accompanist, and organist. We are blessed to have outstanding musicians supporting our group.

This year members were invited to make a voluntary donation to a local musical charity whilst renewing their memberships. £60 was collected through this method and a donation made to Nottingham Youth Orchestra. The money will go into a fund used to help families with rehearsal and travel costs.

We enjoyed an evening of sparkling songs and dazzling ditties with Miss Emily Hodkinson (Bursary Prize winner 2019), and Mr Edward Turner (Accompanist and Associate Director), on Saturday 21st September 2019, at St Mary's & All Saints Church in Bingham. Promoted by BDCS this fundraising concert was a lovely opportunity to allow two young musical talents demonstrate their musical virtuosity. This fundraising event raised £414.

BDCS announced a new initiative to encourage young choral composers (under 30 years of age) in the East Midlands area. The competition has a prize of £500, and the performance of the winning choral works will be premiered in a BDCS concert during 2021. In addition, the society will pay for the production of vocal scores, and the composer will be able to keep these, plus full score and parts, after the concert for use with other choirs in the future. We are most grateful to the anonymous benefactors who provided the £500 prize money. Competition entries are open to 31st July 2020.

Financial Summary

In summary, for this financial year (ending 31st March 2020) we made a financial loss of £387.78.

Income

We broadly have three main areas of income: (i) Membership subscriptions (including gift aid thereon), (ii) Fundraising (comprising 100 club, singing workshops etc.), and (iii) Donations.

(i) Membership subscriptions: We have 92 enrolled members, 79 full year members and 8 half year members, plus five life members. Membership fees this year were £100 (an increase of £5 from the previous year). Full-year membership fees will again rise by £5 from September 2020 to £105, and again in September 2021 to £110. This represents a more realistic fee to support our increasing running costs. Membership numbers remain broadly similar to the previous year. The receipt of a delayed Gift Aid refund in this year meant we had an unexpected increase in income of £1,645.32.

(ii) Fundraising: Many thanks to all those who grew and sold allotment veg, made cakes and flapjacks, devised puzzles, ran half marathons, and administered our 100 club. These inventive methods of fundraising make an important contribution to overheads, and keep front of mind the importance of raising much needed funds.

Two regular fundraising activities were cancelled/deferred this year:

(i) The BDCS Bursary & Prize is a biennial competition with the second event scheduled to taking place in February 2020. Sadly, the low number of entries meant that this would not provide an effective competition, so the event has been postponed until further notice, and

(ii) Our annual 'Singing Day' clashed with other locally planned events, and despite several attempts to find an alternative date this has now been rescheduled for October 2020. This was a useful reminder to the committee to engage in the planning cycle earlier and visit it more frequently. One candidate insisted that we hold-over his application and entry fee until next year (£10). All other fees were refunded.

The proposed Wine tasting social gathering (scheduled for Saturday 28th March) was cancelled due to low ticket sales and looming Government restrictions with regard to the Coronavirus pandemic.

(iii) Donations: These are totally unpredictable year on year, yet always very much appreciated. Donations this year totalled £1,145 which was lower than previous years.

Expenditure

We benefited from reduced concert losses than in previous years in part due to a more cost aware and managed programming. We have no advance financial liability for the Brahms concert (other than to maximise our ticket sales), as Mansfield Choral had secured sponsorship for the concert.

It's hard to believe that within days of meeting to plan our Jubilee year activity for 2021/22 we were in complete lockdown, all rehearsals cancelled, the concert collaboration with our friends from Mansfield Choral in jeopardy, and everyone on a war footing with Coronavirus. Rehearsals were suspended from 18th March and we currently face an uncertain future about when we might be able to reconvene as a choir. In light of this, and the likelihood that we wouldn't resume rehearsals for the remainder of this season, the committee decided to honour the payments (in advance) of our two professional musicians (Guy Turner and Michael Overbury) until the end of the current season (June 2020).

Conclusion

Although the accounts again show a loss this year, the underlying financial performance was much improved on last year. The early payment of our professional musicians in this financial period will provide some additional relief to next year's expenditure, and the additional gift aid payment received in this year

made that possible. Similarly, the lost income from our cancelled fundraising events has only had a marginal impact this year.

Our reserves remain healthy (£31,215.84), and your committee are working hard to provide a fitting Jubilee concert programme for this important anniversary.

Financial Results

The society had a net loss for the year of £387.78

On behalf of the Trustees

Richard Joyner, Chair

Date dd May 2020

Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees of Bingham and District Choral Society

We report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2020, which are set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiners

As the charity's Trustees, we are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; we consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply.

It is our 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 our attention.

Basis of Examiners' Report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting record kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Examiners' Statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (i) which gives us 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 accounting requirements of the Act have not been met;
- or
- (ii) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signatures

Dr David Morgan

Mr Huw Cadwallader

Addresses 7 Manvers Grove
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Nottingham
NG12 2FT

1 Browns Lane
East Bridgford
Nottingham
NG13 8PL

Date dd/mm/yyyy

Bingham and District Choral Society

Accounting Policies

These accounts are prepared on the basis of historic cost accounting and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the recommendations contained in the statement of Recommended Practice No. 2 – Accounting by Charities.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these accounts are as follows:

Fund Accounting

- (i) The General Fund is an unrestricted fund which may be used at the Trustees' discretion.
- (ii) The Designated Fund is also unrestricted, and the Trustees have designated the Reserve Fund to provide a financial reserve generating income in order that the charity may function on a daily basis.

Investment Income

Bank income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on receipt.

Expenditure and Depreciation

All expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. The trustees consider it prudent to write off all equipment and capital items in the year of acquisition.

Bingham and District Choral Society
Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31st March 2020

Income and Expenditure

Incoming Resources	Note	2020	2019	2018
Member's Subscriptions (92 members)	1	8,370.00	£8,301.09	£8,925.00
Income tax recovered from Gift Aid	2	3,215.44	£1,518.03	
Fund Raising and social Events		£2,735.10	£3,814.58	£3,464.95
Music Sales	3	£419.50	£505.50	£440.40
Concert Income		£4662.50	£9,711.84	£6,675.60
Bursary Prize and Concert	4	30.00	£0.00	£636.00
Interest on Bank Accounts & Investments		£247.30	£189.60	£144.93
Miscellaneous		£1,739.45	£545.34	£504.40
Donations		£1,145.00	£2,510.00	£3,096.00
Total Incoming Resources		£22,564.29	£27,095.98	£23,887.28
Resources Expended				
Direct Charitable expenditure		£18,415.60	£23,858.08	£15,514.75
Fund Raising		£1,185.00	£2,091.72	£1,773.62
Management and administration of the charity	5	£1,237.32	£1,042.70	£1,608.90
Setting up and maintaining the web site		£300.00	£780.00	£727.00
Bursary Prize and Concert		100.00	£0.00	£1,330.04
Other Items	6	£1,714.15	£622.46	£1,146.70
Total Resources Expended		£22,952.07	£28,394.96	£22,101.01
Net loss for the year		£387.78		
Balance brought forward at 1st April 2019			£31,603.62	
Balance carried forward at 1st April 2020			£31,215.84	
Direct Charitable Expenditure				
Director of Music Rehearsal Fees	7	4622.00	£3,143.70	£3,207.50
Accompanist Fees	8	2,926.00	£2,406.00	£1,708.00
Hire of Rehearsal Hall	9	1,877.50	£1,900.00	£1,665.00
Concert Costs		7,936.12	£15,895.65	£8,554.77
Music Costs	10	1,053.98	£512.73	£379.48
Total		18,415.60	£23,858.08	£15,514.75

Bingham and District Choral Society

Balance Sheet as of 31st March 2020

Current Assets	2020	2019	2018
Virgin Money Charity Account	£5,334.33	£5,294.55	£5,264.90
Virgin Money Charity Notice Account	£17,690.50	£17,482.98	£17,323.93
NatWest Bank Reserve Account	0.00	0.00	£8,753.86
NatWest Bank Current Account	0.00	0.00	£2,794.00
Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account	£8,241.01	£8,905.09	
Cash	£5.00		
Total	£31,270.84	£31,682.62	£34,136.69

Current Liabilities			
Cheques not yet presented for payment	£55.00	£79.00	£1,234.09

Net Assets	£31,215.84	£31,603.62	32,902.60
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Funds

	General Fund	Designated Reserve	Total
Balance at 31st March 2019	£16,603.62	£15,000.00	£31,603.62
Result for the year ending 31st March 2020	£16,215.84	£15,000.00	£31,215.84

Approved by the committee on 20th April 2020

Prof Richard Joyner - Chair

Mrs Valerie Morgan - Secretary

Dr Bradley Poulson - Treasurer

CONCERT ACCOUNT

	Spring Concert	Summer Concert	Autumn Concert	Christmas Concert
	11th May 2019	1st July 2018	16th Nov 2019	14th Dec 2019
Income				
Tickets and programmes	1,517.50	0.00	1,346.00	1,439.00
Advertisements	180.00	0.00	180.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	1,697.50	0.00	1,526.00	1,439.00
Expenditure				
Artists	1,700.00		1,500.00	170.00
Orchestra	400.00 *		1,439.00	150.00
Organist/Accompanist	100.00	182.00	200.00	130.00
Hire Church/Hall		0.00	197.25 *	185.00
Orchestral Scores			0.00	
Music			26.66	
Printing costs	199.00 *		220.45	28.80
Rehearsal costs				
PRS Fee				56.45 **
Setting up staging etc.	500.00		516.70	320.00
Other	86.64		74.50	119.12
Total	2,985.64	182.00	4,174.56	1,159.37
Net Loss	-1,288.14	-182.00	-2,648.56	
Net Profit				279.63
Cumulative Profit/Loss	-3,839.07			

*Includes costs incurred in previous year

**Includes costs awaiting payment

FUNDRAISING

	Net Income
Ed and Em Concert	414.00
100 Club	£260.00
Tea and Coffee	£470.38
Easy-fundraising	£35.22
Half Marathon – John Bannister	£267.50
Christmas Anagram Quiz	£35.00
Jam	23.50
Allotment produce	£10.00
Cake	21.00
Flapjacks	13.50
TOTAL	£1550.10

DONATIONS

John Beaumont	£500.00
Anonymous (Composing Competition)	£500.00
Other	£145.00
TOTAL	£1,145.00

Bingham and District Choral Society

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020

1 Membership

There were 92 enrolled members (79 full-year, and 8 half-year) including several members joining us for the first time. There are also five 'Life Members'.

2 Gift Aid

The Gift Aid amount shown (£3,215.44) includes a late payment received in this year for the previous year (2018/19) of £1,518.03.

3 Music Sales

This comprises music hire fees charged to participating members.

4 Bursary & Prize

Only three applicants, refunds, compensation. One candidate application fee held over.

5 Management and Administration

This includes: Costs associated with Insurance, Making Music Subscription, Nottingham City Council Music subscription, trailer storage and maintenance, choir photograph, staging maintenance, stationary, postage and other costs in the day to day running of the society.

6 Expenditure - Other Items

This includes the purchase of gifts for retiring members for which there was an accompanying collection which is included in Miscellaneous income.

7 Director of Music

Includes an ex-gratia payment of £1,040 for rehearsals until the end of this season (June 2020).

8 Accompanist

Includes an ex-gratia payment of £744 for rehearsals until the end of this season (June 2020).

9 Hire of Rehearsal Hall

BDCS will be credited for three weeks rehearsal sessions paid in advance for Spring Term not taken because of the Coronavirus public gathering restrictions.

10 Music Costs

Scores for the Back B Minor Mass were hired earlier than usual to facilitate additional rehearsal time alongside the Brahms rehearsals.

11 Trustees' Expenses 2019-2020

Mrs Valerie Morgan: Stationery, copying materials and stamps £91.61

Dr Bradley Poulson: Stationery, postage and sundries £15.70