

London Pro Arte Choir



Trustees' report and accounts

Year ended 31 August 2015

Charity number 276361

www.lpac.org.uk

Report of the trustees for the year ended 30th September 2015

The trustees present the annual report and financial statements the choir for the year ended 30th September 2015. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The objectives of the choir as set out in the constitution are "to educate the public and members of the choir in music by the presentation of concerts and other activities". In addition the choir raises money for a local charity by means of a carol concert and donations from choir members. The charity has had regard to the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and performance during the year

The choir promoted 4 concerts at St Michael's Church, Mill Hill during the year:

22 September 2014	Bach	Christmas Oratorio
6 December 2014		Carols for all in aid of Noah's Ark Children's Hospice
21 March 2015	Rossini	Petite Messe Solennelle
	Rossini	Ave Maria
20 June 2015	Chilcott	Songs and cries of London town
	Brahms	Geistliches Lied
	Howells	Like as the hart
	Britten	Jubilate Deo
	Brahms	Love song waltzes
	Kodaly	Pange lingua
	Bernstein	West Side Story suite

In addition 48 singers from the choir gave a concert in Antwerp on 4 July 2015 and sang in a mass in Antwerp on 5 July 2015.

The choir sang on 20 September 2014 for the opening of the New Hartley Hall, where we now rehearse.

We also had two come and sings to allow the public to join us singing major works:

11 September 2014	Mozart	Requiem
15 January 2015	Rossini	Petite Messe Solennelle

We had 38 Thursday evening rehearsals to train members in singing and prepare for concerts. We also had three social events to raise funds to support the concert programme.

Financial review

We made a deficit for the year of £2081. We raised £925 for the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice through our carol concert, donations from choir members and Gift Aid.

Our income comes primarily from concert tickets, members' subscriptions, and sponsorship from the Josephine Baker Trust and choir members. Our audiences and concert ticket income increased significantly, but our membership remained around 60. Concessions are available for members who cannot afford the full subscription or are under 18. Our costs for the year increased significantly as a result of rehearsing in the New Hartley Hall, which is a much more satisfactory venue. We also had a larger orchestra for the Christmas Oratorio. Our trip to Antwerp was financed by those travelling, with two members receiving concessions to allow them to travel.

Risk management

Our principal risk is promoting concerts which make a deficit. We manage this risk by restricting the number of orchestral concerts, budgeting and monitoring our costs closely and seeking sponsorship and other sources of income. We also aim to grow the size of the choir and audiences to increase income.

Reserves

We ended the year with reserves of £6358, which are all unrestricted. This is in line with our policy of keeping reserves between £5000 and £10000. The reserves are nearly all in bank deposits and needed to cover concert deficits and ensure we can meet our obligations.

Plans for the future

Our former musical director has resigned and we have an interim musical director while we recruit a new one to start in January 2016. We intend to promote a similar pattern of concerts and other activities in 2015-6, though the detailed programme for the new year will be decided by the committee in consultation with the new musical director.

We are promoting a concert including the Mozart Requiem on 21 November 2015. This work has been chosen to attract new members and audiences. Future concerts programmes will take account of the need to reduce the deficit.

Structure, governance and management

The choir is an unincorporated association operating under a constitution which was adopted on 18 January 1996 and amended on 24 February 2005 and 26 January 2006. The choir is governed by the trustees who form the management committee and are elected at the AGM. Casual vacancies are filled by co-option by the committee. All committee members have specific roles and they are supported by other choir members. Induction and training is provided informally as required by other choir members. No choir members receive any remuneration, but any expenses incurred on behalf of the choir are reimbursed.

The overall programme for the year is decided by the committee and musical director. The financial plans and detailed arrangements are decided by the committee and the chairman as appropriate. Detailed musical decisions including rehearsals and selection of performers are taken by the musical director, in consultation with the committee. The choir has no employees and the musical director, accompanist, soloists and orchestral players are all freelance professionals. The fees of the musical director and accompanist are reviewed biennially based on RPI and the remuneration of other performers is negotiated based on market rates.

Charity registration **London Pro Arte Choir** number 276361

Address

The choir does not have an office but can be contacted via St Michael's Church, Flower Lane, London NW7 2JA.

Trustees

Rosalind Charles	Librarian
Loretta Cox	Tour organiser
Shirley Durling	Box office/Sponsorship
Keith Ellen	Concert manager
Gill Ellen	Social events
Hadley Hunter	Treasurer
Laura Newbury	Librarian (till 30 July 2015)
Pauline Pescod	Hospitality
Isobel Roberts	Chairman (till 30 July 2015)
Molly Scopes	Chairman (from 16 September 2015)
Julia Stevens	Publicity
Peter Warden	Secretary

Professional musicians

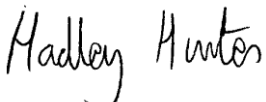
Robin Kimber	Musical director (till 2 June 2015)
Edward Batting	Musical Director (from 2 June 2015)
Jocelyn Freeman	Accompanist

Independent examiner Alan Roberts

Bankers NatWest Bank
 Virgin Money

Website www.lpac.org.uk

Approved by the trustees on 24 September 2015

 Hadley Hunter (Treasurer)

LONDON PRO ARTE CHOIR ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

<u>RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS</u>	2014-5	2013-4
<u>Receipts</u>		
Advertisements	170	200
Donations	1,440	388
Drinks	747	489
Friends	160	190
Garden party	-	349
Gift Aid	3,075	2,091
Interest	80	78
Produce	403	506
Programmes	242	194
Quiz	-	718
Raffle/tombola	253	-
Social night	-	745
Sponsorship	4,312	2,125
Subscriptions	8,700	8,150
The Giving Machine	17	18
Tickets	8,132	5,574
Travel	12,698	10,725
Total receipts	40,429	32,539
<u>Payments</u>		
Accompanist	4,820	3,240
Charity	925	500
Church/hall hire	4,315	2,595
Conductor	8,220	7,255
Credit card fee	9	15
Drinks	420	225
Food	1,549	-
Friends	-	8
Garden party	-	67
Gifts	138	74
Hotel	4,528	-
Instrument hire/tuning	2,316	150
Insurance	95	68
Licences and memberships	178	134
Miscellaneous	652	37
Music hire/purchase	642	711
Orchestra	3,740	2,961
Printing and publicity	1,324	1,489
Programmes	146	127
Quiz	-	291
Social night	-	360
Soloists	2,500	1,300
Travel	5,893	11,337
Website	101	97
Total payments	42,510	33,042
Deficit	(2,081)	(503)
 <u>BALANCE SHEET</u>		
	31 Aug 2015	31 Aug 2014
Cash	6,154	8,289
Stock	204	151
Debtors	-	-
Creditors	-	-
Assets	6,358	8,439
Funds	6,358	8,439

All receipts, payments and funds are unrestricted

Hadley Hunter

Approved by the trustees on 24 September 2015
Hadley Hunter (Treasurer)
Registered charity 276361



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name:
London Pro Arte Choir

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2015

Charity no
(if any) 276361

Set out on pages

1

(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.

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:

15/09/2015

Name:

A G Roberts

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

FCMA

Address:	19 Langley Park
	Mill Hill
	London. NW7 2AA

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

None