

TREASURERS REPORT.

December 2023.

I am grateful to Lesley Clark FCA for examining and verifying the accounts after the sad death of Tom Holleran, who has completed the task for several years.

It is good to see that the in-year loss has reduced significantly but is still a concern and not sustainable in the coming years.

Membership income rose with an increase in numbers. We were fortunate to receive our share of a significant grant from the Arts Council for the Dove Concert. The healthy "Sundries" income included raffles held at concerts and rehearsals, donations made at the Gilbert and Sullivan Event and entry to the Come and Sing event. This was very popular and made a profit of £425.

The Gift Aid claim for the Year 22-23 is with HMRC as I write, with a similar figure expected as in 21-22. This will bring in approx. £1,200 if accepted in full.

As can be seen in the account summary the major expenses are "professional fees", followed by venues.

The committee have discussed options to cut costs in the current and coming years, this has included reducing the size of the orchestra for our performances in the Cathedral, reducing costs of soloists by employing students from the Royal Academy of Music. We are grateful to Mark for using his contacts at the Royal Academy to be able to do this. Joint productions with other Choral Societies are also in the offing, to share costs and therefore reduce the losses made.

I would encourage everyone to support the efforts of the fundraising committee and ask that anyone who is eligible to complete a Gift Aid form if not already done so!

Sue Marris

Treasurer LCS