

Redland Green Community Chorus

Annual Report and Accounts 2012

Chair's report

The 2011/2012 year has been one of considerable change for RGCC and it has been my privilege to serve as Chair of the committee during this period.

At the request of our Musical Director, Emma Goddard, Monday rehearsal time was increased to two hours and this has enabled us to greatly improve the quality of our public performances. It also affords us time to have a short break, mid rehearsal, for socialising and interaction between the various sections of the chorus, and to deal with administrative matters.

We have made tremendous progress in the PR arena this year, thanks to the hard work of Don Whiting. We have developed a smart, modern new 'brand' and we are now the proud owners of some excellent banners enabling us to identify/advertise ourselves to the public and attract new members. Articles about RGCC have been published in local magazines and newspapers and we also have regular features appearing on the website of Redland Green School. All of this has helped raise our profile and given us a more professional image.

We have sought to improve our offering to new joiners, co-opting a Membership Officer to the committee, Andrea Rogers, who has worked hard to develop the membership and to meet, greet and help integrate newcomers. We have also developed a 'Welcome Sheet' to provide new recruits with background information about us. There are in excess of 40 choirs based in Bristol, all competing for new members, so it is vital that, when new members come along, they are made welcome and want to keep coming back!

Thanks to the expertise and hard work of Nick Plant, our website has enjoyed a complete overhaul and now has a smart new look, in keeping with our rebrand. The site has developed extremely well during the year and is always brimming over with information and learning aids. It remains the key vehicle for both internal and external communication.

Regrettably during the course of this year, the number of RGS students singing with the chorus has dwindled. We continue to seek greater integration with the school, and I am delighted that this is now underway, with the advent of the 'Come and Sing' session scheduled for 17 November 2012. It is our desire to involve as many pupils and parents from RGS as possible, and we hope that, with this aim in mind, the forthcoming year will see further joint ventures.

As you will note from the annual accounts, our financial position at the year end was far from satisfactory. Whilst the committee has increased the subscriptions this year, to enable us to continue to put on performances such as the summer concert i.e. with considerable input from professional musicians and soloists, it will be necessary to increase subscriptions to a more realistic level in the new year. It remains a commitment of RGCC however to waive subscriptions for any member in financial hardship and students of the school will continue to enjoy free membership of the chorus.

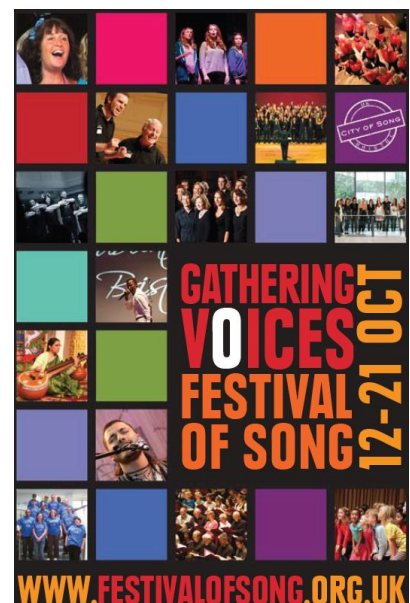
We have performed two main concerts this year – one at Christmas and our main production in the summer. In addition to this, we have participated in ‘The Really Big Chorus’ at the Royal Albert Hall, sung at the FORGS ‘Pimms on the Roof’ event and, more recently, participated in the Gathering Voices festival by carrying out ‘song raids’ in the city centre, and singing in the Colston Hall foyer. Whilst we have achieved the vast majority of the objectives set, the main outstanding item to carry forward to the coming year, is that of registering as a charity. This will be considered by the committee in the coming months.

A considerable amount of work is undertaken by committee members, often behind the scenes, to ensure that the chorus runs smoothly. In addition to those already mentioned, Kate Hughes has fulfilled the secretarial role admirably, and also dealt with our music library, whilst Andrée Osborne has been an excellent treasurer. I would like to offer my personal thanks to all of the committee members for their help and support throughout the year, and I am quite sure that you, the members, will want to thank them also.

Thanks also to our inspirational Musical Director, Emma Goddard, whose passion and enthusiasm are contagious and whose talent knows no bounds. We are very well aware that we are fortunate to have Emma leading us! Congratulations are also due to Emma following the completion of her MA in Choral Conducting this year.

Our excellent accompanist, Jonny Saunders, is a lynchpin of the chorus who also acts as a valuable contact point between the chorus and the school. Thanks are due to Jonny for all his hard work, much unseen, in keeping the chorus ticking over.

There have been many other members and partners/spouses who have contributed to the running of events this year (grateful thanks to Steve and Tricia for dealing with all the concert ticketing) and our thanks go to them, too!



Accounts for the period September 2011 - August 2012

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| <u>INCOME</u> | £ |
| Income carried forward 10/11 | 767.22 |
| Subscription fees income 11/12 | 4,786.00 |
| Music /folders sale income | 1,073.00 |
| Concert income | |
| Christmas concert Income tickets/programmes/refreshment sales | 666.70 |
| Summer concert Income tickets/programmes/refreshment sales | 1,079.45 |
| Albert Hall - Jenkins concert Subscriptions/music/cds/coach | 2,042.00 |
| Grand total income 11/12 | <u>10,414.37</u> |
| <u>EXPENDITURE</u> | £ |
| - | |
| Public liability Insurance | 115.81 |
| Gareth Treseder - Music for RGCC - Licence for unlimited copies 'Never Weather...' | 200.00 |
| Music Director & Accompanist fees | 4,764.00 |
| Music/Folders Purchase | 935.36 |
| Christmas concert expenditure | 473.38 |
| Summer concert expenditure | 1,518.08 |
| Albert Hall - Jenkins concert Subscriptions/music/cds/coach | 2,079.50 |
| Marketing Expenditure | 322.34 |
| <u>GRAND TOTAL - expenditure 11/12</u> | <u>10,408.47</u> |
| <u>BALANCE 11/12</u> | <u>5.90</u> |

