



Reg Charity No 502074



Dear Members of CRC

Welcome to the new CRC season.

We hope to see large numbers of you at the first rehearsal and AGM on Wednesday 20th September at The Methodist church, Wigton at 7.00pm.

The timings will be as follows

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 7.00 – 8.00pm | AGM (see attached documents). Please print out if possible. There will be a few copies available. |
| 8.00 – 8.20pm | REFRESHMENTS - Hot drinks will be available |
| 8.20 – 9.30pm | REHEARSAL – An introduction to this season's music, Karl Jenkin's Requiem, and Dona Nobis Pacem by Vaughan Williams. |

There is limited parking next door to the church at the Junior School and plenty of room in the main town car park behind St Mary's Church. (2 minutes walk). NB there is a £1 charge from 7.00pm onwards.

Music will be available.

Please do try and bring potential new singers along and feel free to forward this e-mail to others.

Margaret Ferriby (Concert Secretary)

Cumbria Rural Choirs

**President : Lady Cressida Inglewood, Hutton in the Forest, Penrith,
Cumbria CA11 9TH**

**The sixty sixth Annual General Meeting held at Keswick School on
Wednesday September 14th 2016 at 7.00pm**

Minutes

- 1. Apologies for absence** were received from Ann Dixon, Ted Holt, Olive Bloxham, Margaret Drury, Deborah Rackham, Mike Hornby, Daphne Snelson, Charles Ritchie, Darrell Hall, Liz Auld, Chris Castell, Pauline Routledge, Ian Hair.
47 people were present.
- 2. Minutes of the 65th Annual General Meeting** were agreed and signed.
- 3. Matters arising :** There were no matters arising.
- 4. The Chairman's Report on the 2015-2016 season** is on file. Geoff Bowles reported on the Concert held this year in St Andrew's Church Penrith on Saturday 5th March 2016. The performance of works by Jongen and Saint Saens received a very favourable review for the choir and our Conductor Victoria Ely. The concert also featured Borders Brass and organist Ian Hare. Unfortunately audience numbers were very disappointing. With regret the Committee accepted the resignation of Victoria Ely due to an increasing work load. She felt unable to commit as much time as necessary to CRC. We are grateful to Ian Wright for agreeing to take on the task of Music Director for the 2017 concert which will be conducted by Andrew Padmore.
Thanks were given to Amanda Wright for her hard work as accompanist .
In thanking the Committee for their hard work Geoff paid tribute to the work done by Anne Dixon as Minutes Secretary and much more. Anne is resigning from the committee for family reasons. She will be greatly missed. Thanks are also due to Geoff Anderson who maintains the web site and designs our excellent flyers.
There was a plea from the Chairman for help with two crucial vacancies on the Committee - Minutes Secretary and Publicity Officer.
In conclusion he mentioned a vision of the future where CRC could become an integral part of the musical life of Cumbria as the "choir in situ" to support visiting groups.
- 5. The Treasurer's Report is on file.** Clive reported a deficit for the year of £1429.97. This was caused by reduced membership, lower than expected ticket sales and fewer programmes sold. He stressed the need for increased membership and asked all present to complete the membership form with care and if possible tick the gift aid box (for this the post code is essential). Payment by BACS is preferred but cheques are acceptable.

Questions about the accounts indicated that members had difficulty in understanding them. This was due to the fact that the accounts were prepared by an accountant in line with professional accounting practice but masked items of individual interest such as the profit from the "Hutton in the Forest event" which raised £600 and grants of £1500 and £250. There is a difficulty because the financial year for CRC - 1st July to 30th June differs from the financial year which starts in April. It may be useful to consider a change. The accounts were approved on the motion of Geoff Anderson seconded by Jackie Wright.

6. Charitable Incorporated Organisation status (CIO). The application for this has now been accepted. The move to the new status is effective from 1st October. All officers and trustees are now legally protected.

7. Election of Officers

On the motion of Geoff Anderson seconded by Stephanie Diver the following were elected en bloc.

President : Lady Cressida Inglewood
Vice Presidents: Bishop James Newcome, Jeremy Suter, Eileen Dunning, Ian Hare.

Chairman : Geoff Bowles (Keswick)
Treasurer : Clive Riches (Ullswater)
Concert Secretary : Margaret Ferriby (Wigton), Ann Bishop (Wigton)
Librarian : Ulrike Smith (Wigton)
Minutes Secretary : Vacant
Publicity Officer : Vacant

Members of Committee : Margaret Riches (Ullswater) - Grants and Fundraising
Paul Connor (Independent) - Membership Secretary (till 2017)
Steve Morris (Wigton)
Jean Swinburne (Ullswater)
Eileen Dunning (Ullswater)

Ex Officio : Ian Wright (Chorus Director)
Jackie Wright (Conductor Ullswater Choir)
Ian Hare (Keswick CS)

8. Reports on Committee decisions and future

a) 2016 - 2017 season : The subscription should remain at £40 which includes the cost of music hire. Proposed by Eileen Dunning seconded by Jean Swinburne.
Rehearsal dates have been circulated.

b) 2017 -2018 season : Ian Wright outlined his idea for a concert commemorating the end of the first World War with works by British composers.
Karl Jenkins "Requiem", Hubert Parry "Songs of Farewell", Excerpt from Patrick Hawes "Great War Symphony". There was general approval for this idea which will now be pursued by the Committee.

c) Fundraising : Margaret talked about the 250th Anniversary of Wordsworth's birth due in 2020. She has procured a small grant for development towards a larger plan which would produce the possibility of funding from Heritage Trust. She is in discussion with Simon Yeo and the Wordsworth Trust about the possibility of a weekend of Wordsworth celebration involving a number of different events involving different arts and groups.

For 2017 she pointed out that the shortfall in funds could be £5000. There is more competition now for grants and it is necessary for CRC to do as much as possible to help itself. Following the success of Hutton in the Forest she is proposing that there should be a social event each year - for 2017 this is planned to be an Italian meal between the rehearsal and the concert to be served in the hall adjacent to St John's Church. She requested that members should express interest with no obligation at this stage to determine if the idea should be pursued.

She has also issued a timetable of opportunities for fundraising throughout the year. The Chairman thanked Margaret for the vast amount of work which she does.

9. AOB :

- a) It was suggested and agreed that a card be sent to Victoria from the AGM wishing her success and thanking her for her time with us.
- b) Flyers are available for the Choral Workshop on 1st October. This is open to all comers so a wide distribution is essential.
- c) Help with refreshments is required. Volunteers to liaise with Margaret Ferriby.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm and was followed by a rehearsal.

Cumbria Rural Choirs

President: Lady Cressida Inglewood, Hutton in the Forest, Penrith, CA11 9TH

The sixty seventh Annual General Meeting will be held at Wigton Methodist Church, on Wednesday 20th September 2017 at 7pm.

Any additional RESOLUTIONS or BUSINESS to be considered at this meeting must be put in writing with the name of the proposer and seconder, and sent to the Concert Secretary, Margaret Ferriby, by Monday 11th September 2017 (South Grange, Longthwaite Road, Wigton, CA79JR or margaret@ferriby.co.uk). Apologies to Margaret Ferriby.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE

Written nominations (duly seconded) must be sent to the Minutes Secretary before the meeting. Whether you are elected or a representative of one of the constituent choirs, ALL Committee members are now regarded by the Charity Commission as Trustees.

Existing Committee as follows:

Chairman	Geoff Bowles (and Keswick rep)
Honorary Treasurer	Clive Riches
Honorary Concert Secretaries	Margaret Ferriby and Ann Bishop
Member	Margaret Riches (Grants and Fundraising)
	Paul Connor (Membership Secretary)
	Ulrike Smith (Librarian)
	Steve Morris (Wigton rep) Jean Swinburne (Ullswater rep.)
	Eileen Dunning (committee member without portfolio)
	Honorary Minutes Secretary – post vacant
	Publicity Officer – post vacant
Non committee member	Geoff Anderson (Website, poster and programme designer
Ex Officio:	Ian Wright (Chorus Director)
	Jackie Wright (Conductor Ullswater CS)
Vice Presidents:	The Right Reverend James Newcome, Bishop of Carlisle
	Jeremy Suter, Former Master of Music at Carlisle Cathedral
	Mrs Eileen Dunning OBE
	Ian Hare (Conductor Keswick CS)

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 66th Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Chorus Director's Report on the 2016-2017 season
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of officers:
 - President
 - Vice Presidents
 - Chairman
 - Treasurer
 - Concert Secretaries
 - Minutes Secretary
7. Election of Committee
8. Reports on committee decisions and ideas for the future including:
 - a. 2017-2018 season (subscriptions, hire of music, attendance, rehearsal dates)
 - b. 2018-2019 season
 - c. 2020
 - d. Future Fundraising
10. AOB

Cumbria Rural Choirs Chairman's Report for AGM September 2017

Cumbria Rural Choirs was founded in 1951, as a coming together of small isolated regional choirs into a single large choir to promote the enjoyment, better understanding and advancement of the performance of the major works in the Choral repertory using the best accompanying musicians available in the best available venues and for the benefit of the region's music loving audiences. In making this report the trustees of Cumbria Rural Choirs have considered the guidance on public benefit reporting.

As we look back on our 2017 season these benefits are evidenced through regular internal and external qualitative assessments by the Executive Committee, the collation of quantitative data on all our activities, assessment of our audiences, and the overall participation of our members. This AGM is the vehicle the society uses to report to our members, to yourselves, on these activities and the financial performance of the society by our annual reports, audited annual accounts, and reports to grant funders.

For the 2017 concert, representative choirs in Keswick, Wigton, Penrith and Ullswater together with independent singing members, a new development for Cumbria Rural Choirs, came together at Easter - having rehearsed through the Autumn and winter at venues across the region to perform Gioachino Rossini- Stobart Mater and Giacomo Puccini - Messi di Gloria. This enabled us to fulfil the first public benefit of bringing people together to perform major choral works under a professional conductor which would be beyond the financial, and musical capacity of the smaller choirs. The venue again was St John the Evangelist in Carlisle. Ian Wright completing his first season as Cumbria Rural Choirs Music Director. I am sure that you all will join me in thanking him and accompanist Amanda for their hard work in bringing us all to the high choral standard, particularly in the a cappella items, that we achieved at the concert with visiting conductor Andrew Pedmore.

The "come and sing' choral workshop one of our fundraising activities, and a way of part of the 2016/17 rehearsal schedule, with conductor Andrew Pedmore at St John's Church in Carlisle. Musically successful it certainly was but attendance was low, which was commented on by the conductor.

All of this activity has enabled us to: allow singers to extend their repertoire and enhance their technique through professional training; provide an opportunity for the public of North Cumbria to hear these important works with a professional conductor; and for young musicians to take part in the choir and in the orchestra.

This organisation can only continue to flourish as the result of all the hard work and dedication of your committee. Thanks to Clive for his continued and valuable work in keeping us financially secure and able to pay our professional soloists and conductor, on occasion in the face of some very challenging decisions. Special thanks also to Margaret for her work in seeking necessary funding, increasingly difficult in these cash strapped times, and in creating and executing so many varied fund-raising activities and events. The dinner provided by John Crouch, as another part of our fund-raising activities on concert day, was particularly successful & memorable. Thanks too to all the Committee members, to our Concert Secretary, Margaret Ferriby for organising our venues and ensuring that the rehearsal schedule is up to date and sent to members and possible new members, to Librarian Ulrika, membership secretary Paul Connor, now leaving us for a new life in Kirkcudbright on the Galloway coast and to those Committee members who stood in as Minutes Secretary when asked. In addition, a special thank you to our web site maintainer and poster

designer, Geoff Anderson and all the voluntary local choir representatives and other committee members and helpers.

Your Committee takes the possibility of harm, for example, physical or other injury incurred in participation in choral activities very seriously. Your Committee believe that any negative aspects are outweighed by the benefits of choral singing and significantly reduced by the policies and procedures already in place to address such risks, for example our safeguarding and equal opportunities policies and the code of conduct operated by elected officials and volunteers.

This society could not continue to flourish without your continued support. This year one third of your Committee is up for re-election. We do need new committee members to continue to fulfil our public benefit as a provider of high quality choral activities within Cumbria, particularly we need a new Publicity Officer and Minutes Secretary. If you think you can help, please come and join us.

Looking forward to the 2018 Concert season, two works that reflect on the end of the Great War, Karl Jenkins Requiem and Dona Nobis Pacem by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Ian Wright, our Chorus Master will for this season conduct the concert. We will again be using our own created and financed Festival Orchestra, this year with some extra orchestral only rehearsals. The joint choral rehearsals in September and October will be used as a platform to attract new singing members. Please all do your bit in bringing new singers along.

A big CRC fundraising event in October a Celebration Dinner with Musical Interludes in the Great Hall of Greystoke Castle. Leaflets are around, please support it by coming along.

For 2019, the program is yet to be decided, but I can tell you that our conductor will be John Butt, founder of the Gramophone Magazine award winning, Dunedin Consort. This is going to be a really exiting choral journey for Cumbria Rural Choirs.

And for 2020 work, by your committee continues for the performance of a new work, commissioned by Cumbria Rural Choirs to celebrate the 250th anniversary on William Wordsworth's birth.

The possibility of harm, for example, physical injury incurred in participation in choral activities is outweighed by the benefit and significantly reduced by the policies and procedures already in place to address such risks, for example our safeguarding and equal opportunities policies and the code of conduct operated by elected officials and volunteers.

The strategy of the trustees remains the development of the choral singing technique to the highest possible standard, further establishing Cumbria Rural Choirs as the organisation of choice for performance of large scale Choral works within the Cumbria.

Income & Expenditure 2016-17

INCOME

Subscriptions 75x40	3720
Tickets 125x12 + 100x15	2025
Advertisements	1069
Programme sales 200x2	184
Grants	4800
Other fundraising	1064.04
Donations	1133.46
Choral Day	610
Other	186.3
TOTAL	14791.8 [Gift Aid not yet received]
Restricted Grant 2020	4000

EXPENDITURE

Andrew Padmore [performance]	2235
Fundraising meal	495
Interval Refreshments/licence	108.35
St Johns [performance]	577.5
Soloists & travel	2479.01
Orchestra	2730
Staging	200
Printing & Publicity	610.5
Other	94.66
Andrew Padmore [fee/expenses]	692.5
Ian Wright	1375
Amanda Wright	750
Refreshments	35
Rehearsal Venues	304.75
Choral Day	780
Making Music	302
Printing & Publicity	299.64
Music Hire	486.13
Accounts	105
Composer 2020	150
Other	38.36
TOTAL	14848.4
Surplus/deficit	-56.6



Cumbria Rural Choirs	502074
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts			
For the period from	01-Jul-16	To	30-Nov-16

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	426	-	-	426	811
Tax Refund Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	476
Fund Raising	274	-	-	274	3,245
Grants	5,500	-	-	5,500	-
Choral Day	610	-	-	610	-
Singers Subscriptions	2,860	-	-	2,860	2,960
Ticket Sales	-	-	-	-	1,320
Programme Sales and Advertising	150	-	-	150	1,000
Other	-	-	-	-	325
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	9,820	-	-	9,820	10,137
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	9,820	-	-	9,820	10,137
A3 Payments					
Conductor	680	-	-	680	3,852
Orchestra/Singers	480	-	-	480	3,198
Accompanist	313	-	-	313	330
Hutton in the Forest	-	-	-	-	668
Performance and Rehearsal Halls	163	-	-	163	936
Music Hire, Printing and Stationery	-	-	-	-	750
Advertising and Publicity	142	-	-	142	906
Making Music	-	-	-	-	355
Bank Charges	5	-	-	5	27
Other	325	-	-	325	545
Sub total	2,108	-	-	2,108	11,567
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,108	-	-	2,108	11,567
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,712	-	-	7,712	1,430
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,866	-	-	5,866	7,296
Cash funds this year end	13,578	-	-	13,578	5,866

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Current Account	13,578	-	###
		-	-	###
		-	-	###
	Total cash funds	13,578	-	-

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	###
		-	-	###
		-	-	###
		-	-	###
		-	-	###
		-	-	###

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	###
			-	###
			-	###
			-	###
			-	###

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	###
			-	###
			-	###
			-	###
			-	###
			-	###
			-	###
			-	###

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of Cumbria Rural Choirs

On accounts for the period ended 30 June 2017 **Charity no (if any)** 1168081

Set out on pages 8 to 9

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:**

Name: Andrew Benson

Relevant professional ICAEW

**qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

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Address:

89 Pennyhill Park
Penrith
CA11 9JW

Section B

Disclosure

Nothing to disclose.