

# Redland Green Community Chorus

## Annual Report and Accounts 2013

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### Chair's report

The 2012/2013 year was an extremely busy one, presenting us with numerous opportunities to do what we love – sing!

October 2012 saw us participating in song raids around the city as part of the Gathering Voices Festival of Song and also gave us the opportunity to perform in the beautiful foyer of Colston Hall. In November, we held a 'Come and Sing' session in collaboration with Redland Green School and some of our current members joined as a direct result of that day.

Our Christmas Concert in St. Alban's Church was most successful and was followed by what has now become the traditional post-concert social gathering on the final Monday of term.

January saw a small delegation of our members singing at a charity fundraising event for Project Zulu and, in May, we made a very successful debut at Redland Green Fair in uncharacteristically beautiful weather! This was followed, later that month, by a performance on Gloucester Road as part of the Neighbourhood Festival, and a swift march along the road saw us singing at the opening of the Neighbourhood Partnership Super Forum meeting, with Mayor George Ferguson in attendance.

These events lead up to a wonderful finale to the year when we performed Faure's Requiem as part of our summer concert, again in St. Alban's Church. The summer concert also afforded us an opportunity to enjoy a great performance from Barrett's Allsorts, and we look forward to more of the same at future events. The post-concert social gathering had a great atmosphere and turned out to be a real bonding experience; we partook of more than a little liquid refreshment and enjoyed some very relaxed, impromptu singing around the piano – it was a chance to 'relive' the concert in what I can only describe as a totally justifiable, self-congratulatory manner! Six months of hard work had come together beautifully and there was a real sense of elation as a result.

The summer concert and social evening were, however, tinged with sadness as they marked the end of Emma Trounson's time as our Musical Director. Emma was very popular and hugely inspirational and we were very sorry to bid her farewell. However, following a flurry of recruitment activity and a rigorous selection process, we found the perfect replacement in Nick Bromilow, who took over the position of Musical Director with effect from September 2013. Nick has made a fantastic start and I am certain that, under his leadership, the chorus will continue to go from strength to strength, with exciting times ahead.



Of course, these events require a great deal of planning and organising and the committee has worked tirelessly, throughout the year, to ensure the smooth running of RGCC.

Kate Hughes is a diligent and efficient secretary who, in addition to the usual secretarial duties, has also managed the music library throughout the year. Andrée Osborne, our excellent treasurer, also deals amongst other things,

with all bookings and liaisons with concert venues, arriving at concerts long before the bulk of members and usually turning the lights out at the end! Nick Plant's invaluable IT skills ensure that, via the website, we are all kept up to date with news in general, notifications of events and photographs of our exploits! Don Whiting has expertly handled our PR throughout the year, placing adverts, organising flyer drops prior to concerts and generally raising the profile of RGCC within the community through his contact with various local organisations and media outlets.

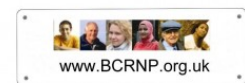
Andrea Rogers has been a pivotal part of the committee as membership secretary, and her hard work has transformed our offering to newcomers and made a dramatic improvement to our retention rate. Andrea has also done an admirable job organising refreshments at various events and as a result, ended every concert by washing innumerable wine glasses! Chris Robertson is a recent and most welcome recruit to the committee and we look forward to benefiting from his input going forwards.

No round up of RGCC's activities would be complete without reference to Jonny Saunders 'huge contribution to our group. Jonny is absolutely pivotal to the smooth running of the choir, not only as our wonderful accompanist, but for the immense amount of behind the scenes work that he contributes – not least with regard to the website learning aids that so many of us find invaluable. He also calmly stepped in to fill Emma's shoes in January (when she was incapacitated), seamlessly running the entire rehearsals, single-handedly, for a number of weeks. We are most grateful for everything Jonny does for RGCC.

In addition to the committee, various other members (and many of their family members) have helped to ensure the efficient running of the choir; in particular, our grateful thanks go to Steve Hull and Tricia Thorpe, who have expertly undertaken the onerous task of ticket sales for both concerts.

We have spent this year with two unfilled vacancies on the committee and, as evidenced above, this has resulted in some committee members having to fulfil more than one role. Our depleted numbers have also meant that the question of applying for charitable status, regrettably, remains in the 'pending' pile for the new committee to take forwards!

As the treasurer's report will testify, we have ended the year in a strong financial position. This will enable us to ring fence a sum of 'rainy day' money, but will also allow us to be a little more ambitious in terms of expenditure on future concerts. As a result of a great deal of time and effort on the part of Don Whiting, we successfully applied for a grant from the Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) and were awarded a once off sum of £1250. There are certain restrictions on how this money should be spent but this is a significant achievement for RGCC, marking what I hope will be an on-going relationship with the NP.



*Our Neighbourhood*

One major financial change for the coming year is that we are now being charged for the use of the school premises (hitherto this has been free of charge). As a result we now have considerably higher fixed expenditure, but with variable income, and in light of this, raising the subscriptions to £45 per term was deemed necessary. This still represents excellent value for money for members and compares most favourably with charges levied by other choirs in our area.

As I stand down from the committee, after two years thoroughly enjoyable years as 'Chair', I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to the committee for all their wonderful support – it has been a privilege to lead RGCC – not to mention a great deal of fun - and I look forward to the continued success of RGCC.

**Caroline Stanfield – October 2013**

## Accounts for the period September 2012 - August 2013

### Income/Expenditure Account for 2012/2013

<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income carried forward</b>	5.90
Subscriptions @ £ 40 per term	
Term 1 - 01/09/2012 - 31/12/2012	2,185.00
Term 2 - 01/01/2013 - 31/03/2013	2,400.00
Term 3 - 01/04/2013 - 31/07/2013	2,450.00
Music/Folders sale	605.00
Christmas concert income	1,398.36
Summer concert income	1,258.50
Collection for Music Director	150.00
<b>Total Income 2012/2013</b>	<b>10,452.76</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Director Fees</b>	
Term 1 - 01/09/2012 - 31/12/2012	1,454.60
Term 2 - 01/01/2013 - 31/03/2013	868.00
Term 3 - 01/04/2013 - 31/07/2013	1,363.00
<b>Accompanist Fees</b>	
Term 1 - 01/09/2012 - 31/12/2012	525.00
Term 2 - 01/01/2013 - 31/03/2013	546.00
Term 3 - 01/04/2013 - 31/07/2013	546.00
<b>Composer in residence</b>	
Composition of 'O Gladdening Light'	200.00
Music/folders purchase	626.01
<b>Christmas concert</b>	678.60
<b>Summer concert</b>	1,377.20
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
Get well flowers/card - Music Director	18.19
Name Badges	65.00
Advertisement for new Music Director	12.50
Photocollage - Leaving present for Music Director	20.48
<b>Liability Insurance</b>	115.81
Leaving present for Music Director	150.00
<b>Total Expenditure 2012/2013</b>	<b>8,566.39</b>
<b>Year end surplus</b>	<b><u>1,886.37</u></b>

**Christmas concert 2012**

<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>
Ticket & Programme sales	1,008.00
Full page advertisement - BBS Consultants & Actuaries (Caroline Taylor)	250.00
Profit from sales of refreshments	141.00
<b>Total concert income</b>	<b>1,399.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>
Director concert fees	121.00
Accompanist fees	84.00
Visiting musician fees £40 x 2	80.00
Hire of church	200.00
Artwork for concert leaflets	54.00
Programmes x 100	110.00
Gratuities	29.60
<b>Total concert expenditure</b>	<b>678.60</b>
<b>Profit for concert</b>	<b><u>720.40</u></b>

**Summer concert 2013**

<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>
Ticket & Programme sales	1,082.50
Profit from sales of refreshments	176.00
<b>Total concert income</b>	<b>1,258.50</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>
Director's concert fee	121.00
Accompanist's concert fee	84.00
Summer concert Leaflets	168.00
Advertisement in RCWP directory	113.00
Advertisement in RCWP Bishopston Matters	60.00
Visiting Musician fees - 5 x £75 & 2 x £100	575.00
Programmes	38.00
Gratuities	18.20
Hire of church	200.00
<b>Total concert expenditure</b>	<b>1,377.20</b>
<b>Concert deficit</b>	<b><u>-118.70</u></b>