

Treasurer's ReportCommittee Meeting 22nd February, 2015**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2014**This table is a summary of the **Central Fund** accounts for the year 2013/14 and a forecast for 2014-2015.

| INCOME | 2012-2013 actual | 2013-2014 forecast | 2013-2014 actual | 2014-15 budget |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Subscriptions including Corporate Subscriptions | 29,047.40 | 30,000 | 31,018.25 | 31,100 |
| Festival Surplus | 213.46 | | ? | 600 |
| Scottish Recorder Festival (Surplus) Loss | 0 | | | 0 |
| IR gift aid (allocated to AIF) | {4,491.03} | {4,800} | {4841.43} | |
| Bank Interest (11.88% of Total Received) | 133.62 | 145 | 280.14 | 180 |
| Royalties | 0 | 10 | 6.16 | |
| Branch Handover | 31.00 | | | |
| Total | 29,425.48 | 30,145 | 31,304.55 | 31,880 |
| | | | | |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | |
| Magazine | 13,502.00 | 13,500 | 13,873.80 | 13,900 |
| Annual Conference | 5,167.74 | 5,300 | 4,865.39 | 4,500 |
| Conductors Visits | 3,136.78 | 3,600 | 2,649.95 | 3,200 |
| Committee Expenses | 3,262.81 | 4,000 | 2,410.42 | 3,500 |
| Printing, Stationery & Membership List | 1,267.87 | 200 | 61.79 | 1,300 |
| Phones & Postages | 362.44 | 240 | 19.26 | 100 |
| Publicity | 0 | 500 | 1,017.10 | 500 |
| Ex-gratia payments to Festival branches, and WBF | 209.74 | 540 | 0 | 400 |
| Subscription to Making Music | 416.67 | 350 | 450.00 | 450 |
| Scottish Recorder Festival Loss | 141.85 | | 611.50 | ??? |
| Audit | 200.00 | 250 | 200.00 | 250 |
| Internet Presence | 58.20 | 60 | 96.00 | 110 |
| Insurances | 1,747.20 | 1,665 | 1,745.50 | 1,770 |
| Bank charges | | | 3.50 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 116.88 | 40 | 135.14 | 100 |
| Total | 29,589.67 | 30,095 | 28,139.35 | 30,080 |
| | -164.19 | 50 | 3,165.20 | 1,800 |

Subscription income rose by about £1,920 compared to 2012/13. The cost of the Annual Conference was £4,865, £300 less than in the previous year, the cost of conductors' visits was £2,650, down by almost £400; committee expenses £2,410. There were no membership lists, so printing and postage costs were low (£80). There was an overall surplus of £3,165 due to higher income and lower expenditure.

The Scottish festival again made a loss (£612). The festival in Truro made a surplus of almost £600 but I received the accounts too late to include them in the 2013/14 accounts.

The **Central Fund** held £30,471.97 on 31st August 2014.

The **Walter Bergmann Fund** received £6,170 in donations, and £374 share of bank interest (15.88% of total), £213 in Gift Aid. It made grants totalling £5,395, provided the third prize at the SRP/Moeck competition (£400), committee expenses amounted to £167 and bank charges £5. The year's surplus was £789, leaving its fund at £31,490.34 on 31st August 2014.

The **Arthur Ingram Fund** received £1,704 share of bank interest (72.27% of total) and £4,841 in Gift Aid. It also received £25 in donations, royalties from Alex Ayre music £253 (minus £152 Anne Ayre's share), PRS fees for Alex Ayre's music £51. Income from the sale of Bonsor CDs brought in £423 (together with the previous year's surplus the enterprise has brought in around £900 to date). The fund's main expenditure was the NYRO management fee (£6,600). The cost of the **competition** arose to £2,122, **competition prizes** £600. I still have not received any proceeds from ticket sales from the recital in 2012. We spent £1,500 on **commissioned music** (in addition to the festival music). Other expenditure was in support of festival music (£425) and workshops (£765). **Jubilee playing days** cost £900; the **setting of Alex Ayre's music** £271, **grants** £708. The overall expenditure of the Arthur Ingram Fund amounts to £15,358.12, a loss of £6,910). The overall fund amounts to £138,334.03 on 31st August 2014.

Looking at the current year I predict a surplus of around £1400 for the central fund. For this reason and because, looking at branch accounts, I notice that a lot of branches are faced with increasing cost for venue hire I propose not to increase the subscriptions this year. Although most branches sent me their accounts by middle of October, a few did not come in until December causing quite a delay in sorting the accounts. There is a continuous problem with branches not being aware of the necessity to use last year's final figure as starting point and the necessity to record payments from other SRP accounts clearly, making my cross checks at times quite difficult; this also applies to workshops that should be neutral to branch accounts. I would like to request that branch treasurers look at their branch accounts in June or July to check whether they have reclaimed pastoral visitor's travel expenses, passed on donations etc. Receiving these after 31st August of the financial year always complicate the accounts. I hope that the re-introduction of the numbered system for conductors' visits will help me to spot those branches that have not claimed in time. The NYRO accounts were again examined by our Independent Examiner, which has proved very helpful in consolidating the accounts.

I wish to thank Keith Varney, our Independent Examiner, for his helpful advice and efficient handling of the auditing of the Society's accounts, and this year I also need to extend my gratitude to the help I received from Tessa in finalising the accounts.

Ursula Burchette

Report by the Country & Overseas Secretary

Current membership figures (with figures from February 2014 for comparison):

| | Ordinary | Household | Student | Life* | Total |
|----------------|----------|-----------|---------|-------|---------|
| UK | 62 (48) | 8 (8) | 0 (0) | 2 | 72 (58) |
| Rest of Europe | 11 (13) | 0 (2) | 0 (0) | 0 | 11 (15) |
| Rest of World | 3 (6) | 6 (6) | 0 (0) | 0 | 9 (13) |
| Totals | 76 (67) | 14 (16) | 0 (0) | 2 | 92 (86) |

Corporate Members: 4 (3)

Orchestras and affiliated groups: 17 (16)

*Note: One COS member and her husband, who is an Honorary Life Member, are now included in the COS list for convenience.

Sandra Foxall

Report from the Chairman, Walter Bergmann Fund

We had 10 applications for the February meeting. Only two approved. The first is support for a new venture - the London Youth Recorder Orchestra, the second for the purchase of an instrument.

Of the rejections, 3 were for lack of information about financial circumstances of the applicant (or parents) – i.e. the reasons why they could not afford to fund the instrument or course themselves, 1 of these was also missing a reference; 2 were ones that had previously been refused; 3 for other reasons connected with their particular requests.

Moira Usher

Report by the Moeck/Society of Recorder Players Competition administrator

Anne's concert at Royal Greenwich Early Music Festival and Exhibition 2014 was big success. A review by Naomi Wellings will appear in the next *Recorder Magazine*. Anne seemed very pleased with how it went and Max, her accompanist, might even enter the competition this time.

Something to think about for next time: can we get recordings of the concert and staged press photos as it is impossible to take photos during the actual concert itself in the chapel?

Entry details for the 2015 competition are available on our website and the Early Music Shop website. Information has also been sent out to as many conservatoires around the world as I have managed to translate the websites for. I have also been using social media (Facebook and twitter) to promote the competition. We have had quite a few enquiries including one from Japan and I'm looking forward to hearing the entries. Closing date isn't until 31st March so 6 weeks to enter yet.

I have yet to have a meeting with the Early Music Shop but hope to book this in March.

Sarah Langdon

Report by the Web Editor

New Look Website

I am still awaiting material on:

1. Publications
 - a. Teachers' Guide
 - b. Member benefits
2. Recorder makers

Although I was asked by the last committee meeting to progress the page on performers and ensembles, I have not yet put this on the site. As I stated in my last report, I am still awaiting an updated version from the Publicity Officer. I would appreciate it if the committee could have a look at the current draft page – I will ask the Secretary to send the link to Committee members since it should not be published.

Membership Database

The main elements of the membership database are all now working. I'd like to thank the COS Secretary for successfully using the online update feature: COS is now managed without spreadsheets at all, and we will consider offering online update to any branch that wants it, perhaps for next year.

I have generated a draft Gift Aid schedule for 2013-2014. However, I am still awaiting guidance on the exact format required for future Gift Aid Schedules, and on the handling of donations. We will be generating the printed membership list almost automatically from now on.

Actions from Last Committee Meeting

I note the recommendation that the website should include a Facebook and Twitter feed improve our profile in web searches. I'd like the committee to consider this suggestion further before going ahead with it.

- In fact, I wonder whether we could reasonably expect our profile to be much better than it already is? I tried a few searches including "recorder". "Recorder lessons" did not find our site in the first few pages. Otherwise in the 8 searches I tried we were on the first page in all of them, coming first (5 times) , second, fifth and sixth. However, if the committee knows of searches where we perform worse than we should I will certainly look into it.
- Second, simply updating the site every day would have a negligible effect on our search performance – update frequency has a low effect on search rankings. In any case, I don't think that taking the proposed feeds would increase the frequency of updates to the site. It is updated fairly frequently anyway and the vast majority of posts on our Facebook page are in fact publicising updates to the website. Similarly, the Twitter feed <http://twitter.com/recorderSocUK> is currently used far less frequently than the site itself is updated.

My own view is that the website and the social media sites serve different purposes and we would not benefit by trying to combine them.

Anthony Hall
