

## British Clavichord Society

### Treasurer's report to the 21st Annual General Meeting, 9 July 2016

This report covers the Society's financial transactions in the calendar year 2015. The accounts on the next two pages follow the usual model established by my predecessor, David Hitchin; and indeed our finances were still in his capable hands for the first half of 2015. I took over in the middle of the year and cannot speak too highly of his help to me as new treasurer, and of his enormous contribution to the running of our affairs in the ten years since he took over from Sheila Barnes in 2005. I'm also very grateful for the help of my committee colleagues.

Long-standing members will remember times when our annual income and the general fund were much higher than the figures presented here, but at least we ended 2015 with a small surplus, and with our general fund still above the minimum level considered to be wise for a society like ours. (We are of course not a registered charity, so financial policy decisions are in our own hands.) And in the context of recent years 2015 seems to me to offer some reassurance. In making comparisons, however, you must remember that the precise twelve-month periods presented here cut an arbitrary chunk from the fluctuating activities of the Society: our sponsorships, for example, follow no set pattern, and it seems to be a coincidence that the 2015 figure (£79.00) is closer to that for 2013 (£80.00) than to the one for 2014 (£184.00).

One difference that was not an accident is the reduction in our spending on *Meetings and recitals* in 2015 compared with 2014: £2,253 against £3,278. In 2014 we held two major concerts at the Art Workers Guild; in 2015, we held only one, disappointing for audiences but beneficial for our reserves.

Another good result that is no accident is the fact that we have again been able to keep our membership numbers reasonably stable in times that are not favourable to voluntary societies like ours. Our success in retaining members is largely due to hard work by our Membership Secretary, Paula Woods: in particular, her gentle persistence, which has brought many late renewers back into the fold, and her friendly and efficient help and advice to new and old members. Our steady, though small, influx of new members continued in 2015, and we ended the year with about 160 members (more if you count joint memberships as two rather than one person). This is well below our peak years, when we had 200 or more members, but the stability is encouraging, and vital, as subscriptions are almost our only source of income.

We constantly look out for ways to make it easier for us to receive money (and pay our debts), but so far we have not been able to find a low-cost but efficient way to accept online payments. However, we do now positively invite those who prefer to make or receive payments by bank transfer rather than cheque to opt for that method (so long as they are careful to provide us with the necessary information!); but cheques are still very welcome.

The result of the EU referendum and its likely effects for our costs in the UK and our (limited) purchases abroad may well be manageable within our budget; but of course we shall have to look at this carefully, starting in August, when we set the subscription rates for 2017.

Questions and suggestions about the accounts and our future financial plans would be very welcome.

Judith Wardman  
jw@jwardman.myzen.co.uk  
June 2016

## BRITISH CLAVICHORD SOCIETY ACCOUNTS – 2015

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Subscriptions	2,596.00	2,370.00	Newsletter	1,037.88	1,120.49
Subs in advance (2016)	344.00	598.00	Clavichord International	927.26	1,291.43
Subs in advance (2017)	33.00	–	Bookshop	133.25	215.18
Clavichord International	798.00	1,132.16	Education	130.00	260.00
Cl in advance	103.00	283.00	Sponsorships	79.00	184.00
Bookshop	663.20	738.33	Meetings and recitals	2,252.94	3,277.97
Advertising	360.00	130.00	Publicity	92.40	165.48
Tickets & refreshments	983.79	1,262.22	Committee expenses	641.83	583.09
Donations	116.00	170.00	Subs to other bodies	123.00	11.00
<b>Deficit</b>		<b>532.93</b>	<b>Surplus</b>	<b>579.43</b>	
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>5,996.99</b>	<b>6,683.71</b>	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>5,996.99</b>	<b>6,683.71</b>

### BALANCE SHEET

Fund at 1/1/2015	4,652.38	consisting of:	
		Subscriptions in advance	598.00
		Cl in advance	283.00
		General fund	3,771.38
			<u>4652.38</u>
Receipts for year	5,996.99		
Less payments for year	5,417.56		
Surplus for year	579.43		
Fund to 31/12/2015	<u>5,231.81</u>	Subscriptions in advance	377.00
		Cl in advance	103.00
		General fund	4,751.81
			<u>5,231.81</u>
		General fund surplus	579.43
Represented by			
Cash in Barclays	5,231.81		
Cheques uncleared at statement date	–		
Less creditors	–		
Add debtors	–		
<b>Total fund</b>	<u>5,231.81</u>		
<b>Bank Reconciliation</b>	Barclays		
Opening balance	4,652.38		
Add receipts	5,996.99		
Deduct expenditure	5,417.56		
<b>Total to date</b>	<u>5,231.81</u>		
Statement at 31/12/15	5,231.81		

## Further details of transactions (2015/2014)

### Subscriptions for 2015

Received in advance	598.00
Received in 2015	2,596.00
<b>Total for year</b>	<b>3,194.00</b>
<i>Previous year's total</i>	<i>2,826.00</i>

### Clavichord International

Received in advance	283.00
Received in 2015	798.00
Less payments	927.26
<b>Surplus for year</b>	<b>153.74</b>
<i>Previous year's surplus</i>	<i>49.73</i>

### Bookshop

Receipts	663.20
Less payments	133.25
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>529.95</b>
<i>Previous year's surplus</i>	<i>523.15</i>

## EVENTS

### Handel House joint recital with BHS

BCS contribution	130.00
------------------	--------

### AGM (Napier Hall)

Cost	954.44
Income	265.70
<b>Net cost</b>	<b>688.74</b>

### Linda Nicholson's recital (Art Workers Guild)

Cost	1168.50
Income	718.09
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>450.41</b>

<b>Net cost of all events in 2015</b>	<b>1,269.15</b>
<i>Net cost of 2014 events</i>	<i>2,015.75</i>

5th July 2016

*I have inspected these accounts, and have found nothing therein which would give me cause to doubt their veracity.*

*Brian Blandford*

[Examiner]