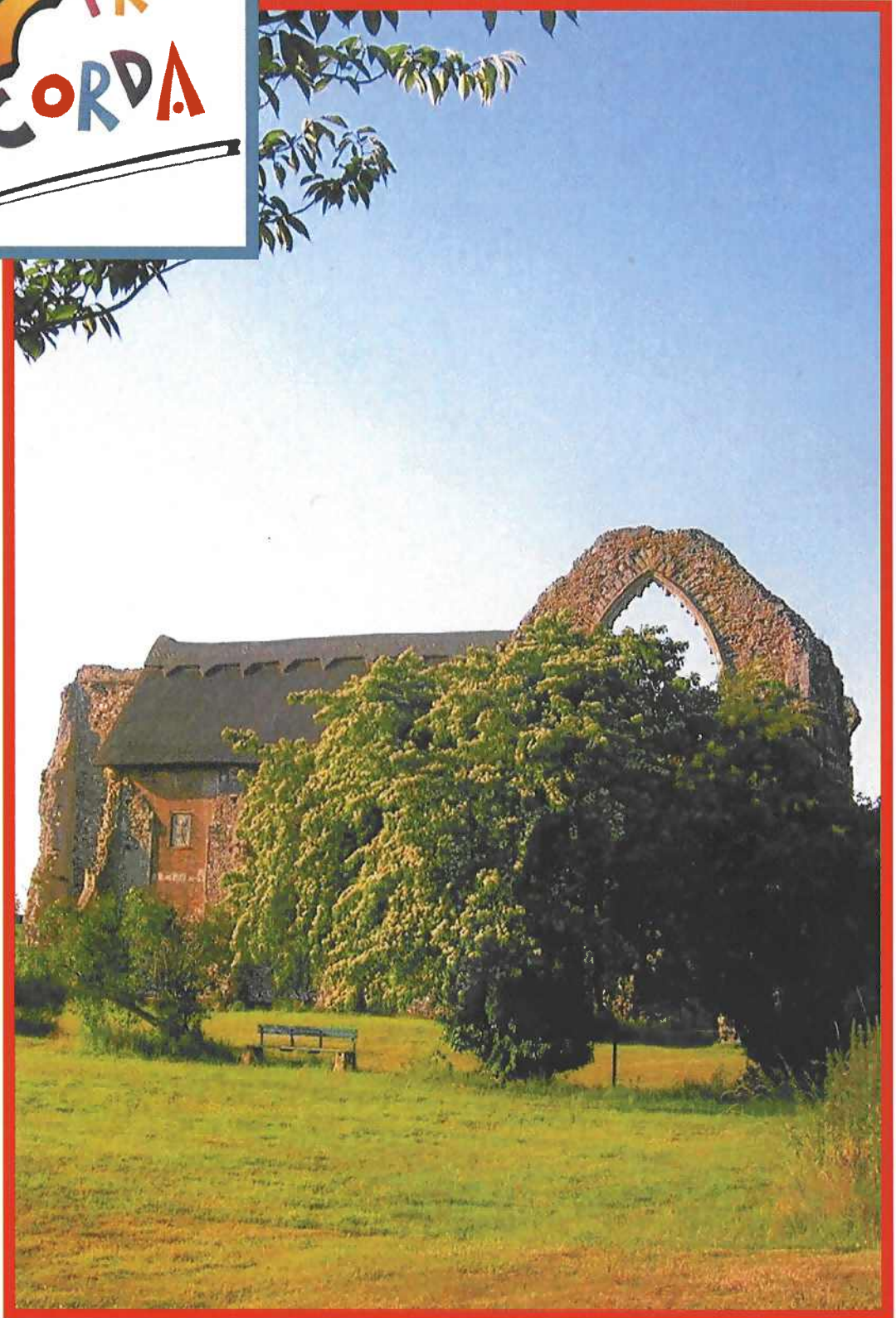




Pro Corda 2005/6

Annual Report



PRO CORDA TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2006

Registered Charity Number: 313772

Moore Stephens LLP
Chartered Accountants

PRO CORDA TRUST

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PRO CORDA TRUST
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2006

Charity name: Pro Corda Trust
Registered Charity number: 313772

Co-Founders

Miss P Spofforth, MBE and Miss B G Hewlins, MBE (deceased).

President

Sir Colin Davis, CBE.

The Trustees of Pro Corda Trust (the Trust) have all served in office throughout the year and to the date of this report except where indicated. They are:

Trustees

*Keith Daley (Chairman)
*Roger Cockerton (Honorary Treasurer) (resigned 15 January 2007)
John Ette
Guy Hopkins
Virginia McNay (resigned 17 September 2006)
*John Papadakis
Barry Sterndale Bennett (Honorary Secretary)

*Parent of a student

The Board of Trustees of Pro Corda Trust is a self-appointed body. Service on the Board is continuous until a Trustee resigns and another is appointed.

Director of music

Dr. Ioan Davies

Administration

The day-to-day running of the Trust is delegated to the Director of Music. The running of Pro Corda Ventures Limited is delegated to its manager Jill Vennell.

Principal Office

Leiston Abbey House
Theberton Road
Leiston
Suffolk IP16 4TB

Telephone (01728) 831354
Facsimile (01728) 832500.

Email: mail@procorda.com

Website: www.procorda.com

PRO CORDA TRUST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2006

Auditors

Moore Stephens LLP
Chartered Accountants
St Paul's House
Warwick Lane
London EC4M 7BP.

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
Leiston Branch
Suffolk Coastal Group
19 Main Street
Leiston
Suffolk IP16 4EP

Solicitors

Marshalls
102 High Street
Godalming
Surrey GU21 1NL

PRO CORDA TRUST

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2006

The past year has been exceptional by any standards. As can be seen from the report of the Director of Music, the range and depth of our activities continued to grow. There are no other youth chamber music organisations operating in the UK which come close to Pro Corda in size and scope.

Pro Corda was set up as a charity in 1969 "to provide for and conduct the education of young persons and others in the whole art, philosophy and theory of music, particularly chamber music". The founders believed that the teaching of chamber music (i.e. 'room music' in small groups) is the best form of ensemble training. It develops an essential awareness and responsibility not provided by solo and orchestral teaching.

The founders of Pro Corda concentrated on providing the best possible training to talented young string players and pianists. Over the last three years, however, additional priorities have been set by the directors which broaden access to Pro Corda's resources and expertise. The priorities are:

- to mentor young professional chamber groups
- to provide a substantial programme of term-time courses for children with special educational needs, using the same techniques and holistic approach as used on core courses
- to provide good quality outreach programmes for local schools, i.e. not just 'play and go'
- to work with relevant parties with a view to developing a Centre for Advanced Training in East Anglia
- to encourage the appreciation and enjoyment of chamber music throughout the community generally

In financial terms we continue to find life hard. For the third year running, expenditure exceeded income despite close control of costs, although this year the deficit was reduced. Pro Corda's broadening remit to invest further in the power of music and to share its expertise and resources has dramatically altered its financial security. Although Pro Corda is asset rich through the ownership of its premises at Leiston Abbey, it is cash poor. Core funding is now the main challenge that faces us. Unlike all the other major national youth music organisations, we receive no government funding. We are currently in discussions with Youth Music and the DfES and are

hopeful that they will be responsive. It cannot be right that an organisation so important to musical education in this country should be funded entirely from the private sector.

The year has seen momentous changes in the administrative structure of Pro Corda at Leiston Abbey. Mo

Crump retired as Administrator and her successor Jill Vennell now looks after Pro Corda Ventures Limited, our trading subsidiary. Lisa McInnes, the Trust Secretary, took maternity leave in March. Jane Giles, who joined the office in February, has now been appointed full-time Administrator and in September the Trust appointed Donna Ford as a part-time secretary.

On 29 September 2006 Pro Corda's activities were transferred to a new charitable company in order to make the administration of certain areas of operation easier. Future Annual Reports covering the work of Pro Corda will therefore be issued by the new entity.

In 2007 Pro Corda plans to renovate Leiston Abbey Lady Chapel to provide extra outreach workspace and a concert venue. A major fundraising campaign, Pro Corda 2010, is to be launched for a building project that will take several years to complete and will make a 21st-century contribution to the historic Leiston Abbey site. The buildings will include a new accommodation block, offices and rehearsal studios, enabling Pro Corda to extend its work in all areas of its mission.

I should like to thank all those people who work to make Pro Corda the great institution it is. They include our office staff, the Course Directors and our coaching, pastoral and domestic staff. Special thanks go to Ioan Davies, our Director of Music, Andrew Quartermain, Director of Outreach, and Jill Vennell, Managing Director of Pro Corda Ventures Limited, all of whom do far more than we could ever dare to ask of them. Finally, as always, I thank the Trustees for their unpaid work on behalf of Pro Corda.

Keith Daley
Chairman



