

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1001958

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1991-02-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Wittas Ham Cottage
High Street
Long Wittenham
Abingdon
OX14 4QH

Phone 01865407686

Email enquiries@bensonchoralsociety.org.uk

Website www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY SHALL BE TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC, IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY ANY MEANS THE TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS.

Activities: Public performance of major choral works.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Oxfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£46,570	£42,370	-	-
2024-08-31	£40,834	£40,917	-	-
2023-08-31	£39,575	£34,855	-	-
2022-08-31	£20,420	£29,223	-	-
2021-08-31	£6,509	£4,172	-	-
2020-08-31	£26,878	£25,900	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Helen McClure	Chair	2024-12-10
Beatrice Earland		2021-12-07
Celia Barnshaw		2021-12-07
Claire Speirs		2022-12-06
Enid Stevens		2025-10-21
Gillian Nahum		2024-07-02
Martin Mellor		2016-09-01
Michael Lewers		2025-10-21

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1001958

Accounts

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

Registered Charity No: 1001958

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

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BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

Reference and Administration

Benson Choral Society is a Registered Charity (number 1001958, registered on 19th February 1991).

Principal address of the Charity:

Witta's Ham Cottage
High Street
Long Wittenham
Abingdon, OX14 4QH

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Newmarket Branch

The Charity is administered by a Management Committee listed below, who are all Trustees recruited from and elected by the Membership, except Michael Lewers. There are no other Trustees. There are no employees of the Charity.

Kevin Lawson	Chairman
Charlotte Kerr	Secretary
Martin Mellor	Treasurer
Celia Barnshaw	
Sara Boorman	
Beatrice Earland	
Gillian Nahum	
Claire Speirs	
Philip Smyly	
Anthony Winters (resigned July 2025)	
Michael Lewers (coopted July 2025)	

There were 111 Members as at 31st August 2025

Aims and Objectives

The objectives of the Charity shall be to advance, improve, develop, and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music, in all its aspects by any means the Trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

Review of the Year's Activities

The members attended rehearsals for each of three Concerts for two hours on Tuesday evenings throughout September to June. In addition two Workshops were staged:

9th December 2024

To rehearse *Mozart's Mass in C major*

22nd March 2025

To rehearse Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*

The concerts staged were:

23rd November 2024

Performances of:

Zadok the Priest by George Frideric Handel

Ode for the Birthday of Queen Anne by George Frideric Handel

The King shall Rejoice by William Boyce

Mass in C major by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

5th April 2025

Performance of *The Dream of Gerontius* by Edward Elgar

28th June 2025

Performances of:

Dorchester Canticles by Tarik O'Regan

Requiem by John Rutter

We performed three concerts during the year with an overall programme designed to be attractive to the public but also to introduce less familiar works whilst also raising standards within the choir. The autumn concert, Music for Royal Occasions, combined the very well-known anthem *Zadok the Priest* with works by Mozart, Boyce and Handel which are performed rather less often. We chose to perform with an amateur orchestra which had a series of extra rehearsals with our music director (MD) resulting in an excellent performance from choir and orchestra, much appreciated by the good audience.

To help raise the musical level of our concerts in future we have decided to perform at least once per year with fully professional orchestras. A donation from two choir members enabled us to perform Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* with the excellent English Sinfonia. We also teamed up with our MD's superb chamber choir, the Wooburn Singers, as semi-chorus. With an extra full day's rehearsal together, we achieved one of the best performances of any work we have ever given to a sell-out audience in Dorchester Abbey.

Very few choirs will have heard or performed British/American composer Tarik O'Regan's *Dorchester Canticles*. It is a fiendishly tricky work to sing but, with striking accompaniment from organ, harp and percussion, highly rewarding for both choir and orchestra. We worked with a professional ensemble to deliver the concert which also featured a wonderful performance of Mozart's concerto for flute and harp in which our highly accomplished choir accompanist played the orchestral accompaniment on the piano.

With expert vocal tuition from our two most recent musical directors the choir is now singing at an extremely high level for an un-auditioned choir and all our performances this year have reflected that. Our MD has sadly had to leave us owing to new commitments outside the country but our reputation is now such that we attracted a high-level field of candidates for the position. We have now chosen a new MD who we believe will continue to raise the choir's performing standards and help us bring high-quality music to an ever wider group of people.

Financial Review

Our Accumulated Fund (unrestricted) as at 31st August amounted to £20,234, after incurring a surplus of £3,200 for the year. Additionally, there is a restricted fund amounting to £1,000 representing a grant from South Oxfordshire District Council. made specifically to support the Society to engage in outreach projects including, for example, an approach to schools and other organisations to encourage young people to participate in the Society's activities.

There are no fixed assets other than staging which has a current replacement cost of £20,250. This does not appear on the Balance Sheet because it was purchased in stages and written off in full against income.


We consider that we need to maintain a minimum Accumulated Fund of £18,000 to satisfy our cash flow requirements and to cover the risk of a loss of income, whether through a drop in membership or a poorly attended concert, and to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur. The Committee is planning to apply the excess of £2,234 towards engaging a professional orchestra for our Winter 2025 Concert,

A main source of funds is from the sale of tickets for our concerts. However, in April 2025 a number of sponsors donated a total of £2,724 with instructions that it should be applied to the Spring Concert. Including ancillary concert income, concerts are usually in deficit after applying direct costs in staging them. The deficits are for the most part funded by other main sources of income – Membership Fees and the related Gift Aid claimed from HMRC, Friends and programme advertising.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Lawson". The letters are cursive and connected.

Kevin Lawson

Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin Mellor". The letters are cursive and connected.

Martin Mellor

Treasurer

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
on the
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025
as set out on Pages 8-13

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025.

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



John Willcox-Jones MSc FCMA

La Haye
Reading Road
Cholsey
OX10 9HG

Date 14 October 2025

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

2024			2025	
£	£		£	£
		INCOME		
	216	Interest Receivable	246.27	-
	15,395	Subscriptions	15,940.00	
	3,388	Gift Aid	3,418.01	
	711	Donations	521.45	
		SODC Grant (Restricted) <i>Note 2(d)(ii)</i>	1,000.00	
20,680	<u>970</u>	Friends	<u>1,250.00</u>	22,375.73
261		Profit on Rehearsal Refreshments		294.82
512		Staging Hire & Scores Loan		459.99
308		Profit on Parties <i>Note 4(a)</i>		489.63
935		Profit / (Loss) on Workshops <i>Note 4(b)</i>		(454.16)
<u>22,696</u>				<u>23,166.01</u>
		EXPENDITURE		
		<u>General</u>		
	3,300	Musical Director's Fees	4,200.00	
	3,400	Accompanist's Fees	3,500.00	
	2,490	Guest Conductor	1,350.00	
9,444	<u>254</u>	Guest Accompanist	<u>400.00</u>	9,450.00
1,883		Hire of Rehearsal Venues		2,209.25
619		Subscriptions & Insurance		728.85
19		Printing, Stationery & Postage		27.72
791		Website & IT Expenses		294.10
		New MD Selection Costs		40.00
525		Staging		-
233		Sundry Expenses		151.95
		<u>Concerts</u>		
	2,575	Loss on Winter Concert	2,031.28	
	3,649	Loss on Spring Concert	1,832.99	
9,265	<u>3,041</u>	Loss on Summer Concert	<u>2,200.04</u>	6,064.31
<u>22,779</u>				<u>18,966.18</u>
		Surplus / (Deficit) for the year:		
(83)		Unrestricted – General Fund		3,199.83
		Restricted <i>Note 4</i>		1,000.00
<u>(83)</u>				<u>4,199.83</u>

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

CONCERT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2025

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
2024		2025	2024		2025
£		£p	£		£p
Winter Concert (see Note 5(a))					
5,000	Sponsor (Restricted Fund)	-	8,762	Orchestra	3,090.00
6,050	Ticket Receipts	4,542.24	700	Conductor's Fee	700.00
4	Profit on Score Hire	92.63	2,500	Soloists	1,150.00
(30)	Profit on Programmes	24.07		Orchestral Scores	522.84
490	Profit on Interval Drinks	204.07	1,136	Venue & Facilities Hire	1,082.00
			750	Instrument Hire	-
			37	Printing & Advertising	118.00
			105	Gifts	107.45
			99	Staging take down	124.00
11,514	Total Receipts	4,863.01	14,089	Total Payments	6,894.29
2,575	Loss on Concert	2,031.28			
14,089		6,894.29	14,089		6,894.29
Spring Concert (see Note 5(b))					
	Sponsors (Restricted)	2,723.67	4,060	Orchestra	6,500.00
4,395	Ticket Receipts	5,317.54	700	Conductor's Fee	700.00
181	Profit on Score Sales/Hire	2.20	1,975	Soloists	1,625.00
33	Profit on Programmes	968.00	354	Orchestral Scores	-
286	Profit on Interval Drinks	500.60	939	Venue & Facilities Hire	1,916.00
			51	Organ Hire	51.50
			99	Staging take down	99.00
			117	Printing & Advertising	126.50
			117	Gifts	87.00
			132	Sundry Expenses	240.00
4,895	Total Receipts	9,512.01	8,544	Total Payments	11,345.00
3,649	Loss on Concert	1,832.99			
8,544		11,345.00	8,544		11,345.00
Summer Concert (see Note 5(c))					
3,970	Ticket Receipts	2,726.64	3,409	Orchestra	2,634.00
41	Profit on Score Hire/Sales	26.68	772	Conductor's Fee	700.00
74	Profit on Programmes	789.82	1,500	Soloists	900.00
273	Profit on Interval Drinks	200.62	335	Orchestral Scores	233.30
			1,052	Venue & Facilities Hire	1,131.00
				Hire of Piano & Tuning	129.00
			117	Printing & Advertising	116.50
			106	Gifts	-
			108	Staging take down	100.00
				Sundry Expenses	-
4,358	Total Receipts	3,743.76	7,399	Total Payments	5,943.80
3041	Loss on Concert	2,200.04		Profit on Concert	
7,399		5,943.80	7,399		5,943.80

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

1. Committee Responsibilities

- (a) The Committee is required to prepare accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and the results for that period.
- (b) The Committee confirms that appropriate accounting policies have been used and applied consistently, and reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made in preparation of these accounts.
- (c) The Committee also confirms that the applicable accounting bases set out in note 2(a) have been followed.
- (d) The Committee is responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking steps to prevent and detect fraud and other regularities.

2. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting Bases

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Charities SORP.

(b) Income

Income is accounted for in the year to which it relates.

(c) Expenditure

is accounted for on an accrual basis in the year to which relates.

(d) Restricted Funds

There were restricted funds:

- (i) Sponsors for both the Winter and Spring Concerts. All monies received were applied to these concerts.
- (ii) A grant of £1,000 from South Oxfordshire District Council made specifically to help support the Society's decision to approach schools and other organisations to encourage young people to sing in the choir and attend workshops which we hold from time to time. We expect to start to progress this project next year, 2025/26.

3. Payments to Trustees

The only payments to Trustees were to reimburse them for expenses incurred on behalf of the Charity.

4. Income and Expenditure Account

Description	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit (Loss) £
a) Profit on Parties			<u>489.63</u>
Christmas Party			
Wine		74.88	
		<u>74.88</u>	<u>(74.88)</u>
Summer Party			
Tickets	629.83		
Raffle	333.91		
Hire of Hall		135.00	
Beer		53.18	
Food		201.96	
Serviettes		9.09	
	<u>963.74</u>	<u>399.23</u>	<u>564.51</u>
b) Profit / (Loss) on Workshops			<u>(454.16)</u>
9th November			
Fees	1,006.61		
Hire of Hall		239.80	
Musical Director		450.00	
Accompanist		275.00	
Piano Tuning			
Food			
	<u>1,006.61</u>	<u>964.80</u>	<u>41.81</u>
22nd March			
Fees	444.03		
Hire of Hall		140.00	
Musical Director		450.00	
Accompanist		350.00	
	<u>444.03</u>	<u>940.00</u>	<u>(495.97)</u>
5. Concerts			
a) Winter Concert			
(i) Profit on Music Sale/Hire			
Sales	927.79		
Rental ad Postage		835.16	
	<u>927.79</u>	<u>835.16</u>	<u>92.63</u>

	Description	Income	Expenditure	Profit (Loss)
(ii)	Profit on Programmes			
	Sales	237.07		
	Printing		213.00	
		<u>237.07</u>	<u>213.00</u>	<u>24.07</u>
(iii)	Profit on Interval Drinks			
	Sales	299.88		
	Purchaes		95.81	
		<u>299.88</u>	<u>95.81</u>	<u>204.07</u>
b) Spring Concert				
(i)	Profit on Music Sale/Hire			
	Sales	311.88		
	Rental ad Postage		309.68	
		<u>311.88</u>	<u>309.68</u>	<u>2.20</u>
(ii)	Profit on Programmes			
	Advertising	783.34		
	Sales	494.16		
	Printing		309.50	
		<u>1,277.50</u>	<u>309.50</u>	<u>968.00</u>
(iii)	Profit on Interval Drinks			
	Sales	530.60		
	Purchaes		30.00	
		<u>530.60</u>	<u>30.00</u>	<u>500.60</u>
c) Summer Concert				
(i)	Profit on Music Sale/Hire			
	Sales	921.00		
	Costs		894.32	
		<u>921.00</u>	<u>894.32</u>	<u>26.68</u>
(ii)	Profit on Programmes			
	Advertising	783.32		
	Sales	162.50		
	Printing		106.00	
		<u>945.82</u>	<u>106.00</u>	<u>839.82</u>
(iii)	Profit on Interval Drinks			
	Sales	263.26		
	Purchaes		62.64	
		<u>263.26</u>	<u>62.64</u>	<u>200.62</u>

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1001958

Accounts

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

Registered Charity No: 1001958

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

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BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

Reference and Administration

Benson Choral Society is a Registered Charity (number 1001958, registered on 19th February 1991).

Principal address of the Charity:

Witta's Ham Cottage
High Street
Long Wittenham
Abingdon, OX14 4QH

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Newmarket Branch

The Charity is administered by a Management Committee listed below, who are all Trustees, recruited from and elected by the Membership. There are no other Trustees. There are no employees of the Charity.

Kevin Lawson	Chairman
Charlotte Kerr	Secretary
Martin Mellor	Treasurer
Celia Barnshaw	
Sara Boorman	
Beatrice Earland	
Gillian Nahum (Co-opted)	
Claire Speirs	
Philip Smyly	
Anthony Winters	

There were 120 Members as at 31st August 2024

Aims and Objectives

The objects of the Charity shall be to advance, improve develop, and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music, in all its aspects by any means the Trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

Review of the Year's Activities

The members attended rehearsals for each of three Concerts for two hours on Tuesday evenings throughout September to June. The concerts staged were:

25th November 2023

Performance of Mass in B Minor by J S Bach

23rd March 2024

Performances of:

Pietà by Richard Blackford
Requiem by Gabriel Fauré

15th June 2024

Performance of The Creation by Joseph Haydn

The three concerts in this year were very successful in fulfilling our aims in terms of musical appreciation and education. A generous donation enabled us to perform Bach's Mass in B Minor with a professional orchestra at the original baroque pitch using first class soloists. The packed audience fully appreciated the very high quality performance which ensued. This, together with the open choral workshop we held a few weeks before the performance, enabled us to recruit some new, younger members. The choir's reputation was now such that we also succeeded in attracting a new musical director of the very highest standard, head of music at one of the country's most successful summer opera festivals.

Our spring concert mixed the very popular (Fauré's Requiem) with a recent work by local composer Richard Blackford, Pietà. This imaginative programming attracted an audience who would otherwise not have encountered Blackford's uplifting work which has been only rarely performed. The excellently prepared choir, under the direction of our new music director gave a committed performance which moved many members of the audience and resulted in a rave review in the press. We also held an open workshop for the Fauré which attracted several members of other choral societies and was particularly successful in increasing attendees' understanding and appreciation of this very popular work

Our summer concert, Haydn's Creation was a joyous occasion for choir and audience – an experience in which we were all reminded of the power of classical music to positively affect the lives of performers and audience alike.

Financial Review

Our Accumulated Fund at 31st August amounted to £17,034, after incurring a deficit of £83 for the year. All funds are unrestricted. There are no fixed assets. The funds are required to satisfy our cash flow needs and to cover the risk of a loss of income, whether through a drop in membership or a poorly attended concert, and to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur.

A main source of funds is from the sale of tickets for our concerts. However, in September 2023 a sponsor donated £5,000 with instructions that it should be applied to the Winter Concert. Including ancillary concert income, concerts are usually in deficit after applying direct costs in staging them. The deficits are for the most part funded by other main sources of income – Membership Fees and the related Gift Aid claimed from HMRC.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Handwritten signature of Kevin Lawson in black ink.

Kevin Lawson

Chairman

Handwritten signature of Martin Mellor in black ink.

Martin Mellor

Treasurer

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
on the
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024
as set out on Pages 7-12

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024.

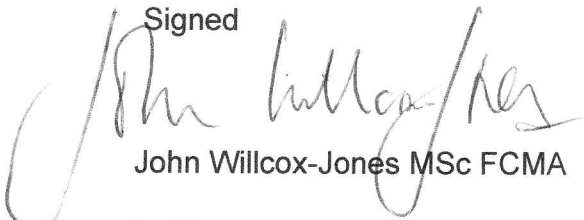
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



John Willcox-Jones MSc FCMA

La Haye
Reading Road
Cholsey
OX10 9HG

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

2023			2024	
£	£		£	£
INCOME				
		Interest Receivable	216.43	-
	15,017	Subscriptions	15,395.00	
	2,558	Gift Aid	3,387.81	
	270	Donations	710.81	
18,524	<u>679</u>	Friends	<u>970.00</u>	20,680.05
226		Profit on Rehearsal Refreshments		261.00
480		Staging Hire & Scores Loan		512.41
32		Profit on Sale of Scores		-
470		Profit on Parties	<i>Note 4(a)</i>	307.77
953		Profit on Workshops	<i>Note 4(b)</i>	935.25
<u>20,685</u>				<u>22,696.48</u>
EXPENDITURE				
<u>General</u>				
	2,850	Musical Director's Fees	3,300.00	
	3,383	Accompanist's Fees	3,400.00	
	1,731	Guest Conductor	2,490.00	
8,062	<u>98</u>	Guest Accompanist	<u>253.60</u>	9,443.60
1,688		Hire of Rehearsal Venues		1,883.50
401		Subscriptions & Insurance		618.72
19		Printing, Stationery & Postage		19.20
387		Website & IT Expenses		791.28
408		New MD Selection Costs		-
20		Advertising		-
		Staging		525.55
205		Sundry Expenses		232.70
<u>Concerts</u>				
	854	Loss on Winter Concert	2,574.79	
	4,979	Loss on Spring Concert	3,649.11	
4,675	<u>(1,158)</u>	(Profit)/Loss on Summer Concert	<u>3,041.14</u>	9,265.04
<u>15,865</u>				<u>22,779.59</u>
<u>4,820</u>		Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		<u>(83.11)</u>

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

CONCERT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2024

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
2023		2024	2023		2024
£		£p	£		£p
Winter Concert (see Note 5(a))					
	Sponsor (Restricted Fund)	5,000.00	3,376	Orchestra	8,762.38
5,970	Ticket Receipts	6,049.94	780	Conductor's Fee	700.00
132	Profit on Score Hire	3.79	1,800	Soloists	2,500.00
13	Loss on Programmes	(30.07)	40	Orchestral Scores	-
433	Profit on Interval Drinks	490.43	720	Venue & Facilities Hire	1,136.00
			425	Instrument Hire	750.00
			37	Printing & Advertising	37.00
			125	Gifts	104.50
			99	Staging	99.00
6,548	Total Receipts	11,514.09	7,402	Total Payments	14,088.88
854	Loss on Concert	2,574.79			
7,402		14,088.88	7,402		14,088.88
Spring Concert (see Note 5(b))					
			4,774	Orchestra	4,060.00
3,731	Ticket Receipts	4,395.36	700	Conductor's Fee	700.00
(10)	Profit on Score Sales/Hire	181.08	2,000	Soloists	1,975.00
24	Profit on Programmes	32.50	302	Orchestral Scores	353.50
230	Profit on Interval Drinks	286.32	909	Venue & Facilities Hire	939.00
				Organ Hire	51.50
			132	Staging	99.00
			37	Printing & Advertising	117.00
			100	Gifts	117.20
				Sundry Expenses	132.17
3,975	Total Receipts	4,895.26	8,954	Total Payments	8,544.37
4,979	Loss on Concert	3,649.11			
8,954		8,544.37	8,954		8,544.37
Summer Concert (see Note 5(c))					
3,451	Ticket Receipts	3,969.76		Orchestra	3,409.00
254	Profit on Score Hire	41.30	700	Conductor's Fee	772.00
42	Profit on Programmes	73.36	800	Soloists	1,500.00
290	Profit on Interval Drinks	273.23		Orchestral Scores	335.37
			1,008	Venue & Facilities Hire	1,051.50
			52	Hire of Piano	-
			35	Printing & Advertising	117.00
			85	Gifts	105.92
			99	Staging	108.00
			100	Sundry Expenses	-
4,037	Total Receipts	4,357.65	2,879	Total Payments	7,398.79
	Loss on Concert	3,041.14	1,158	Profit on Concert	
4,037		7,398.79	4,037		7,398.79

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

1. Committee Responsibilities

- (a) The Committee is required to prepare accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and the results for that period.
- (b) The Committee confirms that appropriate accounting policies have been used and applied consistently, and reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made in preparation of these accounts.
- (c) The Committee also confirms that the applicable accounting bases set out in note 2(a) have been followed.
- (d) The Committee is responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking steps to prevent and detect fraud and other regularities.

2. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting Bases

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Charities SORP.

(b) Income

Income is accounted for in the year to which it relates.

(c) Expenditure

is accounted for on an accrual basis in the year to which relates.

(d) Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds. all funds being unrestricted.

3. Payments to Trustees

The only payments to Trustees were to reimburse them for expenses incurred on behalf of the Charity.

4 Income and Expenditure Account

Description	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit (Loss) £
a) Profit on Parties			<u><u>307.77</u></u>
Summer Party			
Tickets	468.52		
Raffle	201.00		
Hire of Hall		126.00	
Food and Wine		206.49	
	<u>669.52</u>	<u>332.49</u>	<u>337.03</u>
Christmas Party			
Wine		29.26	
	<u>-</u>	<u>29.26</u>	<u>(29.26)</u>
b) Profit on Workshops			<u><u>935.25</u></u>
4th November 2024			
Fees	1,537.35		
Hire of Hall		165.00	
Musical Director		412.50	
Accompanist		275.00	
	<u>1,537.35</u>	<u>852.50</u>	<u>684.85</u>
9th March 2025			
Fees	1,335.40		
Hire of Hall		165.00	
Musical Director		450.00	
Accompanist		300.00	
Soloist		170.00	
	<u>1,335.40</u>	<u>1,085.00</u>	<u>250.40</u>

5 Concerts

a) Winter Concert			
Profit on Music Hire			
Sales	139.79		
Hire charge		136.00	
	<u>139.79</u>	<u>136.00</u>	<u>3.79</u>
Profit on Programmes			
Sales	389.93		
Printing		420.00	
	<u>389.93</u>	<u>420.00</u>	<u>(30.07)</u>

Profit on Interval Drinks			
Sales	662.10		
Purchaes		171.67	
	<u>662.10</u>	<u>171.67</u>	<u>490.43</u>

b) Spring Concert

Profit on Music Hire			
Sales	1,301.50		
Hire charge		1,120.42	
	<u>1,301.50</u>	<u>1,120.42</u>	<u>181.08</u>

Profit on Programmes			
Sales	282.50		
Printing		250.00	
	<u>282.50</u>	<u>250.00</u>	<u>32.50</u>

Profit on Interval Drinks			
Sales	389.88		
Purchaes		103.56	
	<u>389.88</u>	<u>103.56</u>	<u>286.32</u>

c) Summer Concert

Profit on Music Hire			
Sales	137.30		
Hire charge		96.00	
	<u>137.30</u>	<u>96.00</u>	<u>41.30</u>

Profit on Programmes			
Sales	248.36		
Printing		175.00	
	<u>248.36</u>	<u>175.00</u>	<u>73.36</u>

Profit on Interval Drinks			
Sales	379.07		
Purchaes		105.84	
	<u>379.07</u>	<u>105.84</u>	<u>273.23</u>

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1001958

Accounts

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Registered Charity No: 1001958

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

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Balance Sheet	8
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BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Reference and Administration

Benson Choral Society is a Registered Charity (number 1001958, registered on 19th February 1991).

Principal address of the Charity:

Witta's Ham Cottage
High Street
Long Wittenham
Abingdon, OX14 4QH

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Newmarket Branch

The Charity is administered by a Management Committee listed below, who are all Trustees, recruited from and elected by the Membership. There are no other Trustees. There are no employees of the Charity.

Kevin Lawson	Chairman
Charlotte Kerr	Secretary
Martin Mellor	Treasurer
Celia Barnshaw	
Sara Boorman	
Beatrice Earland	
Claire Speirs	
Philip Smyly	
Anthony Winters	

There were 119 Members as at 31st August 2023

Aims and Objectives

The objects of the Charity shall be to advance, improve develop, and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music, in all its aspects by any means the Trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

Review of the Year's Activities

The members attended rehearsals for each of three Concerts for two hours on Tuesday evenings throughout September to June. The concerts staged were:

12th November 2022

Performance of works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart —

- Vesperae Solennes De Confessore K339
- Requiem K 626

18th March 2023

Performance of Elijah Oratorio Op 70 by Felix Mendelssohn

17th June 2023

Performance of

- Works by George Shearing:
 - Songs and Sonnets from Shakespeare
 - Jazz Standards to include *Lullaby in Birdland*
 - Music to Hear – A Choral Suite for Mixed Voices, words by William Shakespeare
- Works by John Rutter:
 - Down by the Riverside
 - Birthday Madrigals – A Choral Suite for Mixed Choir with Double Bass and Piano
- Works by George Gershwin
 - Three Preludes – for Piano

The three very well-attended concerts were very successful in fulfilling our aims in terms of musical appreciation and education. In particular, the combination of well-known and less familiar Mozart works in the winter concert attracted a sell-out audience, bringing appreciation of these masterpieces to a wider group of people. Noteworthy too in this regard was our excursion into choral jazz suites in the summer concert which was widely appreciated by an audience many of which would not have encountered this uplifting repertoire previously.

Our spring concert, Mendelssohn's Elijah, was supported by a choral workshop to which we invited singers from other choral societies, thus increasing the number of people who could benefit from our excellent musical director's training.

We note that our combination of musical leadership and chosen repertoire is now attracting an increasing number of active members and larger audiences for our concerts. We are pleased that recovery from the COVID era is now essentially complete.

Financial Review

Our Accumulated Fund at 31st August amounted to £17,117, having recovered from a low of £12,396 at the end of last year largely resulting from the effects of the COVID pandemic. All funds are unrestricted. There are no fixed assets. The funds are required to satisfy our cash flow needs and to cover the risk of a loss of income, whether through a drop in membership or a poorly attended concert, and to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur.

A main source of funds is from the sale of tickets for our concerts. Including ancillary concert income, concerts are usually in deficit after applying direct costs in staging them. The deficits are for the most part funded by other main sources of income – Membership Fees and the related Gift Aid claimed from HMRC.

DECLARATION

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Handwritten signature of Kevin Lawson in cursive script.

Kevin Lawson

Chairman

Handwritten signature of Martin Mellor in cursive script.

Martin Mellor

Treasurer

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
on the
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023
as set out on Pages 7-12

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023.

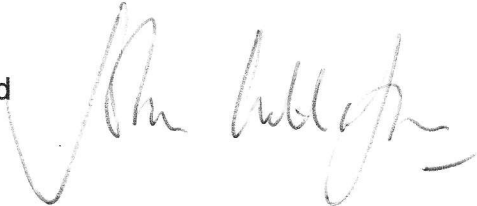
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act, or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



John Willcox-Jones MSc FCMA

La Haye
Reading Road
Cholsey
OX10 9HG

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

2022			Note	2023	
£	£			£	£
INCOME					
	10,938	Subscriptions		15,013.50	
	798	Gift Aid		2,557.57	
	187	Donations		270.23	
11,948	<u>25</u>	Friends		<u>679.02</u>	18,520.32
188		Rehearsal Refreshments			226.27
422		Staging Hire & Scores Loan			480.00
2		Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Scores	4(a)		32.38
68		Profit on Parties	4(b)		469.78
		Profit on Workshop	4(c)		952.57
					<u>20,681.32</u>
<u>12,628</u>					
EXPENDITURE					
<u>General</u>					
	3,036	Musical Director's Fees		2,850.00	
	3,392	Accompanist's Fees		3,383.00	
		Guest Conductor		1,730.70	
8,468	<u>2,040</u>	Guest Accompanist		<u>98.00</u>	8,061.70
1,511		Hire of Rehearsal Venues			1,687.70
193		Subscriptions & Insurance			401.25
11		Printing, Stationery & Postage			18.74
387		Website & IT Expenses			386.88
		New MD Selection Costs			408.00
		Advertising			20.00
		Sundry Expenses			205.55
<u>Concerts (page 9)</u>					
	2,377	Loss on Winter Concert		1,559.75	
	4,598	Loss on Spring Concert		4,369.45	
10,862	<u>3,887</u>	(Profit)/Loss on Summer Concert		<u>(1,158.11)</u>	4,771.09
					<u>15,960.91</u>
<u>21,432</u>					
<u>(8,804)</u>		Surplus / (Deficit) for the year			<u>4,720.41</u>

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st AUGUST 2023

2022		£		£	2023
£					£
ASSETS					
225	Cash in hand				-
	Balance at Bank				
	11,957 Current Account		14,587.21		
12,037	80 Subscriptions Account		-		14,587.21
	Concert Wine Stock				38.43
230	Debtors and Payments in Advance				3,026.74
12,492					17,652.38
96	Less Creditors				535.00
12,396					17,117.38
REPRESENTED BY:					
Accumulated Fund					
21,200	Balance at 1 st September 2022				12,396.97
(8,804)	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year				4,720.41
12,396					17,117.38

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

CONCERT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2023

RECEIPTS				PAYMENTS			
2022			2023	2022			2023
£			£p	£			£p
<u>Winter Concert</u>							
		Note					
2,510	Ticket Receipts		5,264.47		Orchestra		3,376.00
	Profit on Music Hire	5(a)(i)	132.00	1,026	Conductor's Fee		780.00
16	Profit on Programmes	5(a)(ii)	13.17	2,300	Soloists		1,800.00
169	Profit on Interval Drinks	5(a)(iii)	432.86		Orchestral Scores		40.00
				936	Venue & Facilities Hire		720.00
				495	Instrument Hire		425.50
				30	Printing & Advertising		36.80
				180	Gifts		124.95
				105	Staging		99.00
2,695	Total Receipts		5,842.50	5,072	Total Payments		7,402.25
2,377	Loss on Concert		1,559.75				
5,072			7,402.25	5,072			7,402.25
<u>Spring Concert</u>							
2,521	Ticket Receipts		4,436.93	3,300	Orchestra		4,774.00
46	Loss on Music Hire	5(b)(i)	(6)	635	Conductor's Fee		700.00
7	Profit on Programmes	5(b)(ii)	23.51	1,800	Soloists		2,000.00
219	Profit on Interval Drinks	5(b)(iii)	229.92	606	Orchestral Scores		301.86
				772	Venue & Facilities Hire		909.00
				99	Staging		132.00
				30	Printing & Advertising		37.00
				149	Gifts		99.95
					Sundry Expenses		100.00
2,793	Total Receipts		4,684.36	7,391	Total Payments		9,053.81
4,598	Loss on Concert		4,369.45				
7,391			9,053.81	7,391			9,053.81
<u>Summer Concert</u>							
2,119	Ticket Receipts		3,450.72	2,717	Orchestra		-
	Profit on Score Sales/Hire	5(c)(i)	253.77	700	Conductor's Fee		700.00
21	Profit on Programmes	5(c)(ii)	42.19	950	Soloists		800.00
164	Profit on Interval Drinks	5(c)(iii)	289.87	582	Orchestral Scores		-
				904	Venue & Facilities Hire		1,007.50
				105	Hire of Piano		51.50
				30	Printing & Advertising		35.00
				104	Gifts		85.44
				99	Staging		99.00
					Sundry Expenses		100.00
2,304	Total Receipts		4,036.55	6,191	Total Payments		2,878.44
3,887	Loss on Concert		-		Profit on Concert		1,158.11
6,191			4,036.55	6,191			4,036.55

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

1. Committee Responsibilities

- (a) The Committee is required to prepare accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and the results for that period.
- (b) The Committee confirms that appropriate accounting policies have been used and applied consistently, and reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made in preparation of these accounts.
- (c) The Committee also confirms that the applicable accounting bases set out in note 2(a) have been followed.
- (d) The Committee is responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking steps to prevent and detect fraud and other regularities.

2. Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting Bases

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Charities SORP.

(b) Income

Income is accounted for in the year to which it relates.

(c) Expenditure

is accounted for on an accrual basis in the year to which relates.

(d) Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds. all funds being unrestricted.

3. Payments to Trustees

The only payments to Trustees were to reimburse them for expenses incurred on behalf of the Charity.

4. Income and Expenditure Account

Description	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit (Loss) £
a) Profit on Sale of Scores			
Sales	442.80		
Purchases		410.42	
	<u>442.80</u>	<u>410.42</u>	<u>32.38</u>
b) Profit on Parties			
Summer Party			
Tickets	737.02		
Raffle	240.00		
Hire of Hall		95.00	
Wine		65.88	
Food		405.37	
	<u>977.02</u>	<u>566.25</u>	<u>410.77</u>
Christmas Party			
Tickets	195.00		
Wine		98.39	
Food		37.60	
	<u>195.00</u>	<u>135.99</u>	<u>59.01</u>
	<u>1,172.02</u>	<u>702.24</u>	<u>469.78</u>
c) Profit on Workshop			
Fees	1,919.81		
Hire of Hall		171.50	
Musical Director		375.00	
Accompanist		250.00	
Piano Tuning		65.00	
Food		65.74	
	<u>1,879.81</u>	<u>927.24</u>	<u>952.57</u>

5. Concerts

a) Winter Concert			
(i) Profit on Music Hire			
Sales	406.00		132.00
Hire charge		274.00	
	<u>406.00</u>	<u>274.00</u>	<u>132.00</u>
(ii) Profit on Programmes			
Sales	323.17		
Printing		310.00	
	<u>323.17</u>	<u>310.00</u>	<u>13.17</u>

Description	Income	Expenditure	Profit (Loss)
(iii) Profit on Interval Drinks			
Sales	568.00		
Purchaes		135.14	
	<u>568.00</u>	<u>135.14</u>	<u>432.86</u>
b) Spring Concert			
(i) Profit on Music Hire			
Sales	112.00		
Hire charge		118.00	
	<u>112.00</u>	<u>118.00</u>	<u>(6.00)</u>
(ii) Profit on Programmes			
Sales	270.19		
Printing		228.00	
	<u>270.19</u>	<u>228.00</u>	<u>42.19</u>
(iii) Profit on Interval Drinks			
Sales	314.58		
Purchaes		84.66	
	<u>314.58</u>	<u>84.66</u>	<u>229.92</u>
c) Summer Concert			
(i) Profit on Music Hire			
Sales	936.04		
Hire charge		682.27	
	<u>936.04</u>	<u>682.27</u>	<u>253.77</u>
(ii) Profit on Programmes			
Sales	270.19		
Printing		228.00	
	<u>270.19</u>	<u>228.00</u>	<u>42.19</u>
(iii) Profit on Interval Drinks			
Sales	438.70		
Purchaes		148.83	
	<u>438.70</u>	<u>148.83</u>	<u>289.87</u>

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1001958

Accounts

Chairman's report 2019-20

I started last year's report by saying that the season had been a bit of a roller coaster. Little did we know what was coming!

It is challenging to summarise this season, which has taken more unexpected turns than we could have imagined. The autumn term proceeded as normal, Chris knocked us back into shape after the summer break, and with the help of some excellent soloists we performed a baroque ensemble, headlined by Bach's glorious *Magnificat*, in November (see Chris' own report for a more critical summary). Then, in early January, a few days before we were due to resume rehearsals we received the devastating news of Chris' stroke. Mercifully, thanks to excellent medical care, an intensive rehabilitation programme and a great deal of hard work by Chris, he continues to make good progress.

In these circumstances we were very fortunate that Anita was working at the time with Richard Laing, who was free, amazingly, on the date of our March concert and readily agreed to step into the breach, despite a round trip to Wallingford of about 150 miles. We are enormously grateful to him for helping us out at a difficult time. I think those of us that took part in the magnificent performance of *A Sea Symphony* on 14 March, along with Anita's wonderful performance of *Grieg's Piano Concerto* will remember it for a long time to come; not least how lucky we were to be able to go ahead in the nick of time before such events were rendered impossible. We also managed to hold a Saturday workshop for the *Sea Symphony* in early February at the Oratory School. Our thanks to Sarah Latto for directing that, and for the several other rehearsals she took when Richard was not available.

And so to lockdown, and a whole new vocabulary to go with it. The March concert turned out to be the last time we were together as rehearsals had to be discontinued and the June concert cancelled. I know we have all missed our weekly rehearsals and I hope that it will not be too long before we may be able to resume in some format. The committee is working hard on possible plans and considering options that would allow us to do so in a covid-secure way.

Regrettably, but understandably, Chris decided to retire after 45 years with BCS. The circumstances that lead to this would not be how any of us wanted his long and dedicated tenure to end, but I am sure I speak for us all in wishing him and Gloria a long and happy retirement. On a personal level, I will miss him enormously for his tremendous support, his humour and his straightforwardness. He is a hard act to follow for sure. We tried our best to convince Richard that he needed another choir to add to the three he directs already (amongst many other commitments!) but unsurprisingly he felt he could not take us on permanently. We advertised for a new Director of Music in March and received applications from some excellent candidates. A selection panel comprising Kevin, Roger, Richard, Anita, Simon Salisbury from the Elgar Orchestra and me interviewed a number of applicants via zoom in July and we have four very experienced, eager candidates waiting in the wings to audition with us when that is possible.

The much anticipated garden party, which this year was also to be a celebration and farewell to Chris, has not been possible either, and we await circumstances when we can get together for this. Unfortunately it does not seem as if it will be anytime soon.

The committee has convened rather more frequently than in a normal year, the only upside being that finding a date was easy as everyone's diaries were empty! I would like to thank my fellow Officers, Kevin Lawson, Secretary and Martin Mellor, Treasurer for all their hard work and support during these unprecedented times. Grateful thanks also to all of the Committee – Bea Earland, Adrian Smyly, Stephanie Martin, Celia Barnshaw, Mary Braithwaite, Tony Winters, Anita D'Attellis and Roger Morgan for their active and committed participation and help. And to the many others who contribute and help to make BCS such a thriving society.

I hope we can look forward to a more certain future before too long.

Charlotte Kerr, Chairman
September 2020

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 August 2020

OVERVIEW

Although we mounted two highly successful concerts this year, it has been rather disappointing being overshadowed by the Covid-19 pandemic, which forced us to cancel the rehearsals for the Summer concert and of course the concert itself. Paradoxically, however, this has resulted in a very good year for the Society's finances – a projected deficit has been turned into a surplus of £978 even after taking into account exceptional expenditure of £480 for advertising for a new Musical Director. Not only have we saved the loss, which we normally incur on staging a concert, but also the substantial expenditure we would have incurred relating to rehearsals.

Therefore, although in disappointing circumstances, the finances of the Society have improved over the year and remain in a healthy position.

Because of the uncertainties that confront us the Committee have elected to defer a decision on Members' Subscriptions for 2020/21 until the way forward can be determined.

REVIEWER

A big thank you is due to Eileen Watts who reviewed the 2018/19 Accounts and has agreed to continue in her role and review these accounts.

ACCOUNTS

Please see the Notes on Page 4 of the Accounts for supporting information.

In summary general points are as follows:

Income and Expenditure Account

Income

Total income decreased by £965 compared with 2018/2019.

Income from Subscriptions, Gift Aid and Friends decreased by £655 to £16,861 compared with 2018/19 reflecting a small reduction in paying members offset by an increase in Gift Aid of £158 which is based the larger membership in the previous year.

Expenditure

Total expenditure decreased by £2,542 to £16,783, including the exceptional cost of advertising amounting to £480, which apart from the latter reflects the fact that we staged two concerts instead of three

Concerts

Page 3 of the Accounts shows an analysis of Income and Expenditure for each Concert.

Balance Sheet

The Surplus of £978 for the year shown on the Income and Expenditure Account served to increase the Accumulated Fund to £18,863 that represents the net Assets of the Society as at 31 August 2020.

Martin Mellor, Treasurer

22 September 2020

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Registered Charity No: 1001958

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

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BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

2019			2020	
£	£		£	£
INCOME				
	14,193	Subscriptions	13,380.00	
	2,623	Gift Aid	2,780.81	
17,516	700	Friends	700.20	16,861.01
449		Rehearsal Refreshments		352.77
360		Staging & Score Hire		289.00
5		Profit on Sale of Scores		92.25
396		Garden Party		-
		Profit on Workshop		165.69
18,726				17,760.72
EXPENDITURE				
<u>General</u>				
	3,096	Conductor's Fees	1,716.00	
	2,852	Accompanist's Fees	2,162.00	
	1,604	Guest Conductor	2,415.02	
7,736	184	Guest Accompanist	-	6,293.02
1,262		Hire of Rehearsal Venues	-	1,017.25
568		Subscriptions & Insurance		642.44
90		Membership Guides		30.00
16		Printing, Stationery & Postage		9.42
353		Website		243.00
63		Gifts		-
		Advertising		480.00
113		Sundry Expenses		102.16
<u>Concerts</u>				
	1,001	Loss on Winter Concert	2,566.52	
	4,689	Loss on Spring Concert	5,323.90	
9,124	3,434	Loss on Summer Concert	75.00	7,965.42
19,325				16,782.71
(599)		Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		978.01

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

2019 £		2020 £
	ASSETS	
15	Cash in hand <i>Note 4</i>	36.77
17,451	Balance at Bank	20,218.88
591	Debtors and Payments in Advance <i>Note5</i>	380.50
	Stock of Scores	19.62
18,057		20,655.77
172	Less Creditors <i>Note 6</i>	1,792.54
17,885		18,863.23
	REPRESENTED BY:	
	Accumulated Fund	
18,484	Balance at 1 September 2019	17,885.22
(599)	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	978.01
17,885		18,863.23

I have reviewed the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 31st August 2020 and can confirm that they accurately reflect the financial records for the period under review and the assets and liabilities at the Balance Sheet date.

Eileen Watts
Independent Reviewer
Date

M H Mellor
Hon Treasurer
Date

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY
CONCERT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2020

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS			
2019	2020	2019	2020		
£	£p	£	£p		
Autumn (Bach Magnificat , Handel Chandos Anthem No 9, Vivaldi Beatus Vir RV598, Concerto for Strings RV157)					
5,099	Ticket Receipts	4,265.46	3,230	Orchestra	2,890.00
111	Profit on Music Hire	112.50	674	Conductor's Fee	646.00
130	Profit on Programmes	125.57	700	Soloists	2,000.00
236	Profit on Interval Drinks	249.25	306	Orchestral Scores	351.99
			950	Venue & Facilities Hire	1,050.00
			480	Organ Hire	51.50
			110	Printing & Advertising	135.82
			47	Gifts	133.99
			80	Staging Dismantlement	60.00
<hr/>		<hr/>			
5,576	Total Receipts	4,752.78	6,577	Total Payments	7,319.30
1,001	Loss on Concert	2,566.52			
<hr/>		<hr/>			
6,577		7,319.30	6,577		7,319.30

Spring (Vaughan Williams Sea Symphony, Grieg Piano Concerto in A Minor)

4,053	Ticket Receipts	4,130.49	4,900	Orchestra	5,355.00
133	Profit on Music Hire	23.00	635	Conductor's Fee	718.00
127	Profit on Programmes	40.90	2,060	Soloists	1,650.00
282	Profit on Bar and Catering	170.45	395	Orchestral Scores	707.41
			370	Venue & Facilities Hire	950.50
			688	Staging	60.00
			138	Printing & Advertising	135.83
			98	Gifts	112.00
<hr/>		<hr/>			
4,595	Total Receipts	4,364.84	9,284	Total Payments	9,688.74
4,689	Loss on Concert	5,323.90			
<hr/>		<hr/>			
9,284		9,688.74	9,284		9,688.74

Summer (CANCELLED)

3,192	Ticket Receipts	-	4,130	Orchestra	-
236	Profit on Music Hire	-	635	Conductor's Fee	-
82	Profit on Programmes	-	400	Soloists	-
156	Profit on Interval Drinks	-	605	Orchestral Scores	-
			1,050	Venue & Facilities Hire	75.00
				Hire of Piano and Tuning	-
			162	Printing & Advertising	-
			58	Gifts	-
			60	Staging Dismantlement	-
<hr/>		<hr/>			
3,666	Total Receipts	-	7,100	Total Payments	75.00
3,434	Loss on Concert	75.00			
<hr/>		<hr/>			
7,100		75.00	7,100		75.00

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1 **Conductor's and Accompanist Fees**

Fees for rehearsals amount to £6,293 compared with £7,736 in 2018/19 reflecting the cancellation of the Summer Concert because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Hire of Rehearsal Venues

For the same reason the cost of Hire of Rehearsal Venues is less than 2018/19

2 **Advertising**

This is the cost of advertising for a new Musical Director

3 **Concerts**

The overall loss on Concerts fell by £1,159 to £7,965 because the Summer Concert was cancelled. The loss of £75 recorded for the Summer Concert is the non-refundable deposit for hire of the concert venue, Dorchester Abbey
(See Page 4 of these Accounts for details of each concert)

4 **Cash in Hand**

This is the float for rehearsal coffee and refreshments

5 **Debtors and Payments in Advance**

Credit with Oxfordshire County Library	155.50
Dorchester Abbey - Deposits for venue for 2020/21 Concerts	225.00
	380.50

6 **Creditors**

Balance the retirement fund donated by the members, due to our Musical Director, Chris Walker	1,292.54
Ex gratia payment to Guest Conductor	500.00
	1,792.54

BENSON CHORAL SOCIETY

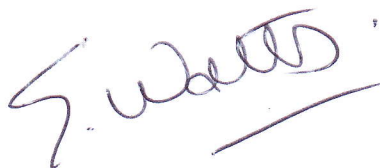
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

2019 £		2020 £
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Accumulated Fund		
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Eileen Watts
Independent Reviewer

Date 02/06/2021



M H Mellor
Hon Treasurer

Date 29 September 2020

