



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01y	09	2023		31	08	2024

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Chipping Norton and District Choral Society

Other names charity is known by

N/A

Registered charity number (if any)

1005363

Charity's principal address

Symnel, High Street

Hook Norton

BANBURY

Postcode

OX15 5NH

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Annabel Louise Beach	Chair	20/10/2023-31/08/2024	The Society
2	John Anthony Christie		22/04/2024-31/08/2024	The Society
3	Susannah Howe		22/01/2024-31/08/2024	The Society
4	Nicholas Henry Watkins	Treasurer	01/01/2024-31/08/2024	The Society
5	Rita Dolores Wheatley Wright		29/11/2023-03/12/2024	The Society
6	Hélène Elizabeth Barratt		29/11/2023-03/12/2024	The Society
7	Heather Ruby Jarvis			The Society
8	Susan Elizabeth Georgina Fane	Secretary		The Society
9	Christopher Michael Fergus Forbes	Treasurer	01/09/2023-31/12/2023	The Society
10	Mark Walters			The Society
11	Keith Ravenhill			The Society
12	Sarah Julia Mortimer			The Society

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

## Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

## Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by members at the AGM

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</li><li>• the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;</li><li>• relationship with any related parties;</li><li>• trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</li></ul>	<p>Chipping Norton and District Choral Society ("the Society" or "CNCS") publishes its constitution, privacy policy and safeguarding policy on its website at <a href="http://www.cncs.org.uk">www.cncs.org.uk</a>.</p> <p>The management of the Society shall be in the hands of a committee hereinafter referred to as the Committee, consisting of a Chair, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer, and up to twelve other members. The officers and Committee members shall be elected from the members of the society at the Annual General Meeting.</p> <p>The Society is a member of Making Music, the UK's membership organisation for leisure-time music.</p> <p>Membership of the Society shall be open to any person interested in furthering the objects of the Society as a singing member, and who has paid the appropriate annual subscription, all subscriptions being payable in advance.</p>
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## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the Society shall be to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of choral music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

<p><b>Concerts by Chipping Norton and District Choral Society (CNCS) Music for Remembrance and Peace.</b></p> <p>The first concert of the choir year September 2023 – August 2024 started with a concert on Saturday 18th November, 2023, a week after Armistice Day, at St Mary’s Church, Banbury. The choir’s musical director, Benedict Goodall, is largely responsible for planning the choir’s programme for a year or more ahead, with consultation with the choir regarding what they would like to sing. Earlier in 2023 he decided the choir should sing: Chichester Psalms (Bernstein 1965) and The Armed Man, commissioned by the Royal Armouries, (Karl Jenkins 1999). Part of his decision-making had been the outbreak of the war against Ukraine by Russia on February 24th 2022. However, by the day of the concert a completely unanticipated conflict had been waging in Gaza for over six weeks, with thousands of civilians held hostage, killed or injured. This gave the powerful performance an added poignancy. The choir was supported by soloists: Joshua Dennis (countertenor), Benjamin Watkins (Baritone), and the Adderbury Ensemble, whose large orchestra: notably the flautist and timpanists and the trumpeter, who gave an evocative last-post from the balcony of St Mary’s, Banbury, provided a concert-level performance to the work. The orchestra also performed Barber’s Adagio for Strings.</p> <p>This was not the first time the choir planned its programme to give resonance to Remembrance Day. In 2018, the centenary of the end of the WW1, CNCS gave a concert on Saturday 15th December 2018 consisting of The Music Makers (Elgar 1912) and Dona Nobis Pacem (Vaughan Williams 1936) also in St Mary’s, Banbury. This church is the largest venue in the district if a large choir and orchestra are to perform.</p> <p><b>Mass in Blue &amp; Songs &amp; Sonnets from Shakespeare</b></p> <p>After an end of year Come and Sing Day of Christmas Carols, and two workshops for choir members on Music Theory, the choir’s next concert was on Sunday, March 24th 2024 in the church of Saints Peter and Paul in Deddington. This concert was completely different from the November one and demonstrated the choir’s versatility and ability to master very different genres. The contents were George Shearing’s Songs and Sonnets from Shakespeare (2016) and Mass in Blue (Will Todd 2003). The soprano soloist was Becca Wilkins. The Karen Sharp Quartet accompanied these two pieces and did a 25 minute set. Karen, an alto in the choir, is a highly recognised tenor saxophonist who has won the tenor saxophone category of the British Jazz Awards on numerous occasions. The other musicians in the quartet were Andy Crowdy, double bass, Rob Barron, piano, Joshua Morrison, drums. Thus, this was a lively, diverse, uplifting concert with a difference, with over 150 in the audience clearly showing their appreciation.</p> <p>The third concert of this year was <b>Masters of Music</b>, June 14th 2024. This was a programme celebrating composers who have held the title “Master of the King’s/Queen’s Music”, held in St Mary’s Church, Chipping Norton. It consisted of a wide range of pieces with Elgar featuring highly with his As Torrents in Spring and the six songs From the Bavarian Highlands. It has become traditional for this concert, held in June, to be accompanied by a picnic in the churchyard with Pimms on sale. Unfortunately, the weather was not kind and the refreshments were taken in the church itself.</p> <p>These three concerts in year September 2023 – August 2024 clearly illustrate many aspects of the choir’s success and ability to survive. A concert like the one in November is expensive to put on since it included a large orchestra. The orchestra itself, 30 strong, cost £6,472.00. Contrarily, the spring and summer concerts incurred much lower costs</p>
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requiring only the hire of the Quartet for Mass in Blue, and the hire of a Steinway Grand piano to be put in both concert venues. In this way the annual budget is managed. Subs from choir members will come in in September and the financial year begin again.

### **Launch of the Cotswold Youth Choir (CYC)**

Ben Goodall first introduced the concept of launching a youth choir, ages 10 – 18, supported by CNCS, at the Committee Meeting in September 2023. Concerned, like many, of the complete destruction of opportunities to participate in live music in state schools in the past 10 -15 years, this would provide the opportunity for local young people to have regular singing experiences with an experienced musician.

The first step was to engage with local schools, contacted by Goodall, to take, free of charge, a two hour choir experience by Goodall, from which young choristers could volunteer to then consider joining the CYC. The first school workshops happened in this spring term, then a Sing Day in early March, was open to any young person to come along on their own accord, whether or not they had participated in one of the school-based workshops. Regular 'rehearsals' started after Easter, on Wednesday evenings, 5.30 – 7pm, prior to the choir's regular rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. A donation from CNCS Friend: Wise Investments, is being used to pay for these weekly sessions which involve both Goodall and accompanist, Rowena Gibbons. Alongside this outreach to schools a whole documentation of structure and safeguarding has been produced, and volunteers from the choir invited to participate to attend CYC sessions alongside parents who, it is hoped, will become more involved in the running of the CYC.

### **Commissioning of a Commemorative piece for CNCS 155th Anniversary**

The issue of raising more funds has been much discussed this year as the Society plans to commission a special commemorative piece to be performed in May 2027, the 155th anniversary of the foundation of the choir. Choir members have been invited to actively support both CYC and raising funds for the Commission. Initial plans for a piece of around 30 minutes piece were modified to around 6-7 minutes as the Committee felt this was an achievable fundraising target alongside CYC. The fundraising target is £12,000. The Evenlode Foundation donated £3,000 toward the Commission and private donations raised another £1000k up to 31 August. Discussions have taken place with composer Ben Parry and Librettist Hazel Gould who have agreed to work on the piece, which should have references local to the choir and what singing means to them. Funds will also be used to print an agreed number of copies which will be available for other choirs to purchase, thus marking CNCS as a major player in the choral fabric of the UK.

The above activities are regarded by the trustees to comply with the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit. Communal singing has been shown to improve well-being covering the 'benefit aspect' and through our reach to considerable numbers of audience covering the 'public aspect'.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Production of three high-quality musical performances in line with the Society's objects.

Establishment of the Cotswold Youth Choir to bring music education and the experience of communal singing to younger members of the local public. The choir is now open to 8 to 18 year olds.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity has no formal policy of reserves, but informally aims to reserve the costs (musicians' fees, soloists' fees, venue fees) that would be incurred by the society should a single concert performance need to be cancelled.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Principal sources of funding are subscriptions and concert income from ticket, programme and refreshment sales.

The charity has spent its income on providing rehearsal space, the services of a musical director and accompanist in order to prepare the members of the society to stage high-quality performances with professional musicians and soloists in public venues – fully in line with its objectives.

Additionally the Society has spent its income forming the Cotswold Youth Choir to bring musical education and experience to younger members of the public in the area.

The Society does not currently hold any investments and therefore does not have an investment policy.

The following 4 pages provide the Independent Examiner's Report of the the Society's accounts.

**Charity number: 1005363**

# **Chipping Norton Choral Society**

**Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the**  
**Chipping Norton Choral Society**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Society") for the year ended 31st August 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of the report**

As the charity trustees of the Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

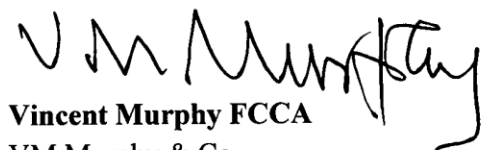
I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Vincent Murphy FCCA**  
VM Murphy & Co  
Finsbury House, New Street  
Chipping Norton  
Oxfordshire  
OX7 5LL

Date:

25 JUNE 2025

**Chipping Norton Choral Society**  
**Registered Charity: 1005363**

**Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 August 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Subscriptions	15,337.64	15,220.00
Concert income	7,091.11	6,893.22
Commission	3,531.74	0.00
Gift Aid	4,480.12	0.00
Score income	2,586.60	66.00
Staging income	100.00	0.00
Raffle	74.00	0.00
Donation	0.00	270.00
Friends	50.00	594.73
CYC income	9,729.12	0.00
Other income	0.00	693.89
	<u>42,980.33</u>	<u>23,737.84</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Concert expenses	14,709.14	8,969.75
Rehearsal costs	13,547.24	9,192.02
Score costs	4,133.25	0.00
Website	886.43	732.58
Insurance	581.00	468.64
CYC expenses	4,522.65	0.00
Other	164.99	1,301.55
	<u>38,544.70</u>	<u>20,664.54</u>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>4,435.63</b>	<b>3,073.30</b>



**Chipping Norton Choral Society**  
**Registered Charity: 1005363**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Current as</u>		
Bank account - CNCS	5,794.93	6,470.35
Bank account - Friends of CNCS	1,680.00	1,630.00
Bank account - CYC	5,061.05	0.00
<b>Net assets</b>	<b><u>12,535.98</u></b>	<b><u>8,100.35</u></b>
 <u>Accumulated fund:</u>		
Brought forward	8,100.35	5,027.05
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	4,435.63	3,073.30
	<b><u>12,535.98</u></b>	<b><u>8,100.35</u></b>

These accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees on .....and were signed on its behalf by:

Position:

Section F

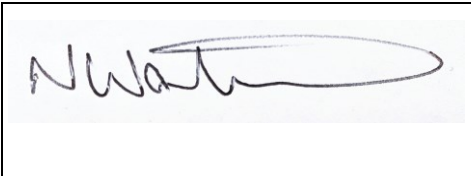
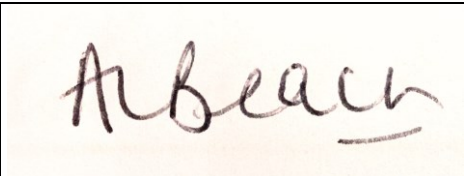
Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Nicholas Henry Watkins	Annabel Lousie Beach
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	26/06/2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Chipping Norton and District Choral Society

1005363

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/09/2023

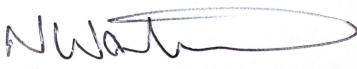

To

31/08/2024

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Subscriptions	15,338	-	-	15,338	15,220
Concert Income	7,091	-	-	7,091	6,893
Commission	3,532	-	-	3,532	-
Gift Aid	4,480	-	-	4,480	-
Score income	2,586	-	-	2,586	66
Staging income	100	-	-	100	-
Raffle	74	-	-	74	-
Donation	-	-	-	-	270
Friends	50	-	-	50	595
CYC income	9,729	-	-	9,729	-
Other income	-	-	-	-	694
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>42,980</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,980</b>	<b>23,738</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>42,980</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,980</b>	<b>23,738</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Concert expenses	14,709	-	-	14,709	8,970
Rehearsal costs	13,547	-	-	13,547	9,192
Score costs	4,133	-	-	4,133	-
Website	886	-	-	886	733
Insurance	581	-	-	581	469
CYC expenses	4,523	-	-	4,523	-
Other	165	-	-	165	1,302
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>38,544</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>38,544</b>	<b>20,666</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>38,544</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>38,544</b>	<b>20,666</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>4,436</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,436</b>	<b>3,072</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>12,536</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,536</b>	<b>3,072</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	BANK ACCOUNT - CNCS	5,795	-	-
	BANK ACCOUNT - Friends of CNCS	1,680	-	-
	BANK ACCOUNT - CYC	5,061	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>12,536</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Print Name	Date of approval	
		Nicholas Henry Watkins	26/06/2025	
		Annabel Louise Beach	26/06/2025	

**Charity number: 1005363**

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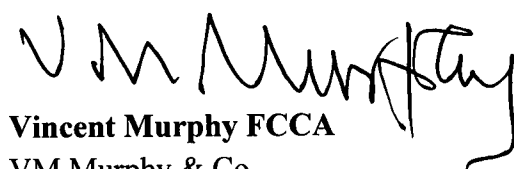
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**Vincent Murphy FCCA**

VM Murphy & Co

Finsbury House, New Street

Chipping Norton

Oxfordshire

OX7 5LL

Date:

25 JUNE 2025

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**Registered Charity: 1005363**

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Chipping Norton Choral Society  
Registered Charity: 1005363

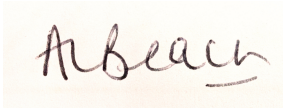
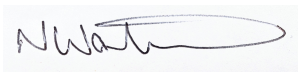
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These accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees on ..26/06/2025...and were signed on its behalf by:

Nicholas Henry Watkins

Annabel Louise Beach



Position: Treasurer

Chair