

CHARITY COMMISSION GUIDANCE ON CONTENT OF ANNUAL REPORT

Reports for small non-company charities

If your charity's income is under £500,000 (and providing it doesn't have assets worth more than £3.26million), prepare a simple report including:

- your charity's name, registration number, address and trustee names
- its structure and details of how it is managed, including how it recruits trustees
- its activities and objectives in the year
- its achievements and performance, including reporting on its public benefit
- a financial review including any debts and details of your reserves policy (if applicable)
- details of any funds held as a custodian trustee

BLACKHEATH CHOIR ANNUAL REPORT TO CHARITY COMMISSION FOR 2022-23

The Trustees of the Blackheath Choir Charity present their annual report and audited accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023.

WHO WE ARE

Blackheath Choir

Charity No 1012604

Registered address 81 Humber Road, London SE3 7LR

Trustees: Jane Howlett, John Ballard and Marion Kimberley

HOW WE ARE ORGANISED

We operate within the structure of a constitution and a framework of written policies.

The management of the choir is in the hands of a committee elected each year at an AGM of members. The committee then co-opts other members with particular expertise to help it discharge its responsibilities.

The trustees of the choir are the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary of the choir unless the choir at its AGM should decide otherwise

The constitution and written policies are reviewed by the committee annually to ensure they remain compliant with current guidance from the Charity Commission and good practice elsewhere. Any changes or additions are reported to the next AGM for discussion.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES 2022-23

Objectives

To promote, improve, develop and maintain public education and appreciation of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of choral concerts and by such other means as the choir through its committee may determine.

Activities

Three concerts were given during the year. In addition, the choir continued its practice of singing carols at Canary Wharf underground station in support of a local charity. This year £3,000 was raised for the Lewisham branch of the Samaritans.

The aim through the year was to produce a programme of concerts that struck a balance between the familiar and unfamiliar, the new and the old and contained an appropriate element of challenge while remaining attractive to members and audiences alike. The choir successfully explored less known and difficult works as well as the more familiar.

The year began with a demanding programme. This was a performance of Ryba's Czech Christmas Mass and Rutter's Magnificat. The Mass is as popular as Handel's Messiah in its native land but much less known or performed in the UK. The choir enjoyed sharing it with an enthusiastic audience

The Spring concert in 2023 embraced the Classical period with Haydn's Heiligmesse and Schubert's F Minor 'Stabat Mater'. The Haydn offered some good opportunities for choir members to take small solo parts alongside our professional soloists.

In the summer concert the choir tackled Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes, in the original German. This was combined with George Shearing's 'Music to Hear'. Its jazzy style provided further variety and was well received. The final item, six of Finzi's settings of Robert Bridges, a challenge even for professional choirs, proved to be a success.

FINANCE

Outturn in 2022-23 was in line with the budget set of the year. There was a small planned reduction in funds held at the end of the year of c£1,500. Reserves at the end of 2022-23 (ie 31 August 2023) were £11,153. The Committee monitored financial performance through the year. The subscription rates and ticket prices agreed at the Choir's AGM in March 2023 ensured that the choir would remain financially secure and able to finance the programme agreed for the year ahead, ie 2023-24 and beyond. There were no outstanding debts at the end of the year. All funds are held either with Shawbrook or Barclays Bank.

Trustees

Jane Howlett

John Ballard

Marion Kimberley

BLACKHEATH CHOIR

FINANCIAL REPORT

August 31, 2023

Blackheath Choir

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended August 31

	£ 2023	£ 2022
Receipts		
Subscriptions	12,165	10,868
Concerts (see Concert Receipts and Payments)	11,010	10,233
Donations	191	2,799
Gift Aid	2,777	3,109
Refreshments	504	427
Interest	30	30
Sundries	-	38
	26,677	27,504
Payments		
Publicity	475	48
Making Music subscription	418	295
Concerts (see Concert Receipts and Payments)	14,711	16,789
Fees (conductor and accompanist)	9,655	9,703
Rent	2,602	2,472
Refreshments	51	-
Sundries	271	401
	28,183	29,708
Net receipts (payments)	(1,506)	(2,204)
Net assets and amount held in Special Projects fund at the beginning of the year	12,659	14,863
Net assets and amount held in Special Projects fund at the end of the year	11,153	12,659

Blackheath Choir

Balance Sheet

As at August 31

	£ 2023	£ 2022
Barclays Bank Community Account	5,719	7,522
Shawbrook Bank	5,000	5,000
Cash float	200	200
Total cash resources	10,919	12,722
Accounts receivable	234	-
Prepaid expenses	-	144
	11,153	12,866
Refunds due to choir members	-	63
	11,153	12,803
Net assets		
Balance at the beginning of the year	11,786	13,990
Net receipts (payments) for the year	(1,506)	(2,204)
Balance at the end of the year	10,280	11,786
Amount held in Special Projects Fund	873	873
Net assets and amount held in Special Projects Fund	11,153	12,659
Note re: capital assets		
Blackheath Choir also owns various capital assets which, after depreciation, were estimated to have a value of:	438	515

Signed on behalf of all the trustees:

Signature

Blackheath Choir
Concert Receipts and Payments
For the year ending August 31

	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Winter Rutter Ryba	Spring Schubert	Summer Shearing	Summer 2022 Late Expense	Other	2022
Receipts						
Ticket sales advance	2,995	2,531	2,090	-	-	7,616
Ticket sales on the door	143	88	143	-	-	375
	3,138	2,619	2,233	-	-	7,990
Music						
Music hire income	474	146	332	-	-	952
Music sales income	301	256	281	-	-	837
Programmes, advertising and other	196	217	208	-	-	621
	4,389	3,375	3,246	-	-	11,010
Payments						
Conductor/Soloists	700	1,638	1,315	-	-	3,653
Orchestra	2,050	3,350	-	-	-	5,400
Instrument hire	-	-	40	-	-	40
Music						
Music hire (orchestra)	521	260	-	-	-	781
Music purchase (choir)	363	203	382	-	-	949
Music hire (choir)	334	195	233	239	-	1,001
	1,218	658	615	239	-	2,731
Programmes/advertising	179	201	159	-	-	539
PRS fees	122	-	82	-	-	204
Publicity	193	193	198	-	-	584
Bar expenses	55	59	52	-	-	166
Venue hire	465	465	465	-	-	1,395
	4,982	6,563	2,927	239	-	14,711
Net Surplus or (Deficit)	(593)	(3,189)	320	(239)	-	(3,701)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees/members of Blackheath Choir

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") set out on pages 1-3 for the year ended 31/08/2023.

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust'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.

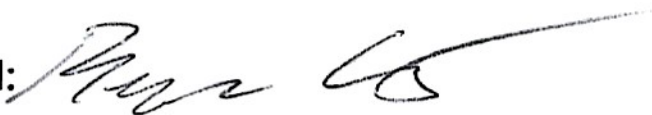
Independent examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed:



Date:

19/11/23

Name:

Benjamin Grant-Jones

Professional qualification:

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland

Address

2 Cambridge Drive, London SE12 8AJ

BLACKHEATH CHOIR

FINANCIAL REPORT

August 31, 2023

Blackheath Choir

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