

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1029022

Details

Other names H P C

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1993-11-24

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

Contact

Address 108 Mount Pleasant Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 3SN

Phone 01424 552104

Email chairman@hastingsphilchoir.org.uk

Website www.hastingsphilchoir.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1) 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 FEEL FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS. 2) TO PROVIDE FACILITIES WHICH PROMOTE THE PRACTICE AND ENJOYMENT OF THE ART OF MUSIC FOR RECREATION OR LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION AND TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE TO INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF LIFE.

Activities: The aim and objective of the Choir is to educate the general public in the art and science of music. The choir performs four concerts a year and other than Christmas in the choral tradition. We employ internationally acclaimed soloists and use professional musicians to accompany us.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED, IN PRACTICE HASTINGS/ST LEONARDS AREA
- East Sussex
- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£46,433	£38,155	-	-
2024-08-31	£38,893	£37,549	-	-
2023-08-31	£32,479	£31,378	-	-
2022-07-31	£27,477	£32,478	-	-
2021-07-31	£19,036	£16,152	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JOHN RYCROFT	Chair	
Gareth James Simpson		2022-02-03
Kerry Gentleman		2021-06-03
Lucinda Catherine Craddock		2019-06-06
Mary Kathleen Lipscombe		2020-10-29
Nicola Sarah Bryder Urling Clark		2023-11-16
Rachel Farnham		2022-11-10
Simon Scott		2020-10-29
Susan Elizabeth Green		2023-11-16

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1029022

Accounts

Hastings Philharmonic Choir

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Year Ended 31 August 2025

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1029022

Principal address

108 Mount Pleasant Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 3SN

Trustees

J Rycroft
L Cradduck
S Scott
K Gentleman
M Lipscombe
G Simpson
R Farnham
N Urling-Clark
S Green

Independent examiner

C Read FCCA ACA

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The aims and objects of the Choir are to educate the general public in the art and science of music, in particular choral music by means of the study, practice and performance of choral music.

TREASURER'S REPORT

With the delay in holding our AGM, this feels a bit like reflecting on history! It was a particularly positive year financially, with an amazing profit of £8,278.

The fact that subscriptions were up by some £3,000 on the previous year isn't all down to the nagging of your treasurer, you'll be pleased to know, but down to a wonderful increase in membership, as the choir has been going from strength to strength under our amazing musical director. Partly as a result of this, we have been pleased to hold subscription charges at the same level this year.

We also were so pleased to receive generous donations, over £2,000 more than the previous year, reflecting the positive effect of our performances on our attending public. A bequest of £1,000 from former member Pat Gibbons/Collinson was another contribution to a bumper year for us. The one-off sale of our old staging also helped income, offset, though, by a higher amount for the purchase of new staging! We work closely with HPO with keeping up with our staging needs.

Bonus ball membership has been falling, reducing the benefits to the choir. Nevertheless, our fundraising team continues to make such a positive contribution to choir funds – thank you all of them. We ended the year with a healthy balance of over £20,000. I can't end many reports in my other treasurer roles on as positive a note.

I just want to add my personal thanks to Lucy Craddock, whom I call the Fount of All Knowledge. She has her finger on the button at all times, and I rely on her a great deal in helping to keep on top of things. Thank you, Lucy!

May we continue to go from strength to strength.

Simon Scott
3/1/26

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Income and expenditure

	Year ended 31st Aug 2025	Year ended 31st Aug 2024
Income		
Subscriptions	16,130	13,254
Donations	5,071	2,732
Bequests	1,000	-
Fundraising	2,540	2,812
Concerts receipts	12,634	12,696
Gift Aid	2,526	2,566
Music sales	2,350	2,468
Bonus Ball	1,940	2,220
Interest received	195	146
Saumur trip	471	-
Sale of staging	1,500	-
Other	77	-
	46,433	38,893
Expenditure		
Conductor concert fees	2,100	3,000
Orchestra	15,450	16,270
Concert venues	400	450
Accompanists	4,078	4,403
Publicity	775	427
Rehearsal venues	1,480	1,530
Conductor rehearsal fees	6,140	5,860
Printing & postage	287	268
IT costs	560	541
Fundraising costs	142	608
Insurance	81	79
Bonus Ball	700	700
Music hire	2,842	2,522
Storage	-	891
Purchase of staging	2,880	-
Card payment costs	27	-
Other costs	213	-
	38,155	37,548
Surplus/(Deficit)	8,278	1,344

Balance sheet as at 31st August 2025

	31 August 2025	31 August 2024
Assets:		
Debtors		
Fundraising	-	632
Cash at bank		
Deposit account	19,490	11,395
Current account	1,322	1,221
Cash in hand	<u>105</u>	<u>88</u>
	20,917	13,336
Liabilities:		
Creditors		
Fundraising	-	237
Subscriptions paid in advance	<u>100</u>	<u>560</u>
	100	797
Net assets	<u>20,817</u>	<u>12,539</u>
Reserves:		
P&L reserve b/fwd	12,539	11,195
Profit/loss for the year	<u>8,278</u>	<u>1,344</u>
	<u>20,817</u>	<u>12,539</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hastings Philharmonic

Registration Number 1029022

I hereby report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 August 2025, which are set out on pages 3 & 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts for the charity. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 5 of the Charities Registration Act 1989 ("the Act") and that an independent examination is appropriate.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out taking into consideration general guidance given by the General Registry. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I have reasonable cause to believe that:

- 1) In all material aspects the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with regulations made under section 11(1)(a) of the Act;
 - to prepare accounts in accordance with regulations made under section 11(1)(b) of the Act;

have been met; and

- 2) There are no material matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr Carl W Read FCCA ACA

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1029022

Accounts

Hastings Philharmonic Choir

Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 August 2024

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1029022

Principal address

108 Mount Pleasant Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 3SN

Trustees

J Rycroft
L Westcott
L Craddock
S Scott
K Gentleman
M Lipscombe
G Simpson
R Farnham

Independent examiner

C Read FCCA ACA

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Income and expenditure

	Year ended 31st Aug 2024	Year ended 31st Aug 2023
Income		
Subscriptions	13,254	12,476
Donations	2,732	2,569
Sponsors	-	300
Fundraising	2,812	1,499
Concerts receipts	12,696	7,932
Gift Aid	2,566	2,139
Music sales	2,468	2,950
Bonus Ball	2,220	2,300
Interest received	146	67
Other	-	247
	38,893	32,479
Expenditure		
Conductor concert fees	3,000	1,500
Orchestra	16,270	12,250
Concert venues	450	86
Accompanists	4,403	3,940
Publicity	427	320
Photos	-	50
Rehearsal venues	1,530	956
Conductor rehearsal fees	5,860	6,120
Printing & postage	268	337
IT costs	541	403
Fundraising costs	608	-
Insurance	79	75
Bonus Ball	700	900
Music hire	2,522	2,801
Storage	891	1,265
Other costs	-	376
	37,549	31,379
Surplus/(Deficit)	1,344	1,100

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Balance sheet as at 31st August 2024

	31 August 2024	31 August 2023
<u>Assets:</u>		
Debtors		
Fundraising	632	-
Cash at bank		
Deposit account	11,395	10,249
Current account	1,221	2,201
Cash in hand	88	20
	13,336	12,470
<u>Liabilities:</u>		
Creditors		
	237	270
Subscriptions paid in advance	560	1,005
	797	1,275
Net assets	12,539	11,195
<u>Reserves:</u>		
P&L reserve b/fwd	11,195	10,094
Profit/loss for the year	1,344	1,101
	12,539	11,195

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hastings Philharmonic

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Mr Carl W Read FCCA ACA

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1029022

Accounts

Hastings Philharmonic Choir

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Period Ended 31 August 2023

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PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1029022

Principal address

108 Mount Pleasant Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 3SN

Trustees

J Rycroft
L Westcott
L Craddock
S Scott
K Gentleman
M Lipscombe
G Simpson
R Farnham

Independent examiner

C Read FCCA ACA
St Kitts
Church Road
Catsfield
East Sussex
TN33 9DP

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 August 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The aims and objects of the Choir are to educate the general public in the art and science of music, in particular choral music by means of the study, practice and performance of choral music.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is pleasing to report a return to a surplus in the last financial year, to the tune of around £1,100, following a loss of some £5,000 in the previous year. Bravo!

Please note that, in making comparisons with the previous year's figures, we decided last year to make our financial year end in August, as our new year effectively starts in September. The 2022/3 figures therefore represent 13 months of income and expenditure.

Well done to all our fundraisers – and for the avoidance of confusion, this does not refer only to our recently-formed Fundraising Team, but also to the tea/coffee/biscuits providers at rehearsals, which bring in a welcome boost to the fundraising figure. We optimistically budgeted for £1,500 and that was achieved. We have upped that budget for this year to £2,000 (including sponsorships). However, with the plans recently put forward by the team, I am certain that we will exceed that comfortably.

The Bonus Ball scheme (thank you, Mary!) continues to be a good money earner for us. Many prize winners elect for their winnings to be put back in choir funds as a donation. The profit of £1,400 last year is wonderful – thank you everyone who contributes.

Comparisons with the previous year are also affected by the fact that we had the brilliantly successful venture of *Elijah* with the German choir. That was run by HPO (Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra). We were able to contribute £2,000 to the venture and, of course we paid for Marcio and Francis' costs for rehearsals, and Marcio's fee for the England concert. We also managed additional rehearsals to the 10 we normally budget for, and are very grateful for Megan offering to take rehearsals, at no cost to us, when Marcio is unavailable. The *Elijah* project also explains our ticket sales figure being lower than the previous year.

You will have noticed, I am sure, at the end of the balance sheet the disappearance of the Exchange Reserve figure. The reasons for that are lost in the mists of time, and it has been decided to absorb the figure into our general fund.

We remain ever so grateful for the services of Carl Read, who acts pro bono as our accountant.

As usual, we have set our subscriptions for this year to cover the projected costs of running the rehearsals. We make losses on most of our concerts (with maybe a little profit on our Christmas concert) – we anticipate that our costs for accompanists and soloists for our concerts will be a little short of £14,000. Our continued efforts in publicity, getting tickets sold, getting sponsors and donors (thank you, Maggi!) and general fundraising will keep us in good shape financially. Our committee has agreed a balanced budget, but who knows, we could do just as well if not better this year than last!

Simon Scott - Treasurer

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Income and expenditure

	Period ended 31st Aug 2023	Year ended 31st July 2022
Income		
Subscriptions	12,476	10,518
Donations	2,569	2,506
Sponsors	300	500
Fundraising	1,499	282
Ticket sales	7,687	9,173
Gift Aid	2,139	1,539
Music sales	2,950	793
Program sales	245	382
Bonus Ball	2,300	1,782
Interest received	67	3
Other	247	-
	<u>32,479</u>	<u>27,478</u>
Expenditure		
Conductor concert fees	1,500	2,000
Orchestra	12,250	11,680
Soloists	-	1,050
Concert venues	86	952
Accompanists	3,940	4,320
Publicity	320	1,106
Photos	50	100
Rehearsal venues	956	1,078
Conductor rehearsal fees	6,120	6,880
Printing & postage	337	405
IT costs	403	128
Fundraising costs	-	-
Insurance	75	183
Bonus Ball	900	875
Music hire	2,801	715
Storage	1,265	306
Other costs	376	701
	<u>31,378</u>	<u>32,479</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	1,101	- 5,001

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Balance sheet as at 31st August 2023

	31 August 2023	31 July 2022
<u>Assets:</u>		
Debtors	-	467
Cash at bank		
Deposit account	10,249	8,182
Current account	2,201	1,854
Cash in hand	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
	12,469	10,523
<u>Liabilities:</u>		
Creditors	270	430
Subscriptions paid in advance	<u>1,005</u>	<u>430</u>
	1,275	430
Net assets	<u><u>11,194</u></u>	<u><u>10,093</u></u>
<u>Reserves:</u>		
P&L reserve b/fwd	10,093	13,094
Profit/loss for the year	1,101	- 5,001
Exchange reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	<u><u>11,194</u></u>	<u><u>10,093</u></u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hastings Philharmonic Registration Number 1029022

I hereby report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 3 & 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts for the charity. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 5 of the Charities Registration Act 1989 ("the Act") and that an independent examination is appropriate.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out taking into consideration general guidance given by the General Registry. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I have reasonable cause to believe that:

- 1) In all material aspects the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with regulations made under section 11(1)(a) of the Act;
 - to prepare accounts in accordance with regulations made under section 11(1)(b) of the Act;

have been met; and

- 2) There are no material matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr Carl W Read FCCA ACA

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1029022

Accounts

Hastings Philharmonic Choir

Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 July 2022

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

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HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1029022

Principal address

108 Mount Pleasant Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 3SN

Trustees

J Rycroft
L Westcott
L Cradduck
S Scott
K Gentleman
M Lipscombe
G Simpson
R Famham

Independent examiner

C Read FCCA ACA
St Kitts
Church Road
Catsfield
East Sussex
TN33 9DP

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 July 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The aims and objects of the Choir are to educate the general public in the art and science of music, in particular choral music by means of the study, practice and performance of choral music.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The figures have been circulated for the year 2021/22.

Comparisons with the previous year's figures is affected by the fact that the previous year was severely curtailed by the Covid pandemic. Despite the cancellation of almost all our concerts because of this, most members continued kindly to pay their fees, which enabled us to support Francis and Marcio, and yet land up with a profit of over £2,800.

With things largely back to normal this year, a very different picture is presented, and we have ended with a loss of almost exactly £5,000. So, instead of £15,000 left in the kitty, we have £10,000. I am told that treasurers are always full of doom and gloom, but it doesn't take a treasurer to tell you that we cannot continue like this!

Your committee has endeavoured to come up with a balanced budget for this year. However, in order to achieve this, we set an ambitious (but I believe achievable) target of £3,500 for donations/sponsoring and for fundraising to reach £1,500. Thank you to Maggi Hyde for trying to get as many sponsors as possible towards the £3,500, but it would be helpful for someone to step forward to assist with marketing and perhaps approaching organisations for assistance. And thank you to those serving refreshments at rehearsals and concerts for fundraising, but again we need you to come up with ideas and arrange fundraising events. Thank you, too, to Mary for arranging Bonus Ball, which is a fun way of raising money, and clearly helps, making a profit of over £750 for the choir. I guess it's not fair to expect members solely to achieve the fundraising target, however. Ideas, please, on how to raise funds elsewhere.

A word about fees. Thank you to you all for funding rehearsals in this way. I just want to mention that once or twice people have felt the need to back out of attending for specific concerts. This is to be discouraged, unless for very good reasons! However, the committee has decided that, as we fund rehearsals from fees, everyone is expected to pay the full year's fees. It remains the case that, if there are financial reasons why payment of full fees is not possible, you can speak to your voice steward or a committee member.

Most importantly, please everyone do your bit to publicise concerts and encourage people to attend. They're worth every penny, no matter how many moans we get about Eventbrite fees!

We are very fortunate to have Carl Read doing our accounts for us pro bono, and I propose that we continue with this arrangement.

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Income and expenditure

	Year ended 31st July 2022	Year ended 31st July 2021
Income		
Subscriptions	10,518	9,060
Donations	2,506	966
Sponsors	500	
Bequests		
Fundraising	282	23
Ticket sales	9,173	1,697
Gift Aid	1,539	4,632
Music sales	793	80
Program sales	382	25
Hardship fund		914
Bonus Ball	1,782	1,638
Interest received	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
	27,476	19,036
Expenditure		
Conductor concert fees	2,000	790
Orchestra	11,680	
Soloists	1,050	
Concert venues	952	
Accompanists	4,320	4,210
Publicity	1,106	
Photos	100	50
Rehearsal venues	1,078	221
Conductor rehearsal fees	6,880	6,620
Printing & postage	405	45
IT costs	128	611
Fundraising costs	-	
Insurance	183	658
Bonus Ball	875	1,100
Hardship fund		914
Music hire	715	171
Other costs	<u>1,007</u>	<u>762</u>
	32,479	16,152
Surplus/(Deficit)	- 5,002	2,884

HASTINGS PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Balance sheet as at 31st July 2022

	31 July 2022	31 July 2021
Assets:		
Debtors	467	
Cash at bank		
Deposit account	8,181	13,178
Current account	1,854	1,896
Cash in hand	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
	10,522	15,094
Liabilities:		
Creditors	430	
Net assets	10,092	15,094
Reserves:		
P&L reserve b/fwd	13,094	10,210
Profit/loss for the year	- 5,002	2,884
Exchange reserve	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	10,092	15,094

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hastings Philharmonic Registration Number 1029022

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