AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1057791

Details

Other names	A M C H O R
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1996-08-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	11 Meades Lane Chesham HP5 1ND
Phone	01494 772172
Email	elizabethpooley@btinternet.com
Website	www.amchor.com

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN AND APPRECIATION OF THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS AND BY SUCH OTHER WAYS AS THE SOCIETY THROUGH ITS COMMITTEE SHALL DETERMINE FROM TIME TO TIME.

Activities: Choral Society of about 90 full time members performing 2 concerts a year with professional soloists and orchestra.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED, IN PRACTICE, CHILTERN DISTRICT
- Buckinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£45,175	£35,846	-	-
2024-05-31	£34,099	£33,168	-	-
2023-05-31	£19,931	£25,381	-	-
2022-05-31	£17,632	£24,815	-	-
2021-05-31	£7,774	£6,321	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jane Elizabeth Towers	Chair	2024-02-05
Caroline Bayes		2014-07-14
Claire O'Beirne		2016-07-11
Elizabeth Ann Pooley		2019-07-15
Jan Marie Jennings		2023-07-10
MRS JANE MICKLEM		
Sarah Vize		2020-07-13

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AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1057791

Accounts

AMCHOR AGM Number 94 : Monday 15th September 2025

Officers' Reports : Chair's Remarks

No report from the Chair would be complete without recording thanks to all those who have made the year possible and as enjoyable as it was; so my thanks go to Nick and Genny for their massive contribution towards our musical success and to the committee for all their hard work, often behind the scenes. Daryl-Ann Hardman and Jean Slater joined the committee during the year, Daryl-Ann to look after bookings everywhere and for everything and Jean as meetings secretary. Thanks also to John Dunn who keeps the website current and to Harriet Scott for maintaining membership records and putting us in our places for concerts (no pun intended!)

Last year I wrote that I was concerned about the longevity of the whole staging process so I was delighted that we were able to find a company that would supply and build staging, without any of us being involved, at a cost lower than that of using our own staging. This has now been donated to The Crown in Little Missenden and I'd like to thank Jan Jennings for her help in making this happen. The new staging is lower, less slippy and quieter, even if it has been a little cosy on occasion (although that helps our sound, see MD report) and enables us to leave the church more safely in an emergency. I'd like to record my thanks, here, to all those who have helped in the past with the old staging, heaving it all out, across the road, putting it together, taking it all down and heaving it all back across the road. It was no small task and I am grateful for all the assistance given over the years.

It has been my first *full* year as Chair and I'm delighted that we have finished in the black but it is clear that this would not have been the case without some fund raising so we have committed to two events in the coming season, another quiz night and a ceilidh in February. We are, however, in the very fortunate position of having received two legacies (Antoinette Ferraro and Rupert Salmon) which give us a cushion and have helped to put off the decision of whether to move from the Free Church (where rehearsing is ideal but expensive). A rehearsal was held in St Mary's and in St Michael's but, for various reasons, they were not popular with many members although we may have to revisit that decision in the future. To that end, it was decided and announced to members that the subscription for 2025-26 would be raised to £200 and this will be ratified at the AGM.

Many members took part in St Michael's *Choirs, Coffee and Cake* community event. Both Amchor members and audience enjoyed this immensely and an effort will be made to include it in our calendar in the future (first Saturday in December which is sadly not possible this year).

With a few comings and goings, membership numbers have remained fairly stable since last year but it remains the responsibility of all members to try to recruit new ones whenever possible.

Next year's calendar looks a little different and members are urged to put key dates in their diaries as soon as possible.

Jane Towers
August 2025

Registered Charity No. 1057791

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JUNE 2024 TO 31st JULY 2025

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JUNE 2024 TO 31st JULY 2025

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Period to 31st July 2025			Year to 31st May 2024		
	Unrestricted Fund		Designated Fund	Unrestricted Fund		Designated Fund
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary Income						
Members' Subscriptions	16,230			12,719		
Income Tax repayments	1,735			1,840		
Friends of Amchor Donations	420			470		
Other Donations	8,250	26,635		-	15,029	
Investment Income						
Skipton Building Society Interest	1,591			750		
Buckinghamshire Buolding Society Interest	236	1,827		245	995	
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Sale of Tickets & Programmes (Note 5)	11,247			10,831		
Josephine Baker Trust Grants	660			660		
Kushner Memorial Fund	-			1,600		
Sale and hire of choral music	1,265			2,120		
Quiz Evening	2,727			2,277		
Raffles	347			-		
Workshop	390			-		
Recipe Books	77	16,713		587	18,075	
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		45,175			34,099	
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Charitable activities						
Concerts and carols	17,301			15,383		
Stage storage	360			540		
Hire of rehearsal halls	4,711			4,243		
Conductor/Accompanist	9,940			8,505		
Purchase and hire of choral music	1,458			2,082		
Subscriptions/Insurance	492			419		
Bank charges	146			137		
Quiz Evening	1,171			662		
Workshop Hall Hire	97			-		
Recipe Books	35			273		
Friends administration	0	35,711		18	32,262	
Other resources expended						
Loss on Disposal of Staging	1			-		
Gifts and sundries	112			339		
Website	22	135		567	906	
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		35,846			33,168	
Surplus for the year		9,329			931	

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Funds	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Funds
	£	£	£	£
Accumulated Funds brought forward	23,683	20,480	22,752	20,480
Deficit/Surplus for the year	9,329	-	931	-
Disposal of Staging	19,230	-19,230		
Fund Balances carried forward	52,242	1,250	23,683	20,480

The Notes on Page 3 form part of these accounts

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st JUNE 2024 TO 31st JULY 2025

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	31st July 2025 £	31st July 2025 £	31st May 2024 £	31st May 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Staging	2		0		1
CURRENT ASSETS					
HSBC Current Account		7,607		5,743	
Buckinghamshire Building Society Acco		8,060		7,824	
Skipton Building Society Account		38,250		30,000	
Stock of Recipe Books		130		165	
Debtors and prepayments		23		3,330	
		54,070		47,062	
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		578		2,900	
Net Current Assets			53,492		44,162
Net Assets			53,492		44,163
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Designated	6		1,250		20,480
Unrestricted			52,242		23,683
			53,492		44,163

Jane Towers, Chair
For and on behalf of the Committee

Elizabeth Pooley, Honorary Treasure

September 2025

The Notes on Page 3 form part of these accounts.

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY
Notes to the Accounts for the period to 31st July 2025

1 Accounting Policies

In preparing the accounts the following policies have been complied with:

a) The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) and with the Charities Act 2011 and they have been subjected to independent scrutiny as required by the Charity Commission.

b) Income and expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis.

2. Fixed Assets - Staging

Cost brought foward	13,736
Depreciation	13,735
Net Book Value at 31st May 2024	1
Disposal of Staging on Freecycle	0
Loss on Disposal	1

3. Remuneration of Trustees and Independent Examiner

There were no fees or expenses pisd to the Trustees or to the Independent Examiner this year or last year.

	31.07.2025	31.5.2024
4. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Accrued liabilities	550	50
Deferred income	28	2,850
	578	2,900

5 Income from Concerts	Perid to 31st July 2025		Year to 31st May 2024	
Sale of tickets and programmes				
Summer Singing Concert 2024	1,051		680	
Summer Concert 2025	790		-	
November Concert (The Creation)	3,815		3,349	
Carol Concert	926		706	
February - Mini Concert	1,104		1,325	
May Concert (Rutter)	3,561	11,247	4,771	10,831
Grants				
Josephine Baker Trust	660		660	
Kushner Memorial Fund	-	660	1,600	2,260
		11,907		13,091
Related costs		17,299		16,827

6. Designated Funds	Staging	Newhouse Bequest	Total
Opening Fund	19,230	1,250	20,480
Transfer of Funds to 'Unrestricted' on the Disposal of the Staging	-19,230		
Closing Fund (no transfers made)	Nil	1,250	1,250

Independent examiner's Report to the Trustees of Amersham and Chesham Bois Choral Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Amersham and Chesham Bois Choral Society for the year ended 31st July 2025. I note that the accounting year end has been moved from 31st May to 31st July to better reflect the Society's annual calendar of activities.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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'). Where a charity's annual income is over £25,000, the trustees must also arrange for an independent person or accountancy firm to carry out either an audit or an independent examination of their charity's accounts. This is also a requirement of the Society's constitution.

You have requested that I perform an independent examination of the Society's accounts. I confirm that I am independent and that I am not aware of any conflict of interest which might prevent me from giving an independent view.

For consistency with previous years, I have followed the all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and present my report in the appropriate format.

An examination includes a review of the account records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and the seeking of explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether these statements present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do 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.

Laura Gibbs 15th Sept 2025

Owlacombe House, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6LG

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.

I note that HMRC published updated guidance on internal financial controls for charities in November 2024 and I would recommend the Society review these guidelines against current practice if you have not already done so.

Laura Gibbs

15th September 2025

Laura Gibbs
Owlacombe House, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6LG

15th Sept 2025

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1057791

Accounts

Amersham & Chesham Bois Choral Society

Treasurer's Report to the Members for the year to 31st May 2024

It has been an action-packed year! There have been no fewer than five concerts, not to mention a fund-raising quiz evening and the production of a recipe book.

The finale of our season of Summer Singing accounted for the first of the concerts. That was followed by a carol concert and we held our usual mini concert in February. The latter was self-financing, achieving a surplus of £350. We increased the ticket price of our main concerts from £16 to £20. This helped to defray the substantial costs involved. The Josephine Baker Trust continued to provide their welcome support of the soloists who participate in them and a generous contribution of £1,600 from the Kushner Memorial Fund towards the Brahms concert was greatly appreciated.

It was decided to hold a quiz evening at the Free Church to raise funds. It proved very worthwhile. After all costs, including fish & chips from over the road, and some jolly good raffle prizes, it made £1,615. That was the bright idea of Jane Towers and, meanwhile, Liz Wager was compiling a recipe book. The first batch off the press was soon snapped up and added a further batch acquired. They have added £300 to the bank balance so far, with more to come.

With Summer Singing increasing the subscriptions on which we can claim Gift Aid, we benefitted in that respect and Amchor's staunch Friends have played their valuable part, too. You will not be surprised to learn that, for the first time in my memory (although you may know better!) we have ended the year with a surplus. (£931.) It's great that all the hard work by Amchor's members and the rest of the Amchor team has reaped a dividend.

As summer singing is to form part of the basic annual subscription in future, I would like to propose that we change our accounting date from 31st May to 31st July from now on so that all costs covered by a year's subscription are accounted for in that year.

To meet both the requirements of the Charity Commission (as our gross income exceeds £25,000) and in line with Amchor's constitution, I am very grateful to Laura Gibbs for scrutinising the accounts once again.

I commend this report to members.

Elizabeth Pooley
Honorary Treasurer, on behalf of the Trustees
July 2024

Registered Charity No. 1057791

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31st MAY 2024

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS OR THE YEAR TO 31st MAY 2024

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Year to 31st May 2024			Year to 31st May 2	
	Unrestricted Fund		Designated Fund	Unrestricted Fund	
	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary Income					
Members' Subscriptions	12,719			8,185	
Income Tax repayments	1,840			1,505	
Friends of Amchor Donations	470			420	
Other Donations	-	15,029		-	10,110
Investment Income					
Skipton Building Society Interest	750			150	
Buckinghamshire Buolding Society Interest	245	995		85	235
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Sale of Tickets & Programmes (Note 5)	10,831			7,819	
Josephine Baker Trust Grants	660			330	
Kushner Memorial Fund	1,600			-	
Sale and hire of choral music	2,120			1,187	
Quiz Evening	2,277			-	
Recipe Books	587			-	
Staging Hire to Woburn Singers	-	18,075		250	9,586
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**34,099**			**19,931**
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable activities					
Concerts and carols	15,383			13,401	
Stage storage	540			540	
Hire of rehearsal halls	4,243			3,635	
Conductor/Accompanist	8,505			6,048	
Purchase and hire of choral music	2,082			787	
Subscriptions/Insurance	419			390	
Bank charges	137			139	
Quiz Evening	662			-	
Recipe Books	273			-	
Friends administration	18	32,262		-	24,940
Other resources expended					
Folders	-			0	
Gifts and sundries	339			427	
Website	567	906		14	441
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**33,168**			**25,381**
Surplus/Deficit for the year		**931**			**-5,450**

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Funds	Unrestricted Fund
	£	£	£
Accumulated Funds brought forward	22,752	20,480	28,202
Deficit/Surplus for the year	931	-	-5,450
Fund Balances carried forward	23,683	20,480	22,752

The Notes on Page 3 form part of these accounts

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31st MAY 2024

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	31st May 2024 £	31st May 2024 £	31st May 2023 £	31st May 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Staging	2		1		1
CURRENT ASSETS					
HSBC Current Account		5,743		5,182	
Buckinghamshire Building Society Account		7,824		9,579	
Skipton Building Society Account		30,000		30,000	
Stock of Recipe Books		165		-	
Debtors and prepayments		3,330		330	
		47,062		45,091	
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	4	2,900		1,860	
Net Current Assets			44,162		43,231
Net Assets			44,163		43,232
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Designated	6		20,480		20,480
Unrestricted			23,683		22,752
			44,163		43,232

Jane Towers, Chair
For and on behalf of the Committee

Elizabeth Pooley, Honorary

The Notes on Page 3 form part of these accounts.

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM BOIS CHORAL SOCIETY
Notes to the Accounts for the Year to 31st May 2023

1 Accounting Policies

In preparing the accounts the following policies have been complied with:

a) The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) and with the Charities Act 2011 and they have been subjected to independent scrutiny as required by the Charity Commission.

b) Income and expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis.

c) Depreciation on staging is charged on a straight line basis over 10 years.

d) The Trustees have set funds aside in a designated fund for the possible need to repair and replace the staging.

2. Fixed Assets - Staging

Cost brought foward	13,736
Depreciation	13,735
Net Book Value at 31st May 2024	1
Net Book Value at 31st May 2023	1

3. Remuneration of Trustees and Independent Examiner

There were no fees or expenses pisd to the Trustees or to the Independent Examiner this year or last year.

	31.5.2024	31.5.2023
4. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Accrued liabilities	50	-
Deferred income	2,850	1,860
	2,900	1,860

5 Income from Concerts	Year to 31st May 2024		Year to 31st May 2023	
Sale of tickets and programmes				
Summer Singing Concert 2023	680		-	
December (Brahms)	3,349		3,868	
Carol Concert	706		-	
February - Mini Concert	1,325		1,401	
May (Carmina Burana)	4,771	10,831	2,550	7,819
Grants				
Josephine Baker Trust	660		330	
Kushner Memorial Fund	1,600	2,260	-	330
		13,081		8,149
Related costs		16,827		13,401

6. Designated Funds	Staging	Newhouse Bequest	Total
Opening Fund	19,230	1,250	20,480
Closing Fund (no transfers made)	19,230	1,250	20,480

023 Designated Fund £	Designated Funds £
	20,480
	-
	20,480

y Treasurer

July 2024

Independent examiner's Report to the Trustees of Amersham and Chesham Bois Choral Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Amersham and Chesham Bois Choral Society for the year ended 31st May 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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'). You consider that an independent examination as laid out under section 145 of the Act is not required for the financial year 2023-2024 (below threshold limit) but note that external scrutiny is a requirement of the Trust's constitution.

For consistency with previous years, I have followed the all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and present my report in the appropriate format as if an independent examination were required.

An examination includes a review of the account records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and the seeking of explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether these statements present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do 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.

Laura Gibbs 8th July 2024

20 Hollow Way Lane, Amersham, Bucks, HP6 6DJ