

The Cotswold Male Voice Choir

Registered Charity Number: 1086232

Trustees Annual Report

For 1st January to 31st December 2024

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- “The objectives of the Choir shall be to practice, promote and study music in order to foster public knowledge and appreciation of music by means of public performance.”
- The “Rules and Constitution” state that it shall be non-political and non-sectarian

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Membership

The Choir is open to all men who can learn to sing in harmony and can commit to regular rehearsals in order to participate in public performances. In 2024 the choir’s membership increased again to nearly 60. The membership age range is typically 50+ to 90+ years. The camaraderie between members and the mutual support given to each other is exceptional and reflected in long-term friendships and mental well-being, as well as the other widely understood health benefits that derive from singing.

Public Performances

The choir fulfils its charitable objectives by performing in public at a wide variety of events and locations throughout Gloucestershire and its surrounding area. It seeks to reach the broadest audience by arranging public concerts, accepting private event and family bookings and singing informally in many locations.

The sheer diversity of events held in 2024 fully illustrates this commitment to public performance and reaching out to all sectors of the community.

The choir’s performances began and ended with singing at a wedding. The bride from the latter then shared a video of the choir singing “All You Need Is Love” on Tik Tok. Within a very short time it had been viewed 7,000 times.

In contrast, the choir brought solace and fond memories to the family of a former member by singing at his funeral. We also brought joy in song at a celebration of life for a terminally ill grandmother and her family whilst, at a care home, we helped celebrate the 100th birthday of a resident.

At a public concert in Cheltenham, we were joined by the Polperro Fishermen’s Choir from Cornwall and raised funds for the homeless; in Gloucester we sang for the Womens’ Institute in a public concert. In Berkeley we sang in the open air at a festival celebrating the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Sharpness docks and later in the year we gave a performance at a Remembrance Day concert. In Leckhampton we sang with the children of a primary school in our joint Christmas concert.

In the summer (at their own cost) members arranged a tour of the Cotswold villages of Toddington, Ford, Guiting Power and Stow-On-The-Wold, bringing the choir’s sound to these smaller communities.

2024 was the 75th anniversary of the choir’s founding. At a packed gala concert in Tewkesbury Abbey, we were joined by the Pendyrus Male Voice Choir from Wales and raised funds for the Tewkesbury Mayor’s charity and the Roses Theatre trust.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Bankers

- Lloyds Bank, 130 High Street, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1EW

Financial Overview of 2024

The operating income of the choir derives from membership subscriptions, donations to choir funds, the net proceeds from public performances, concerts or private bookings and other fund-raising activities as well as Gift Aid derived from donations and membership subscriptions. The gross income of the choir incorporates receipts from members for social activities such as an annual dinner or tour accommodation which are offset by balancing expenditure on those activities.

- In 2024 the total income received was £31,817.76

The choir uses the income from its activities to fund its operational outgoings and to support other worthy causes.

- In 2024 the total expenditure was £26,844.54

The main operational costs for the choir were the employment of its professional music team, hire of its rehearsal venue and the purchase of music scores. Fees for the Music Team were £7,220.00 and venue hire was £2,216.64. In addition, it made donations totalling £790.00 to local charities including: The Saturday Kitchen (for the homeless in Cheltenham); The Roses Theatre Trust and The Tewkesbury Mayor's charity.

An exceptional item of expenditure in 2024 was the purchase of a new uniform for all choir members which will, henceforward, be provided free of charge to new members by the choir. The purpose of this was to modernise the public image of the choir in public performances. The additional purpose was to lower the financial cost of joining the choir to new members and hence broaden its appeal. The cost incurred in 2024 was £3,417.00.

There were no outstanding debts or guarantees made by the choir as at 31/12/2024.

- For 2024 the choir's Annual Income and Expenditure accounts show a surplus of £4,973.22.

That compares to a deficit of £ -706.26 in 2023; an excess of £194.14 in 2022; £2,237.77 in 2021, £3,932.48 in 2020; £2,039.96 in 2019; and a deficit of - £1,560.64 in 2018.

The surplus for 2024 largely reflects several pre-payments by members which will affect expenditure in 2025. For example, £1,700.00 in members deposits for the 2025 tour to Wales and £960.00 in members subscriptions received in December 2024 for the 2025 annual membership fee.

The total end-of-year funds held in the choir's bank accounts and petty cash was £15,198.57.

None of these funds are subject to any restrictions regarding their use and they are available for the general purposes of the choir.

During the period there were no related party transactions requiring disclosure.

The financial policy followed by the trustees is to retain sufficient funds in its bank accounts so as to ensure the continuance and operational viability of the choir. To that end it retains funds which will support up to a year's direct operational costs. It has minimal fixed costs: rehearsal venue hire is booked on a quarterly basis and its music team are paid by session delivered, monthly in arrears. Since the bulk of members' annual subscriptions are received in January and February of the financial year, it is cash positive for the bulk of the year.

Consequently, the trustees remain confident of the on-going financial viability of the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document

- The charity's Governing Document is the "Rules and Constitution" of the choir as amended in July 2010. The objectives of the Choir shall be "to practice, promote and study music in order to foster public knowledge and appreciation of music by means of public performance". The "Rules and Constitution" state that it shall be non-political and non-sectarian

How is the charity constituted?

- The charity is unincorporated

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered name

- The Registered name of the charity is "The Cotswold Male Voice Choir".

Charity Number

- Charity registration number: 1086232

Registered Address

- The charity's registered address is that of the Secretary:

Anthony Southey
1 Bluebell Road, Walton Cardiff
Tewkesbury
Gloucestershire
GL20 7FE

NAMES OF THE CHARITY TRUSTEES WHO MANAGE THE CHARITY

Trustee name and Office.

- The Trustees of the choir are those officers who are legally responsible, namely the "Executive Officers" of the choir. During 2024 the Executive Officers were:
 - Richard Bennett, Chairman. Resigned 20th March 2024
 - John McDonnell, Treasurer. Resigned 20th March 2024
 - Roy Hemming, Chairman. Appointed 20th March 2024
 - Anthony Southey, Secretary. Appointed 20th March 2024
 - John Cooper, Treasurer. Appointed 20th March 2024

Name of persons (or body) entitled to appoint trustees

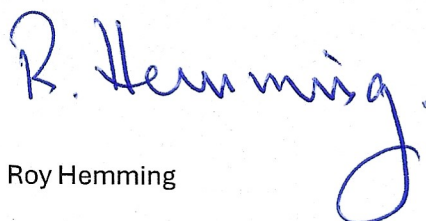
- The Executive Officers of the Choir, who are the governing body ultimately responsible for the Choir's affairs including dissolution, shall consist of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected by the members at an Annual or Special General Meeting.
- The Executive Officers and the Committee of the Choir shall be elected by a majority of the members voting by ballot, if necessary, at the Annual General Meeting, or a properly called Special General Meeting. Executive Officers shall be elected for a period of 2 years and other members of the Committee shall serve for a period of 1 year, all of whom shall be eligible for re-election

DECLARATIONS

- The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Full name

Roy Hemming

Position

Trustee and Chairman of the Cotswold Male Voice Choir

Date

7th May 2025.

The Cotswold Male Voice Choir

Registered Charity Number: 1086232

Receipts & Payment Accounts

For 1st January to 31st December 2024

The Cotswold Male Voice Choir

Registered Charity Number: 1086232

RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNTS

For 1st January to 31st December 2024

Prepared by: John Cooper, Treasurer
John McDonnell, Past Treasurer
Date: 24th March 2025

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INCOME

Cotswold Male Voice Choir

Receipts & Payments Account - Year Ended 31st December 2024

INCOME

	2024	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Subscriptions	6980.00	5021.00	3992.50
Concerts & Public Events	9225.11	5042.63	4844.11
Weddings & Family Events	587.50	962.50	0.00
Advertising & Sponsorship	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Events	6070.87	2431.20	2213.00
Donations	1554.80	322.04	3529.41
Raffles	4265.44	3601.89	3359.47
Uniform	96.50	317.10	492.50
Bank Interest Received	176.71	123.80	6.79
CD Sales & Other Income	0.00	0.00	100.00
Sundry	-83.37	0.88	3.00
Tour Income	1700.00	7899.00	8460.00
Gift Aid	1244.20	1789.70	841.63
Total Income	31817.76	27511.74	27842.41

Notes on Income:

- Average membership was approximately 55 through the year but subscriptions are higher than expected because 9 members paid their 2025 fees in December 2024.
- The total received from concerts and other events was £9,225.11 compared to £6,004.86 in 2023, £4,844 in 2022 and £0.00 in 2021.
- Donations include the retiring collections at St. Matthew's and Tewkesbury Abbey and the retirement collection for our MD, Charmaine Worrall.
- Gift Aid derives from the 2023 subscriptions.
- Rehearsal Raffle Tickets (attendance donation). Net income after costs £3,682.40

PAYMENTS

Receipts & Payments Account - Year Ended 31st December 2024

PAYMENTS

	2024	2023	2022
	£	£	£
Rent (PMH)	2216.64	2133.18	1923.28
Music Director	4200.00	4350.00	4140.00
Accompanist	3020.00	3185.00	3197.00
Concert Expenses	5288.83	925.10	850.07
Donations	1488.77	1550.00	1286.30
Social Events	4662.43	2988.23	1994.60
Sheet Music	363.27	44.40	555.57
Raffle Expenses	583.04	611.02	630.40
Website & Email	1239.56	239.00	240.00
Stationery	0.00	0.00	0.00
PRS	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uniform	3417.00	635.40	1358.88
Sundry Expenses	18.00	352.19	875.57
NAC & Insurance	94.00	147.08	142.60
Tour Costs	200.00	11049.00	10454.00
Other	53.00	21.76	0.00
Total Payments	26844.54	28231.36	27648.27

Notes on Expenditure:

- Donations include £400 to The Saturday Kitchen and £195.00 each to The Roses Theatre Trust and the Tewkesbury Mayor's Charity plus the retirement donations and gifts to Charmaine Worrall.
- The Uniform expenditure includes the bulk of the new uniform costs.
- After the new build costs, future website costs will revert to maintenance levels.
- Social Events are self-funding and costs are offset by members event payments.

CHOIR INCOME V EXPENDITURE

Income v Expenditure	2024	2023	2022
	£	£	£
(Deficit)/Excess	<u>4973.22</u>	<u>-719.62</u>	<u>194.14</u>

BANK BALANCING STATEMENTS

Bank Balancing Statements		2024		2023		2022
Bank balances as per statement	31/12/2023	15160.24	31/12/2022	15873.35	31/12/2021	15660.12
Bank balances as per statement	31/12/2024	20137.59	31/12/2023	15160.24	31/12/2022	15873.35
Bank balance change		<u>4977.35</u>		<u>-713.11</u>		<u>213.23</u>
Petty Cash balance B/fwd	31/12/2023	38.33	31/12/2022	44.84	31/12/2021	50.57
Petty Cash balance C/fwd	31/12/2024	34.20	31/12/2023	38.33	31/12/2022	31.48
Net Petty Cash balance change		<u>-4.13</u>		<u>-6.51</u>		<u>-19.09</u>
Total Bank + Petty Cash Change		<u>4973.22</u>		<u>-719.62</u>		<u>194.14</u>
Total Bank & Petty Cash balances		<u>20171.79</u>		<u>15198.57</u>		<u>15904.83</u>

Balance Sheet

For 1st January to 31st December 2024

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT THE END OF THE PERIOD

- All funds are unrestricted.

Cash Funds

Cash Funds	Bank BFWD			Bank CFWD	
	£ 01/01/24	£ Debits	£ Credits	31/12/24	£ Change
Treasurers Current AC	1,525.97	32,074.62	36,375.26	5,826.61	4,300.64
Bus Bank Inst Account	10,936.95	4,500.00	5,144.59	11,581.54	644.59
BB Inst Account	2,697.32	0.00	32.12	2,729.44	32.12
Petty Cash / Cash at hand	38.33			34.20	-4.13
Totals	15,198.57	36,574.62	41,551.97	20,171.79	4,973.22

Change in Finances

Bank Transaction Balance	Change in Bank Balances	4,977.35
Petty Cash Balance change	Change in Petty Cash Balance	-4.13
Net Change in Finances	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	4,973.22

Investments

- The choir has no financial investments

Other Assets

- The choir has no assets with a financial value

Liabilities

- The choir has no financial liabilities.

Balance Sheet Notes

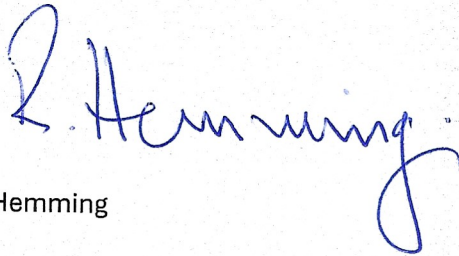
- The choir purchases copyrighted sheet music as required every year. (£363 in 2024) but since this no resale value it is written-off upon purchase and not carried forward as an asset.
- Similarly, low value miscellaneous items or sound equipment is written-off upon purchase.
- The last capital expenditure was the electric piano, which was purchased over 10 years ago and hence has also been written off.

DECLARATIONS

- The trustees declare that they have approved the Receipts and Payment Accounts for 2024 reported above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Full name

Roy Hemming

Position

Trustee and Chairman of the Cotswold Male Voice Choir

Date

7th May 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

THE COTSWOLD MALE VOICE CHOIR

On accounts for the year
ended

31st DECEMBER 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1086232

Set out on pages

1 - 7

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

A.M. Waller

Date:

10.4.25

Name:

A.M. WALLER

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

29 SANDY LAKE

CHELTENHAM

GL50 6LS GL53 9DF

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.