



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From Period Start Date: 1st August 2023 To Period End Date: 31st July 2024

Charity name: Southern Voices

Charity registration number: 1086868

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the Choir shall be to educate the public in the arts and sciences, and in particular the art and science of choral music in all its aspects, by the presentation of concerts and recitals, and in such other ways as the Choir through its Executive Committee shall determine from time to time.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Southern Voices chamber choir performed the following concerts in the period:</p> <p>11th November 2023, St Paul's Church, Winchester – 'Music for Remembrancetide', featuring the Durufle <i>Requiem</i> alongside works by Finzi, Tavener and Part</p> <p>16th December 2023, Chapel of St. Cross, Winchester – 'Christmas with Southern Voices'</p> <p>23rd March 2024, Chapel of St. Cross, Winchester – 'Spem in alium', featuring Tallis' 40-part motet alongside music by Byrd, Clemens non Papa, Gorecki, Whitacre and Paulus</p> <p>4th May 2024, St Paul's Church, Winchester – 'Come & Sing! With Southern Voices', including the Chilcott <i>Little Jazz Madrigals</i> and music for the English Choral tradition by Elgar, Wood and Finzi</p> <p>13th July 2024, St Paul's Church, Winchester – 'Gala concert', with the Bach <i>Magnificat</i> and Vivaldi <i>Gloria</i></p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Commission on public benefit		
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The 2023-2024 year was a highly successful year for Southern Voices, during which we delivered on our charitable objectives through the promotion of several sell-out concerts, bringing a wide range of music both new and familiar, from the 16th to the 21st centuries, to an audience from Winchester and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>The year began with 'Music for Remembrancetide' in November 2023, where we were joined, in a moving programme, by cellist Nicola Heinrich, mezzo-soprano Claire Sutton-Williams, and organist Gavin Roberts, who used the remarkable technology of the Hauptwerk Organ, particularly effective in the <i>Requiem</i> by Durufle.</p> <p>Our Christmas concert of carols for choir and audience was as popular as ever, and this year we were delighted to be able to use the concert to raise c.£500 for composer Jamie Hall's 'Choirs against cancer' project on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Care, with Jamie's carol <i>O nata lux</i> being well received alongside many perennial favourites.</p> <p>2024 was the 40th Anniversary of the founding of Southern Voices, and saw the choir successfully promote our activities through a major 'SV40' programme to celebrate the anniversary. This integrated theme for the season was supported through a significant enhancement to our branding, publicity and online presence, enabling us to bring our activities to an even greater audience.</p> <p>The first of our SV40 events brought together past as well as current members of the choir to perform Tallis' remarkable <i>Spem in alium</i>, with the 40-part motet mirroring the year's theme. The audience appreciated the extraordinary opportunity to hear this piece live, alongside other works from the 16th and 20th Centuries.</p> <p>This was followed in May with a 'Come & Sing!' event, focusing on the English Choral tradition over the last 120 years. We were delighted to welcome many additional</p>

		<p>singers to this event, further supporting our charitable aims of engaging with as wide a group of people in the community as possible.</p> <p>The culmination of our SV40 season was our 'Gala concert' and reception in July, where we were thrilled to be joined by the instrumentalists of Endelienta Baroque and five wonderful vocal soloists for a celebratory programme featuring the Bach <i>Magnificat</i> and Vivaldi <i>Gloria</i>.</p> <p>This joyful occasion also saw the launch of our new Choral Scholars and Friends schemes, both of which we take forward into 2024-2025 with excitement for the next stages of Southern Voices' development.</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The income for the year was £38,914 (Prior year: £14,310), and expenditure was £26,358 (Prior year: £15,215), resulting in an increase in funds for the year of £12,556 (Prior year: loss of £905). The primary increase in income came from donations and increased ticket sales, relating to the SV40 programme discussed above. The primary increase in costs incurred related to the additional artists' fees incurred, including the orchestra for the July concert.</p> <p>Cash funds at the year end were £23,641 (Prior year: £11,085), including £1,808 Restricted Funds.</p> <p>The Trustees are satisfied with the financial position at the end of the year, noting that as the charity adopts the receipts and payments basis of accounting, the cash funds include donations received in the year to be utilised on ongoing SV40 activities later in 2024.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>The reserves policy is as follows. The minimum amount designated as the Operating Reserve will enable the choir to maintain ongoing operations and programmes for a period of 9 months, and the maximum amount as recommended by the Charity Commission should not exceed two years' expenses.</p> <p>This enables the charity to continue its activities in line with its ongoing plans.</p>

Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£23,641(Prior year: £11,085), including £1,808 Restricted Funds (Prior year: £Nil).
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document - Constitution	Para 1.25	Constitution, last updated October 2024
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions i.e. election to post	Para 1.25	Trustees are elected by the membership annually

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Southern Voices
Registered charity number	1086868
Charity's principal address	Elm Cottage, Nether Wallop, Stockbridge, Hampshire SO20 8HA

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	Alison Spottiswoode	Chair	From 9 October 2023	
2	Brenda Sims		From 7 December 2023	
3	Sarah Cooney	Treasurer	From 9 October 2023	
4	Tobias Wright		From 9 October 2023	
5	David Reece		Whole year	
6	Charles Lawrie		Whole year	
7	Michelle Harden		To 9 October 2023	
8	Debbie Bowie	Chair	To 9 October 2023	
9	Anne Edwards	Secretary	To 14 October 2024	
10	Ashton Gray	Treasurer	To 9 October 2023	

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	A. Spottiswoode	
Full name(s)	Alison Spottiswoode	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	12 th March 2025	

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period
from

01/08/2023

To

31/07/2024

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 £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket & programme sales	13,627	-	-	13,627	6,124
Choir member subscriptions	6,475	-	-	6,475	4,230
Donations	11,983	1,808	-	13,791	1,250
Gift Aid	2,584	-	-	2,584	938
Choir member music hire	1,121	-	-	1,121	902
Non-concert choir performances	-	-	-	-	600
Concert bar income	1,127	-	-	1,127	187
Bank interest	97	-	-	97	43
Library income	92	-	-	92	36
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	37,106	1,808	-	38,914	14,310
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	37,106	1,808	-	38,914	14,310
A3 Payments					
Conductor rehearsal fees	3,900	-	-	3,900	3,630
Rehearsal room hire	1,803	-	-	1,803	2,100
Concert music hire	1,334	-	-	1,334	1,273
Concert venue hire	2,316	-	-	2,316	1,214
Conductor concert fees	2,000	-	-	2,000	1,200
Concert publicity printing	983	-	-	983	1,138
Concert artists' fees / orchestra	8,048	-	-	8,048	1,050
Miscellaneous / admin	648	-	-	648	835
Organ / piano hire & tuning	-	-	-	-	600
Expenses	1,157	-	-	1,157	560
Concert programmes printing	839	-	-	839	348
Making Music Membership & Insurance	350	-	-	350	317
Concert refreshments / flowers	2,692	-	-	2,692	300
General advertising	56	-	-	56	275
Non-concert choir performance costs	-	-	-	-	200
Performers' Rights Society fees	118	-	-	118	118
Box office deductions	72	-	-	72	36
Alcohol licence for concerts	42	-	-	42	21
Sub total	26,358	-	-	26,358	15,215
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	26,358	-	-	26,358	15,215
Net of receipts/(payments)	10,748	1,808	-	12,556	905
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	11,085	-	-	11,085	11,990
Cash funds this year end	21,833	1,808	-	23,641	11,085

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

Categories

B1 Cash funds

Details

Co-operative Bank Current Account
Bath Building Society Savings Account

Total cash funds

Unrestricted funds
to nearest £

6,833
15,000
-
21,833

Restricted funds
to nearest £

1,808
-
-
1,808

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details

Unrestricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Restricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

B3 Investment assets

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

B5 Liabilities

Details

Fund to which liability relates

Amount due (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

When due (optional)

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

A Spottiswoode

Print Name

ALISON SPOTTISWOODE

Date of approval

12/03/2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
to the TRUSTEES of SOUTHERN VOICES
Charity number: 1086868

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Southern Voices (the Trust) for the year ended 31st July 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 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:

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.

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: 

Name: Victoria Williams

Address: Ham Green Cottage, Sparsholt, Winchester SO21 2PA

Date: 13th March 2025