

# CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1099094

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Charitable company

**Company number** [04793760](#)

**Registered** 2003-08-21

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

## Contact

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**Address** 77 Mill Lane  
Upton  
Chester  
CH2 1BS

**Phone** 01244380291

**Email** [info@chestermusicsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@chestermusicsociety.org.uk)

**Website** [www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO PROVIDE, MAINTAIN, IMPROVE AND ADVANCE EDUCATION BY FURTHERING THE PUBLIC APPRECIATION OF MUSIC.

**Activities:** Chester Music Society is a community-based organisation that has promoted and performed live classical music in Chester since 1946. We present more than 20 musical events in the City over the year, and people can both come and hear as well as participate in our concerts.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED. IN PRACTICE CHESHIRE
- Cheshire West & Chester

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£86,748	£88,853	-	-
2024-07-31	£99,920	£92,755	-	-
2023-07-31	£90,357	£89,761	-	-
2022-07-31	£84,533	£67,009	-	-
2021-07-31	£5,069	£8,400	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr DAVID JOHN TAYLOR		
Janet Elizabeth Lea		2025-01-22
John Richard Ferrari		2021-05-20
Joseph Jonathan Penn		2019-09-18
MICHAEL CLARKE		2013-04-04
Penelope Fay Clarke		2017-02-22
SUSAN MARGARET TAYLOR		2016-12-06
Susan Jane RUSSELL		2019-12-04
Yvonne Preece		2026-01-21

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1099094

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04793760 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1099094

Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2025  
for  
Chester Music Society

Johnstone Howell & Co  
Unit 2  
The Oaks  
Stanney Mill Lane  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH2 4HY

Chester Music Society

Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

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Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The charity's objects are to provide, maintain, improve and advance education by furthering public appreciation of music.

The charity aims to play a significant part in the on-going cultural life of Chester and its environs as one of the leading arts organisations in the area. It provides a varied programme of predominantly classical music that would not otherwise be provided by commercial organisations and contributes to the area's cultural richness.

The charity is organised into three sections:

- Showcase Concerts provide a platform for local amateur and semi-professional performers from the Chester and neighbouring areas. Opportunities for performance experience are also given to local schools and colleges.
- The Choir: provides musical participation for up to 150 adults of all ages and performs high quality concerts using amateur and professional musicians from the Chester area and beyond.
- Celebrity Concerts bring national and international professional chamber music artists to our Chester audience.
- The charity organises a Young Musician of the Year competition. This provides a platform for local young artists up to the age of 18 to compete and perform in public. In some cases, bursaries may be awarded to help promising young artists further their music career or their musical education.

The charity takes a leading role in the promotion of musical life in Chester and in cultural initiatives provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Public benefit**

The trustees have full regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The charity's aims and activities fulfil the public benefit requirement of the Charities Act 2011. Its charitable purposes are concerned with the advancement of education and the advancement of musical culture. They also contribute to the advancement of citizenship and community development through the opportunities offered to all age groups to hear, participate in, and organise a varied range of musical events. The charity's beneficiaries are all those in the Chester region and elsewhere who wish to experience its activities as audiences, performers and members.

Ticket prices and subscriptions are set to achieve break even against operating cost and expenses as far as is possible. Discounted tickets and subscriptions are offered to unemployed people, people with disabilities, school children and students.

The society takes a robust and systematic approach to assessing and managing risk. The risk register identifies possible risks to the society and is reviewed on a regular basis. Any new risks that have arisen and any ongoing risks already identified are discussed and acted upon where possible at each board meeting. The main risks that the society identified in the current period are the failure to recover membership post the pandemic with consequent loss of income and potential ongoing viability of all sections of the society in their current form. The society has identified mitigation plans to deal with these issues.

A comprehensive range of policies exist for implementation by the board of trustees and the wider society membership. These are reviewed on a regular basis and include the following topics:

- GDPR
- Financial reserves
- Investment
- Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- Health and Safety
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Conflicts of interest
- Risk management

New trustees are usually recruited following a period as members of section committees and in some cases are co-opted prior to appointment. This ensures, alongside the induction programme that new trustees are aware of their responsibilities.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

2024-25 was generally a successful year despite some setbacks with lower audience numbers. A positive result was achieved with a successful school's workshop being held, the first for several years. All sections remained financially viable.

A successful and enjoyable string workshop was held in April at Abbeygate College. There were 36 participants playing together in various chamber groups with guidance from experienced tutors.

The Young Musicians Competition was again held at Abbeygate College in November, with reasonable level of entries across a wide range of instruments and ages. The category winners and overall winner performed in a Showcase Concert for the winners in the following January. This was well attended and appreciated by the audience.

### **The Choir section**

Four choral concerts were held during the year, in November, December, March and May.

The section continued to face challenges relating to declining membership numbers during the year. There was a decrease in membership from 130 to 126 and consequently fewer concert tickets were sold. It is apparent that ticket sales for the three non-Christmas concerts are proportional to membership numbers. The choir also had to contend with the staging contractor going into administration in Autumn 2024. This resulted in us needing to find a new storage company and a separate erection company which we managed by Spring 2025. Thus, we could not use our staging for the first two concerts of the year and had to use lower tiered but cheaper staging provided by the Cathedral. We were able to use our own staging for the final two concerts but the hourly erection costs increased with the new company. However, overall, due to not using our own staging for two concerts, our yearly staging costs were lower than budgeted. This reduction in expenditure on staging, together with several fund-raising initiatives (identified in the previous season) that were put in place, enabled the choir to stay well within budget.

In summary, the 24-25 season has been one of maintaining our concert offering whilst off-setting rising costs and declining income through fund-raising activities. These activities will continue into the next season along with a specific initiative aimed at increasing membership numbers.

### **The Celebrity Concert section**

There were six excellent concerts starting on the 12 October 2024 and concluding on 12 March 2025. With continued uncertainty of audience numbers, a cautious approach was again taken. There were 60 subscribers, down from 70 the previous year.

Individual concert tickets were available to non-subscribers with varying results. Three concerts produced good audiences of over 130, but the other three remained quite low at less than a 100 each. The total door sales for the six concerts were 254 which averaged out at just over 42 per concert. The overall financial situation for the section remained solid despite the decrease in subscriber numbers. More individual concert ticket sales were noted for the season.

This year saw the return of a Schools Workshop event which took place on 5 February 2025 at the Arches School, Blacon, working with children in years 3, 4 and 5. The artists were Flat Pack Opera including Heather Heighway and Joe Buckmaster. This proved highly successful with the children and the teaching staff. The head teacher described the afternoon as amazing.

A strategic review was carried out by the committee looking various ways we might attract more audience and interest in committee work. This was in line with a strategic review carried out by the CMS board of trustees. To this end a questionnaire was compiled asking for members views on the Concert section. Results of the questionnaire were not available at the time of this report.

### **The Showcase section**

A series of 4 concerts were held in the 2024-25 season which at St Mary's Creative Space, Chester. This season 19 people took up subscriptions, the same as last season. There was a total of 167 visitors who paid at the door, up from 147 last season, despite there being one less concert.

## Chester Music Society

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

The total number of attendees including visitors and subscribers was 215 averaging nearly 54 per concert. This is up slightly from last year's total audience figure of 206. The YM winners and Chester Community Orchestra brought in good audiences which boosted overall attendance levels.

All the concerts were of a very good standard.

#### **General**

CMS activities aim to enrich the experience of participants and contribute to the society's goal of "furthering the public appreciation of music". The board of trustees owes its volunteers a large debt of thanks and would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the many people who contribute to the success of the organisation. The board of trustees are extremely grateful for all the donations and support received during the season across all the sections.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Financial position**

The financial resources held by the society are sufficient to allow it to pursue its prime objective of furthering education and the public appreciation of music.

The Statement of Financial Activities for 2024/25 shows that the total available funds at year end stood at £170,096 with a net positive movement in funds of £2,872 compared with a net positive movement of £16,239 in 2023/24. Net incoming funds of £4,108 led to unrestricted funds of £126,489 compared with £122,381 in 2023/24. Net decrease in funds of £1,236 resulted in restricted funds of £43,607 against £44,843 in 2023/24. The Notes to the Accounts show that within the unrestricted funds three designated funds, totalling £14,217 remained at year end. Restricted funds have four named funds, required to be used for specific named purposes. There are no funds materially in deficit.

Our investments continue to increase in value producing a gain of £4,977 to £79,290 compared to a gain of £9,074 in 2023/24. We have a moderate ability to bear an investment loss. The society does not take into account social, environmental or ethical considerations in its investment policy. The society's tangible fixed assets that could be disposed of to potentially provide resources for future activity are choir staging currently valued at £30,996 and a Steinway piano currently valued at £10,864.

Our annual income comes from subscriptions, donations, legacies, ticket sales, fund raising and investments. Our expenditure is connected with both performing and promoting live concerts and necessary administration. During the last year our planned programmes were all successfully completed.

Throughout this last year regular on-line meetings of the board of trustees and sub-committees continued to ensure proper management of the society and financial matters were regularly monitored and discussed. In particular no restricted funds were used inappropriately.

Overall, the financial position, including the reserves, of the society are such that it is able to plan and run a normal season for 2025/26, whilst being aware that the effects of decreasing audience numbers and increasing production costs require careful monitoring and vigilance in order to react where necessary to changing circumstances and remain financially secure.

Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Reserves policy**

The society continues to set aside sufficient reserves to enable its programme of concerts and events in order to meet the charity's aims.

The society employs no staff, owns no buildings or an ongoing leases and therefore the effect of unplanned closure to beneficiaries is extremely low.

The following considerations are monitored regularly by the board of trustees:

- Some activities are not income bearing or with low income (Young Musician competition and the schools programme) but contribute significantly to the society's overall objectives.
- The age demographic of our audience and membership is on the older side with the potential to see reductions in both audience and membership numbers.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover a significant underperformance on planned membership or audience figures.
- We need to have sufficient reserves to ensure that we are able to manage our cash flow.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover any uninsured catastrophic losses in the year.
- We need to build unrestricted reserves to replace some of the restricted funds that came from a generous gift to the society. As we expand these restricted funds towards the specific activities for which they were donated the increase in unrestricted funds will enable the society to continue those activities for which the funds are designated as they become depleted.

The ongoing assessment and management of risk, prudent management of resources and planning to ensure sufficient reserves ensures that services are maintained. The society aims to hold reserves of about £48,000.

Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**PLANS AND OUTCOMES FOR 2024-25**

- Create a strategic plan for the next three years to define how the future of the society will be maintained.  
OUTCOME: A strategic review was held which identified various courses of action to be pursued over the next few years in order to maintain the viability and relevance of the society.
  
- Provide a range of concerts and events suitable for the prevailing conditions of membership, audience interest and the financial restraints imposed by external factors.  
OUTCOME: This was generally achieved with similar levels of activity as previous years.
  
- Endeavour to attract interest from local schools in our workshops and the possibility of live performance.  
OUTCOME: One highly successful Schools Workshop was held at Arches School, Chester.
  
- Maintain thorough budgeting processes to ensure the society remains solvent.  
OUTCOME: All sections remained in a good financial position against a background of challenges from decreased audience numbers and rising costs.
  
- Continue to search for new committee members.  
OUTCOME: A new board member was recruited during the year, namely Jan Lea.

**Plans for the 2025-26 season**

- Continue to consolidate the findings and actions of the 2024-25 Strategic Review.
  
- Continue to provide a range of concerts and events suitable for the prevailing conditions of membership, audience interest and the financial restraints imposed by external factors.
  
- Consolidate the Celebrity and Showcase sections into a single section to be called Concerts.
  
- Endeavour to provide at least two schools workshops.
  
- Continue to search for new committee members.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The board of trustees meets at least five times a year; day to day management of the activities is in the hands of three sectional committees. Any funds surplus to requirements are held in interest bearing deposit accounts or recommended investments which are reviewed on a regular basis.

One third of the trustees who are subject to retirement by rotation are elected annually at the company's Annual General Meeting. All board members are volunteers and unpaid. There is a simple vetting procedure for new board members, and they are subject to a short induction process.

The charity is a member of Making Music, the UK's foremost umbrella group for amateur music. This assists with technical and developmental aspects of the charity's activities.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**  
04793760 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**  
1099094

**Registered office**  
Unit 2  
The Oaks  
Stanney Mill Lane  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH2 4HY

Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**Trustees**

M Clarke Chairman  
Mrs P F Clarke Vice chairman  
Mrs S J Russell Secretary  
Dr D J Taylor Treasurer  
Dr S M Taylor Assistant treasurer  
Dr J L Wishlade Publicity, co-opted (resigned 22/1/25)  
J R Ferrari  
J J Penn  
Dr E B Ranby  
Ms J E Lea (appointed 22/1/25)

**Company Secretary**

Mrs S J Russell

**Independent Examiner**

Mr A M Bagnall FCA  
Johnstone Howell & Co  
Unit 2  
The Oaks  
Stanney Mill Lane  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH2 4HY

**FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN FOR OTHERS**

The charity does not hold funds on behalf of any other charity.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 15 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



M Clarke - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Chester Music Society

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Chester Music Society ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Mr A M Bagnall FCA  
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Johnstone Howell & Co  
Unit 2  
The Oaks  
Stanney Mill Lane  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH2 4HY

15 December 2025

Chester Music Society

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		32,558	-	32,558	47,874
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Furthering public appreciation of music		41,556	5	41,561	41,418
Other trading activities	2	11,508	-	11,508	9,786
Investment income	3	857	-	857	842
Other income		264	-	264	-
<b>Total</b>		<u>86,743</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>86,748</u>	<u>99,920</u>
 <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds		2,806	-	2,806	2,949
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Furthering public appreciation of music		79,125	2,857	81,982	85,720
Other		4,065	-	4,065	4,086
<b>Total</b>		<u>85,996</u>	<u>2,857</u>	<u>88,853</u>	<u>92,755</u>
Net gains on investments		<u>3,361</u>	<u>1,616</u>	<u>4,977</u>	<u>9,074</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		4,108	(1,236)	2,872	16,239
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		4,108	(1,236)	2,872	16,239
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		122,381	44,843	167,224	150,985
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>126,489</u></u>	<u><u>43,607</u></u>	<u><u>170,096</u></u>	<u><u>167,224</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Chester Music Society

Balance Sheet  
31 July 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	7	41,859	-	41,859	44,309
Investments	8	53,545	25,745	79,290	74,313
		95,404	25,745	121,149	118,622
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	9	829	-	829	303
Cash at bank		36,661	17,862	54,523	56,304
		37,490	17,862	55,352	56,607
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(6,405)	-	(6,405)	(8,005)
		31,085	17,862	48,947	48,602
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		126,489	43,607	170,096	167,224
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		126,489	43,607	170,096	167,224
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
		126,489	43,607	170,096	167,224
<b>FUNDS</b>					
	11			126,489	122,381
Unrestricted funds				43,607	44,843
Restricted funds				170,096	167,224
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
				170,096	167,224

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 July 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for


- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Chester Music Society

Balance Sheet - continued  
31 July 2025

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 15 December 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



S J Russell - Trustee



D J Taylor - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Staging - 5% on cost  
Piano - 5% on reducing balance

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Investments**

Investments are stated at market value as at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising in the revaluation and disposals of investments during the year. Investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated by comparing previous balance sheet valuation to the year end valuation.

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

<b>2.</b>	<b>OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES</b>	2025	2024
		£	£
	Fundraising activities	6,564	4,426
	Subscriptions (service element )	4,344	4,860
	Sponsorships	600	500
		<u>11,508</u>	<u>9,786</u>

<b>3.</b>	<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>	2025	2024
		£	£
	Deposit account interest	857	842
		<u>857</u>	<u>842</u>

**4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,450	2,480
	<u>2,450</u>	<u>2,480</u>

**5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2025 nor for the year ended 31 July 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2025 nor for the year ended 31 July 2024.

**6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	47,874	-	47,874
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Furthering public appreciation of music	41,413	5	41,418
Other trading activities	9,786	-	9,786
Investment income	842	-	842
<b>Total</b>	<u>99,915</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>99,920</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	2,949	-	2,949
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Furthering public appreciation of music	84,209	1,511	85,720
Other	4,086	-	4,086
<b>Total</b>	<u>91,244</u>	<u>1,511</u>	<u>92,755</u>

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Net gains on investments	6,128	2,946	9,074
<b>NET INCOME</b>	14,799	1,440	16,239
Other recognised gains/(losses)			
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	-	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Net movement in funds	14,799	1,440	16,239
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	107,582	43,403	150,985
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>122,381</u>	<u>44,843</u>	<u>167,224</u>
7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Staging £	Piano £	Totals £
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025	37,554	19,250	56,804
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 August 2024	4,680	7,815	12,495
Charge for year	1,878	572	2,450
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
At 31 July 2025	6,558	8,387	14,945
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 July 2025	<u>30,996</u>	<u>10,863</u>	<u>41,859</u>
At 31 July 2024	<u>32,874</u>	<u>11,435</u>	<u>44,309</u>
8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS			Listed investments £
			<u>          </u>
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>			
At 1 August 2024			74,313
Revaluations			4,977
			<u>          </u>
At 31 July 2025			79,290
			<u>          </u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 July 2025			<u>79,290</u>
At 31 July 2024			<u>74,313</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

Cost or valuation at 31 July 2025 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2022	7,506
Valuation in 2023	(2,268)
Valuation in 2024	9,075
Valuation in 2025	4,977
Cost	60,000
	79,290
	79,290

**9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	80	-
Prepayments	749	303
	829	303
	829	303

**10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	-	100
Accrued expenses	6,405	7,905
	6,405	8,005
	6,405	8,005

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.8.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.7.25
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	111,797	475	112,272
Hallett memorial fund	110	(60)	50
Showcase activities fund	10,474	710	11,184
Choir fundraising fund	-	2,983	2,983
	122,381	4,108	126,489
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Choir trips fund	2,538	(55)	2,483
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	30,837	(614)	30,223
Piano maintenance fund	3,930	29	3,959
Young musicians' fund	7,538	(596)	6,942
	44,843	(1,236)	43,607
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	167,224	2,872	170,096

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	81,790	(84,676)	3,361	475
Hallett memorial fund	-	(60)	-	(60)
Showcase activities fund	1,970	(1,260)	-	710
Choir fundraising fund	2,983	-	-	2,983
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	86,743	(85,996)	3,361	4,108
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Choir trips fund	5	(60)	-	(55)
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	-	(1,697)	1,083	(614)
Piano maintenance fund	-	(100)	129	29
Young musicians' fund	-	(1,000)	404	(596)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	(2,857)	1,616	(1,236)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>86,748</u>	<u>(88,853)</u>	<u>4,977</u>	<u>2,872</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.8.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.7.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	95,961	15,836	111,797
Hallett memorial fund	914	(804)	110
Showcase activities fund	10,707	(233)	10,474
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	107,582	14,799	122,381
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Choir trips fund	2,594	(56)	2,538
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	28,862	1,973	30,835
Piano maintenance fund	4,145	(214)	3,931
Young musicians' fund	7,802	(263)	7,539
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	43,403	1,440	44,843
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>150,985</u>	<u>16,239</u>	<u>167,224</u>

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	98,026	(88,318)	6,128	15,836
Hallett memorial fund	408	(1,212)	-	(804)
Showcase activities fund	1,481	(1,714)	-	(233)
	<u>99,915</u>	<u>(91,244)</u>	<u>6,128</u>	<u>14,799</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Choir trips fund	5	(61)	-	(56)
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	-	-	1,973	1,973
Piano maintenance fund	-	(450)	236	(214)
Young musicians' fund	-	(1,000)	737	(263)
	<u>5</u>	<u>(1,511)</u>	<u>2,946</u>	<u>1,440</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>99,920</u></u>	<u><u>(92,755)</u></u>	<u><u>9,074</u></u>	<u><u>16,239</u></u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.8.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.7.25 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	95,961	16,311	112,272
Hallett memorial fund	914	(864)	50
Showcase activities fund	10,707	477	11,184
Choir fundraising fund	-	2,983	2,983
	<u>107,582</u>	<u>18,907</u>	<u>126,489</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Choir trips fund	2,594	(111)	2,483
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	28,862	1,359	30,221
Piano maintenance fund	4,145	(185)	3,960
Young musicians' fund	7,802	(859)	6,943
	<u>43,403</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>43,607</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>150,985</u></u>	<u><u>19,111</u></u>	<u><u>170,096</u></u>

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	179,816	(172,994)	9,489	16,311
Hallett memorial fund	408	(1,272)	-	(864)
Showcase activities fund	3,451	(2,974)	-	477
Choir fundraising fund	2,983	-	-	2,983
	<u>186,658</u>	<u>(177,240)</u>	<u>9,489</u>	<u>18,907</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Choir trips fund	10	(121)	-	(111)
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	-	(1,697)	3,056	1,359
Piano maintenance fund	-	(550)	365	(185)
Young musicians' fund	-	(2,000)	1,141	(859)
	<u>10</u>	<u>(4,368)</u>	<u>4,562</u>	<u>204</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>186,668</u></u>	<u><u>(181,608)</u></u>	<u><u>14,051</u></u>	<u><u>19,111</u></u>

**Designated funds**

The designated Hallett memorial fund is set aside for use in activities in memory of Geoffrey and Lila Hallett.

The designated Showcase activities fund is set aside for the future stability of the Showcase section.

The new designated Choir fundraising fund is set aside to support the activities of the choir in future years. Any surpluses from choir fundraising activities that are not needed to balance the annual choir income and expenditure contribute to this fund.

**Restricted funds**

The Choir trips fund is restricted to use by the choir on their concert trips.

The restricted Celebrity concerts Baxter fund contains donations restricted for use by the Celebrity Concerts section.

The restricted Piano maintenance fund is to help maintain the quality of the piano used in the Celebrity Concerts series.

The restricted Young musicians' fund is to provide bursaries for outstanding young musicians and to facilitate access to live classical music performance for young people.

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

**12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2025.

Chester Music Society

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	1,464	2,345
Gift aid	5,459	6,161
Legacies	-	11,575
Subscriptions (donation element)	25,635	27,793
	32,558	47,874
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Fundraising activities	6,564	4,426
Subscriptions (service element )	4,344	4,860
Sponsorships	600	500
	11,508	9,786
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	857	842
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Sales of concert tickets and programmes	39,320	39,132
Educational activities	2,241	2,286
	41,561	41,418
<b>Other income</b>		
Other income	264	-
	86,748	99,920
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Fundraising expenses	2,806	2,949
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Hall hire	22,527	27,467
Insurance	889	838
Administration	593	706
Advertising/publicity	2,859	1,090
Artists/accompanists/ conductors	41,935	43,855
Instruments/music	3,377	1,453
Printing/programmes/tickets/ ticket commission	5,784	5,698
Miscellaneous production costs	519	1,684
Educational activities	3,499	2,929
	81,982	85,720
<b>Other</b>		
Other	75	74
Carried forward	75	74

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Chester Music Society

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Other</b>		
Brought forward	75	74
Staging	1,878	1,878
Piano	572	602
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,525	2,554
 <b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Finance</b>		
Bank charges	340	332
 <b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy	1,200	1,200
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	88,853	92,755
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>	<u>(2,105)</u>	<u>7,165</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1099094

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 04793760 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1099094**

Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2024  
for  
Chester Music Society

Johnstone Howell & Co  
104 Whitby Road  
Ellesmere Port  
Cheshire  
CH65 0AB

Chester Music Society

Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

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Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The charity's objects are to provide, maintain, improve and advance education by furthering public appreciation of music.

The charity aims to play a significant part in the on-going cultural life of Chester and its environs as one of the leading arts organisations in the area. It provides a varied programme of predominantly classical music that would not otherwise be provided by commercial organisations and contributes to the area's cultural richness.

The charity is organised into three sections:

- Showcase Concerts provide a platform for local amateur and semi-professional performers from the Chester and neighbouring areas. Opportunities for performance experience are also given to local schools and colleges.
- The Choir: provides musical participation for up to 150 adults of all ages and performs high quality concerts using amateur and professional musicians from the Chester area and beyond.
- Celebrity Concerts bring national and international professional chamber music artists to our Chester audience.
- The charity organises a Young Musician of the Year competition. This provides a platform for local young artists up to the age of 18 to compete and perform in public. In some cases, bursaries may be awarded to help promising young artists further their music career or their musical education.

The charity takes a leading role in the promotion of musical life in Chester and in cultural initiatives provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Public benefit**

The trustees have full regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The charity's aims and activities fulfil the public benefit requirement of the Charities Act 2011. Its charitable purposes are concerned with the advancement of education and the advancement of musical culture. They also contribute to the advancement of citizenship and community development through the opportunities offered to all age groups to hear, participate in, and organise a varied range of musical events. The charity's beneficiaries are all those in the Chester region and elsewhere who wish to experience its activities as audiences, performers and members.

Ticket prices and subscriptions are set to achieve break even against operating cost and expenses as far as is possible. Discounted tickets and subscriptions are offered to unemployed people, people with disabilities, school children and students.

The society takes a robust and systematic approach to assessing and managing risk. The risk register identifies possible risks to the company and is reviewed on a regular basis. Any new risks that have arisen and any ongoing risks already identified are discussed and acted upon where possible at each board meeting. The main risks that the society identified in the current period are the failure to recover membership post the pandemic with consequent loss of income and potential ongoing viability of all sections of the society. The society has identified mitigation plans to deal with these eventualities.

A comprehensive range of policies exist for implementation by the board of trustees and the wider society membership. These are reviewed on a regular basis and include the following topics:

- GDPR
- Financial reserves
- Investment
- Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- Health and Safety
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Conflicts of interest
- Risk management

New trustees are usually recruited following a period as members of section committees and in some cases are co-opted prior to appointment. This ensures, alongside the induction programme that new trustees are aware of their responsibilities.

Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable activities**

2023/24 was generally a successful year despite some setbacks with lower audience numbers and the continuing lack of interest from school participation. However, the charity continues working towards reestablishing school participation wherever possible.

A successful and enjoyable string workshop was held in May at Abbeygate College. There were 33 participants playing together in various chamber groups with guidance from experienced tutors. The Young Musicians Competition returned to Abbeygate College in November, with another good level of entries across a wide range of instruments and ages. The category winners and overall winner performed in a special concert for the winners in the following January. This was well attended and appreciated by the audience.

**Choir section**

Four choral concerts were held during the year, in November, December, March and May. There was a minor loss against the budget over the year.

The section faced several challenges during the year. There was a decline in membership from 141 to 130. Fewer concert ticket sales and rising costs put pressure on the Choir section finances. Prices for hire of the main venue for choir concerts, Chester Cathedral, were raised significantly. To alleviate this problem ticket and membership prices had to be raised.

Ways of cutting costs and raising additional funds were actively pursued by the section. In January, the choir committee undertook a survey to explore ideas for fundraising. Following a review by the committee, several groups were launched, and volunteers were requested to join a group. These were: -

- a) Sourcing Sponsorship (c. 10 members)
- b) Setting up a 100 Club (2 members)
- c) Organising a Sales Table at rehearsal (4 members)
- d) Setting up Easy Fundraising (on-line purchasing) (1 member)
- e) Tours Sub-Committee (3 members)
- f) Increasing Ticket Sales (5 members)

The survey also indicated that there was interest in remembering the CMS Choir in legacies. Many members have made a provision in their will.

In summary, the 23/24 season has been one of consolidation despite decreasing audience sizes, membership numbers and increasing costs. Immediate and longer-term steps have been implemented to balance costs versus revenue. Generous donations and support were received from Choir members throughout the season.

**The Celebrity concert section**

There were six concerts starting on 12 October 2023 and concluding on 13 March 2024. With continuing post Covid uncertainty a cautious approach was again taken with budgeting of artists fees and the number of subscribers was again set at a maximum of around 80. In the event we had a total of 70 subscribers. Individual concert ticket sales were available for all concerts with varying results. Total audience numbers continue to remain well below the pre covid highs of 130 plus. All of the concerts were of an excellent standard and contained many fine moments of music making. The current situation for the section remains financially stable and artistically sound. We can still provide high level artists at reasonable costs, but like many other concert organisations we continue to struggle to attract new audience members or even to maintain audience levels. Finding new committee members has again proved difficult.

## Chester Music Society

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

#### **The Showcase section**

There was a series of 5 concerts in the 2023/24 season. Schools' participation which in the past has been a significant part of Showcase series was again non-existent. Despite this the section continues to try and reincorporate school participation in its concerts. There was an increase in subscribers from 15 to 19 members, but audience numbers continued to drop, down by 30% from last season. All the concerts were of a high standard, and it is a pity that the local community show so little interest in their local talent. The low audience numbers resulted in a small deficit of around £230. In addition to the normal series of concerts a special one-off family concert was run which proved to be highly successful attracting a good audience including many children. This event was subsidised from a special reserve previously donated to the society.

#### **General**

CMS activities enrich the experience of participants and contribute to the society's aim of "furthering the public appreciation of music".

The board of trustees owes its volunteers a large debt of thanks and would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the many people who contribute to the success of the organisation. The BoT are extremely grateful for all the donations and support received during the season across all the Sections, and in particular from many members associated with the Choir section.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Financial position**

The financial resources held by the society are sufficient to allow it to pursue its prime objective of furthering education and the public appreciation of music.

The Statement of Financial Activities for 2023/24 shows that due partly to legacies received and investment gains the total available funds at year end stood at £167,224 with a net positive movement in funds of £16,239 compared with a net negative movement of £1,673 in 2022/23. Net incoming funds of £14,799 led to unrestricted funds of £122,381 compared with £107,582 in 2022/23. Net incoming funds of £1,440 resulted in restricted funds of £44,843 against £43,403 in 2022/23. The Notes to the accounts show that within the unrestricted funds two designated funds, totalling £10,584 remained at year end. Restricted funds have four named funds, required to be used for specific named purposes. There are no funds materially in deficit.

Market recovery has resulted in our investments producing a gain of £9,074 to £74,313 compared to a loss of £2,268 in 2022/23. We have a moderate ability to bear an investment loss. Our investment portfolio has now been changed from two funds (one low risk, one low/medium risk) to a single charity-oriented investment fund aimed at yielding both income and growth at a medium level of risk. The society does not consider social, environmental or ethical considerations in its investment policy. The society's tangible fixed assets that could be disposed of to potentially provide resources for future activity are Choir staging currently valued at £32,874 and a Steinway piano currently valued at £11,436.

Our annual income comes from subscriptions, donations, legacies, ticket sales, fund raising and investments. Our expenditure is connected with both performing and promoting live concerts and necessary administration. During the last year our planned programmes were all successfully completed.

Throughout this last year regular on-line meetings of the board of trustees and sub-committees continued to ensure proper management of the society and financial matters were regularly monitored and discussed. In particular no restricted funds were used inappropriately.

Overall, the financial position, including the reserves, of the society are such that it is able to plan and run a normal season for 2024/25, whilst being aware that the effects of decreasing audience numbers, the Energy crisis and increasing production costs require careful monitoring and vigilance in order to react where necessary to changing circumstances and remain financially secure.

## Chester Music Society

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Reserves policy**

The society continues to set aside sufficient reserves to enable its programme of concerts and events in order to meet the charity's aims. The society aims to hold reserves of about £48,000.

The society employs no staff, owns no buildings or an ongoing leases and therefore the effect of unplanned closure to beneficiaries is extremely low.

The following considerations are monitored regularly by the board of trustees:

- Some activities are not income bearing or with low income (Young Musician competition and the schools programme) but contribute significantly to the society's overall objectives.
- The age demographic of our audience and membership is on the older side with the potential to see reductions in both audience and membership numbers.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover a significant underperformance on planned membership or audience figures.
- We need to have sufficient reserves to ensure that we are able to manage our cash flow.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover any uninsured catastrophic losses in the year.
- We need to build reserves to replace some of the restricted funds created from a generous gift that the society deploys. This will enable the society to continue those activities for which the funds are designated as they become depleted.

The ongoing assessment and management of risk, prudent management of resources and planning to ensure sufficient reserves ensures that services are maintained.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

- Create a strategic plan for the next three years to define how the future of the society will be maintained.
- Provide a range of concerts and events suitable for the prevailing conditions of membership, audience interest and the financial restraints imposed by external factors.
- Endeavour to attract interest from local schools in our workshops and the possibility of live performance.
- Maintain thorough budgeting processes to ensure the society remains solvent.
- Continue to search for new committee members.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The board of trustees meets at least five times a year; day to day management of the activities is in the hands of three sectional committees and designated sub-committees of the board. Any funds surplus to requirements are held in interest bearing deposit accounts or recommended investments which are reviewed on a regular basis.

One third of the trustees who are subject to retirement by rotation are elected annually at the company's annual general meeting. All board members are volunteers and unpaid. There is a simple vetting procedure for new board members and they are provided with an information pack about the charity and their responsibilities.

The charity is a member of Making Music, the UK's foremost umbrella group for amateur music. This assists with technical and developmental aspects of the charity's activities.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

04793760 (England and Wales)

##### **Registered Charity number**

1099094

Chester Music Society

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**Registered office**

Uhy Hacker Young Chester Limited  
Merchants House, 4th Floor  
Crook Street  
Chester  
CH1 2BE

**Trustees**

M Clarke Chairman  
Mrs P F Clarke Vice chairman  
Mrs S J Russell Secretary  
Dr D J Taylor Treasurer  
Dr S M Taylor Assistant treasurer  
Dr J L Wishlade Publicity, co-opted  
J R Ferrari  
J J Penn  
Dr E B Ranby

**Company Secretary**

Mrs S J Russell

**Independent Examiner**

Mr A M Bagnall FCA  
Johnstone Howell & Co  
104 Whitby Road  
Ellesmere Port  
Cheshire  
CH65 0AB

**FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN FOR OTHERS**

The charity does not hold funds on behalf of any other charity.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 11 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



M Clarke - Trustee

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Chester Music Society ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Mr A M Bagnall FCA  
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Johnstone Howell & Co  
104 Whitby Road  
Ellesmere Port  
Cheshire  
CH65 0AB

11 December 2024

Chester Music Society

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		47,874	-	47,874	38,394
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Furthering public appreciation of music		41,413	5	41,418	38,138
Other trading activities	2	9,786	-	9,786	13,180
Investment income	3	842	-	842	390
Other income		-	-	-	255
<b>Total</b>		<u>99,915</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>99,920</u>	<u>90,357</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds		2,949	-	2,949	3,385
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Furthering public appreciation of music		85,741	1,511	87,252	83,815
Other		2,554	-	2,554	2,562
<b>Total</b>		<u>91,244</u>	<u>1,511</u>	<u>92,755</u>	<u>89,762</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		6,128	2,946	9,074	(2,268)
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		14,799	1,440	16,239	(1,673)
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		14,799	1,440	16,239	(1,673)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		107,582	43,403	150,985	152,658
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>122,381</u></u>	<u><u>44,843</u></u>	<u><u>167,224</u></u>	<u><u>150,985</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Chester Music Society

Balance Sheet  
31 July 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	7	44,309	-	44,309	46,789
Investments	8	50,184	24,129	74,313	65,239
		94,493	24,129	118,622	112,028
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	9	303	-	303	6,544
Cash at bank		35,590	20,714	56,304	40,198
		35,893	20,714	56,607	46,742
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(8,005)	-	(8,005)	(7,785)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		27,888	20,714	48,602	38,957
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		122,381	44,843	167,224	150,985
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		122,381	44,843	167,224	150,985
<b>FUNDS</b>	11				
Unrestricted funds				122,381	107,582
Restricted funds				44,843	43,403
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				167,224	150,985

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 July 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Chester Music Society

Balance Sheet - continued


31 July 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 11 December 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



S J Russell - Trustee



D J Taylor - Trustee

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Staging	- 5% on cost
Piano	- 5% on reducing balance

### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

### **Investments**

Investments are stated at market value as at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising in the revaluation and disposals of investments during the year. Investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated by comparing previous balance sheet valuation to the year end valuation.

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising activities	4,426	7,836
Subscriptions (service element )	4,860	4,844
Sponsorships	500	500
	9,786	13,180

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	842	390
	842	390

**4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,480	2,512
	2,480	2,512

**5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2024 nor for the year ended 31 July 2023.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2024 nor for the year ended 31 July 2023.

**6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	38,394	-	38,394
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Furthering public appreciation of music	38,133	5	38,138
Other trading activities	13,180	-	13,180
Investment income	390	-	390
Other income	255	-	255
<b>Total</b>	90,352	5	90,357
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	3,385	-	3,385
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Furthering public appreciation of music	82,255	1,560	83,815
Other	2,562	-	2,562

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>Total</b>	88,202	1,560	89,762
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(1,518)	(750)	(2,268)
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	632	(2,305)	(1,673)
 <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	106,950	45,708	152,658
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	107,582	43,403	150,985

**7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Staging £	Piano £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024	37,554	19,250	56,804
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 August 2023	2,802	7,213	10,015
Charge for year	1,878	602	2,480
At 31 July 2024	4,680	7,815	12,495
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 July 2024	32,874	11,435	44,309
At 31 July 2023	34,752	12,037	46,789

**8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Listed investments £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 August 2023	65,239
Revaluations	9,074
At 31 July 2024	74,313
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 July 2024	74,313
At 31 July 2023	65,239

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**8. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

Cost or valuation at 31 July 2024 is represented by:

	Listed investments £
Valuation in 2022	7,506
Valuation in 2023	(2,268)
Valuation in 2024	9,075
Cost	<u>60,000</u>
	<u><u>74,313</u></u>

**9. DEBTORS**

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	-	6,257
Prepayments	<u>303</u>	<u>257</u>
	<u><u>303</u></u>	<u><u>6,514</u></u>
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Trade debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>30</u>
Aggregate amounts	<u><u>303</u></u>	<u><u>6,544</u></u>

**10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	100	-
Accrued expenses	<u>7,905</u>	<u>7,785</u>
	<u><u>8,005</u></u>	<u><u>7,785</u></u>

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.8.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.7.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	95,961	15,836	111,797
Hallett memorial fund	914	(804)	110
Showcase activities fund	10,707	(233)	10,474
	<u>107,582</u>	<u>14,799</u>	<u>122,381</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Choir trips fund	2,594	(56)	2,538
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	28,862	1,973	30,835
Piano maintenance fund	4,145	(214)	3,931
Young musicians' fund	7,802	(263)	7,539
	<u>43,403</u>	<u>1,440</u>	<u>44,843</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>150,985</u></u>	<u><u>16,239</u></u>	<u><u>167,224</u></u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	98,026	(88,318)	6,128	15,836
Hallett memorial fund	408	(1,212)	-	(804)
Showcase activities fund	1,481	(1,714)	-	(233)
	<u>99,915</u>	<u>(91,244)</u>	<u>6,128</u>	<u>14,799</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Choir trips fund	5	(61)	-	(56)
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	-	-	1,973	1,973
Piano maintenance fund	-	(450)	236	(214)
Young musicians' fund	-	(1,000)	737	(263)
	<u>5</u>	<u>(1,511)</u>	<u>2,946</u>	<u>1,440</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>99,920</u></u>	<u><u>(92,755)</u></u>	<u><u>9,074</u></u>	<u><u>16,239</u></u>

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.8.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.7.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	95,645	316	95,961
Hallett memorial fund	914	-	914
Showcase activities fund	10,391	316	10,707
	<u>106,950</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>107,582</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Choir trips fund	2,649	(55)	2,594
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	29,365	(503)	28,862
Piano maintenance fund	4,205	(60)	4,145
Young musicians' fund	9,489	(1,687)	7,802
	<u>45,708</u>	<u>(2,305)</u>	<u>43,403</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>152,658</u></u>	<u><u>(1,673)</u></u>	<u><u>150,985</u></u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	88,284	(86,450)	(1,518)	316
Showcase activities fund	2,068	(1,752)	-	316
	<u>90,352</u>	<u>(88,202)</u>	<u>(1,518)</u>	<u>632</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Choir trips fund	5	(60)	-	(55)
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	-	-	(503)	(503)
Piano maintenance fund	-	-	(60)	(60)
Young musicians' fund	-	(1,500)	(187)	(1,687)
	<u>5</u>	<u>(1,560)</u>	<u>(750)</u>	<u>(2,305)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>90,357</u></u>	<u><u>(89,762)</u></u>	<u><u>(2,268)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,673)</u></u>

Chester Music Society

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.8.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.7.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	95,645	16,152	111,797
Hallett memorial fund	914	(804)	110
Showcase activities fund	10,391	83	10,474
	<u>106,950</u>	<u>15,431</u>	<u>122,381</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Choir trips fund	2,649	(111)	2,538
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	29,365	1,470	30,835
Piano maintenance fund	4,205	(274)	3,931
Young musicians' fund	9,489	(1,950)	7,539
	<u>45,708</u>	<u>(865)</u>	<u>44,843</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>152,658</u></u>	<u><u>14,566</u></u>	<u><u>167,224</u></u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	186,310	(174,768)	4,610	16,152
Hallett memorial fund	408	(1,212)	-	(804)
Showcase activities fund	3,549	(3,466)	-	83
	<u>190,267</u>	<u>(179,446)</u>	<u>4,610</u>	<u>15,431</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Choir trips fund	10	(121)	-	(111)
Celebrity concerts Baxter fund	-	-	1,470	1,470
Piano maintenance fund	-	(450)	176	(274)
Young musicians' fund	-	(2,500)	550	(1,950)
	<u>10</u>	<u>(3,071)</u>	<u>2,196</u>	<u>(865)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>190,277</u></u>	<u><u>(182,517)</u></u>	<u><u>6,806</u></u>	<u><u>14,566</u></u>

**Designated funds**

The designated Showcase activities fund is set aside for the future stability of the Showcase section.

The designated Hallett memorial fund is set aside for use in activities in memory of Geoffrey and Lila Hallett.

**12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Chester Music Society

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	2,345	1,815
Gift aid	6,161	6,282
Legacies	11,575	-
Grants	-	2,000
Subscriptions (donation element)	27,793	28,297
	47,874	38,394
<b>Other trading activities</b>		
Fundraising activities	4,426	7,836
Subscriptions (service element )	4,860	4,844
Sponsorships	500	500
	9,786	13,180
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	842	390
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Sales of concert tickets and programmes	39,132	35,573
Educational activities	2,286	2,565
	41,418	38,138
<b>Other income</b>		
Other income	-	255
	-	255
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	99,920	90,357
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Raising donations and legacies</b>		
Fundraising expenses	2,949	3,385
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Hall hire	27,467	28,526
Insurance	838	782
Administration	706	471
Advertising/publicity	1,090	1,540
Artists/accompanists/ conductors	43,855	37,671
Instruments/music	1,453	2,363
Printing/programmes/tickets/ ticket commission	5,698	4,980
Miscellaneous production costs	1,684	2,649
Educational activities	2,929	3,802
	85,720	82,784

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Chester Music Society

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
<b>Other</b>		
Other	74	50
Staging	1,878	1,878
Piano	602	634
	<u>2,554</u>	<u>2,562</u>
<b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Finance</b>		
Bank charges	332	311
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy	1,200	720
Total resources expended	<u>92,755</u>	<u>89,762</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u><u>7,165</u></u>	<u><u>595</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1099094

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# Accounts

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## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 31 July 2023

Reference & Administrative Details:

**Charity Name:** Chester Music Society

**Charity Number:** 1099094

**Company Number** 4793760

**Principal address:** c/o Dr D Taylor, 77 Mill Lane, Upton, CH2 1BS

**Registered Office:** UHY Hacker Young, St John's Chambers, Love Street, Chester CH1 1QN

**Main Banker:** NatWest, PO Box No 8, 33 Eastgate Street, Chester CH1 1XA

**Members of the Board of Trustees**, who are also directors, on the date the report was approved or during the financial year:

Michael Clarke (Chairman)  
Penny Clarke (Vice Chairman)  
Sue Russell (Secretary)  
David Taylor (Treasurer)  
Sue Taylor (Assistant Treasurer)  
John Wishlade (Publicity) Co-opted  
John Ferrari  
Jon Penn  
Berkeley Ranby

### Structure, Governance & Management

The Charity is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission. The Board of Trustees meets at least five times a year; day to day management of the activities is in the hands of three sectional committees and designated sub-committees of the Board. Any funds surplus to requirements are held in interest bearing deposit accounts or recommended investments which are reviewed on a regular basis.

One third of the trustees who are subject to retirement by rotation are elected annually at the Company's Annual General Meeting. All Board Members are volunteers and unpaid. There is a simple vetting procedure for new Board Members and they are provided with an information pack about the charity and their responsibilities.

The Charity is a member of Making Music, the UK's foremost umbrella group for amateur music. This assists with technical and developmental aspects of the Charity's activities.

### Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objects are to provide, maintain, improve and advance education in the widest sense of the word by furthering public appreciation of music (Memorandum of Association para. 4). The Charity aims to play a significant part in Chester's on-going cultural life as one of the strategic arts organisations in the city. It provides a varied programme of predominantly classical music that would not otherwise be provided in the city and surrounding region by commercial organisations. It contributes to the cultural richness of the city and to diversifying the social life of the city centre.

The Charity is organised into three sections: -

- Showcase Concerts provide a platform for local amateur and semi-professional performers from the Chester and neighbouring areas. Opportunities for performance experience are also given to local schools and colleges.
- The Choir: provides musical participation for up to 150 adults of all ages and performs high quality concerts using amateur and professional musicians from the Chester area and beyond.
- Celebrity Concerts bring national and international professional chamber music artists to our Chester audience.

Promotion and implementation of events outside the remit of the three sections are the responsibility of specific sub-committees of the Board of Trustees.

The Charity takes a leading role in the promotion and coordination of musical life in Chester and in cultural initiatives provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The Trustees have full regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Charity's aims and activities fulfil the public benefit requirement of the Charities Act, 2011. Its charitable purposes are concerned with the advancement of education and the advancement of musical culture. They also contribute to the advancement of citizenship and community development through the opportunities offered to all age groups to hear, participate in, and organise a varied range of musical events. The Charity's beneficiaries are all those in the Chester region and elsewhere who wish to experience its activities as audiences, performers and members.

Ticket Prices and Subscriptions are set to achieve break even against operating cost and expenses as far as is possible. Discounted tickets and subscriptions are offered to unemployed people, people with disabilities, school children and students.

The Society takes a robust and systematic approach to assessing and managing risk. The Risk Register identifies possible risks to the Company and is reviewed on a regular basis. Any new risks that have arisen and any ongoing risks already identified are discussed and acted upon where possible at each Board meeting. The main risks that the Society identified in the current period are the failure to recover membership post the pandemic with consequent loss of income and potential ongoing viability of all sections of the society. The Society has identified mitigation plans to deal with these eventualities both now and going forward.

A comprehensive range of Policies exist for implementation by the Board of Trustees and the wider society membership. These are reviewed on a regular basis and comprise the following topics,

- GDPR
- Financial Reserves
- Investment
- Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults
- Health and Safety
- Equal Opportunities

New Trustees are usually recruited following a period as members of subcommittees or sections and in some cases are co-opted prior to appointment. This ensures, alongside the induction programme that new trustees are aware of their responsibilities.

### **Achievement & Performance**

2022-23 saw the return to a level of activity last seen pre-Covid.

A successful and enjoyable string workshop was held in July at Abbeygate College. There were 42 participants playing together in various chamber groups with guidance from experienced tutors.

November saw the return of the Young Musicians Competition with a good level of entries across a wide range of instruments and ages. This was also held at Abbeygate College and was highly successful and a very high standard of musicianship was witnessed. The venue was considered ideal for this type of event with several rehearsal spaces being available and the advantage of an excellent small theatre for the actual performances.

The Choir Section looked forward to returning to some sort of normality in Season 22-23. Budgets were prepared on a somewhat pessimistic basis to allow for the fact that audiences would probably not return to full strength for some time. In an attempt to balance the books, the annual membership fees were increased by 75%. This did not appear to affect member numbers which were similar to the previous year at around 140. Wesley Methodist Church remained the Choir's rehearsal venue throughout the year. Progress was made with the staging during the season - missing and damaged components have been resolved, AAM (the staging contractor) has progressively become more efficient and consequently the cost has reduced to c. £2,400 per concert, AAM now liaise directly with cathedral staff. The Society's relationship with the Cathedral staff improved over the year, but there were still several issues to negotiate. However, new ways of

working were found to accommodate these. The first Choir Concert of the Season was Vaughan-Williams Sea Symphony. Ticket sales were better than expected – 364 versus the budgeted 316. An increase of 15% over the previous year's November concert. The next concert was Christmas Crackers. There was a different format this year due to only one night's availability in the cathedral. Ticket sales were 708 with all seats sold (the last seats being sold on the day which suggests supply equalled demand). Roger McGough had to cancel on the day but fortunately Nick Fry was able to step in at short notice. One upside of this was that Nick's fee was considerably lower hence increasing income! The one-night format also maximised revenue. The March concert (Brahms) attracted 240 ticket sales which was disappointing for an orchestra concert (budget = 316). The May concert (Requiems) sold 225 tickets which was again disappointing (budget = 316), although for a concert without a full orchestra, the budget was probably overly optimistic. Final costs for the season resulted in a minor surplus.

Other Choir activities were the annual Singing Day in St Marys Creative Centre in March and a social fund-raising event at Easton Hall last June. These were both very enjoyable and an overwhelming success. This year a Choir Members' 5 Yearly Survey was undertaken as is normal at the end of the Music Director's contract of engagement. The opportunity was also taken to ask the choir members for their opinions on various other matters apart from the MD's performance. Overall, the respondents were in favour of re-appointing Graham Jordan Ellis as Music Director. In summary, the 22-23 season was very positive and some major steps to recovery were achieved.

The Celebrity Concert section put on a series of six concerts starting on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and concluding on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023. With continuing audience uncertainty after Covid a cautious approach was again taken with budgeting of artists fees and the number of subscribers was again set at a maximum of around 80. In the event we had a total of 71 subscribers. Individual concert ticket sales were again made available for all concerts with varying results ranging from 9 to 50 additional seats sold per concert. Total audience numbers remain well below the pre covid highs of 130 plus. All of the concerts were of an excellent standard and contained many fine moments of music making. The series welcomed back Martin Roscoe performing solo works for Piano. He provided another wonderful piano recital and was particularly thrilled to be made our new President of the Society this year.

The Showcase Section held a limited series of 5 live concerts in the 2022-23 season. Schools' participation which in the past has been a significant part of Showcase series were non-existent due to great reluctance of any school to offer performing groups or soloists. For the first time since Covid Subscription Tickets were offered and 15 members participated. This is down by over 50% based on pre-Covid levels. Average attendance was 55 per concert which is considered a reasonable number based on historic levels. This resulted in a small deficit of around £315 which was easily covered by additional income from members donations from a previous cancelled concert.

CMS activities enrich the experience of participants and contribute to the Society's aim of "furthering the public appreciation of music".

The Board of Trustees owes its volunteers a large debt of thanks and would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the many people who contribute to the success of the organisation. The BoT are extremely grateful for all the donations and support received during the season across all the Sections, and in particular from many members associated with the Choir Section.

### **Financial Review.**

The financial resources held by the Society are sufficient to allow it to pursue its prime objective of furthering education and the public appreciation of music.

The Statement of Financial Activities for 2022/23 shows that the total available funds at year end stood at £150,986 with a net negative movement in funds of £1,672 compared with a net positive movement of £12,403 in 2021/22. Net incoming funds of £633 led to unrestricted funds of £107,583 compared with £106,950 in 2021/22. Net outgoing funds of £2,305 resulted in restricted funds of £43,402 against £45,708 in 2021/22. The Notes to the Accounts show that within the

unrestricted funds two designated Funds, totalling £11,621, remained at year end. Restricted funds have four named Funds, required to be used for specific named purposes. There are no Funds materially in deficit.

Market uncertainty has resulted in our investments sustaining a loss of £2,268 to £65,239, compared to a loss of £5,121 in 2021/22. Overall, our attitude to investment risk is lower medium and we have a moderate ability to bear an investment loss. The Society does not take into account social, environmental or ethical considerations in its investment policy. The Society's tangible fixed assets that could be disposed of to potentially provide resources for future activity are Choir staging currently valued at £34,752 and a Steinway piano currently valued at £12,038.

Our annual income comes from subscriptions, donations, ticket sales, fund raising and investments. Our expenditure is connected with both performing and promoting live concerts and necessary administration. This year the normal activities of the Society were planned with budgets set taking into account the ongoing reducing effects of Covid-19 on audience numbers. These programmes were all successfully completed with no need for any unplanned support from the reserves.

Throughout this last year regular on-line meetings of the Board of Trustees and sub-committees continued to ensure proper management of the Society and financial matters were regularly monitored and discussed. In particular no restricted funds were used inappropriately.

Overall, the financial position, including the reserves, of the Society are such that it is able to plan and run a normal season for 2023/24, whilst being aware that the remaining ongoing effects of Covid-19 and the Energy crisis and increasing production costs require careful monitoring and vigilance in order to react where necessary to changing circumstances and remain financially secure.

### **Policy on Reserves**

The Society continues to set aside sufficient reserves to enable its programme of concerts and events in order to meet the Charity's aims. The society aims to hold reserves of about £48,000.

The society employs no staff, owns no buildings or any ongoing leases and therefore the effect of unplanned closure to beneficiaries is extremely low.

The following considerations are monitored regularly by the Board of Trustees.

- Some activities are not income bearing or with low income (Young Musician competition and the schools programme) but contribute significantly to the society's overall objectives.
- The age demographic of our audience and membership is on the older side with the potential to see reductions in both audience and membership numbers.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover a significant underperformance on planned membership or audience figures.
- We need to have sufficient reserves to ensure that we are able to manage our cash flow.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover any uninsured catastrophic losses in the year.
- We need to build reserves to replace some of the restricted funds created from a generous gift that the society deploys. This will enable the society to continue those activities for which the funds are designated as they become depleted.

The ongoing assessment and management of risk, prudent management of resources and planning to ensure sufficient reserves ensures that services are maintained.

### **Plans and Outcomes for 2022-23**

Plans for 22/23 season

- Consolidate existing membership numbers and attract new ones.  
***OUTCOME: Membership numbers continue to decline slowly as some older members cease to participate and only a few new younger members come in.***

- Attract new committee members to protect against likely future retirements.  
**OUTCOME: No new committee members were attracted.**
- Work within whatever guidance prevails to ensure our rehearsals and venues are safe.  
**OUTCOME: All sections produced and implemented risk assessments and checklists for their activities. Compliance with venue owners' requirements was maintained throughout.**
- Build back to a full programme of events.  
**OUTCOME: This was generally achieved albeit with reduced audience numbers in most cases. Schools remain reluctant to participate in performance and workshops.**
- Ensure appropriate budgeting and marketing through the difficult post Covid period to ensure the Society's ability to continue through the coming years.  
**OUTCOME: Successfully achieved as described in the Financial Report.**

## Plans for the Future

### Plans for 23/24 Season

- Continue to consolidate existing membership numbers and find ways to attract new ones.
- If possible, find new committee members, especially for the Celebrity Concert and Showcase Sections, Future retirements are inevitable as the age demographic slowly increases.
- Work within whatever guidance prevails to ensure our rehearsals and venues are safe.
- Maintain a full programme of events.
- Encourage more participation from local schools in our workshops and performance opportunities.
- Maintain appropriate budgeting and marketing to ensure the Society's ability to continue through the coming years.

## Funds held as Custodian Trustees;

The Charity does not hold funds on behalf of any other charity.

## Responsibilities of Trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations and in accordance with the UK generally accepted accounting practices.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare the financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities. Company law requires that the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Michael Clarke, Chairman

Date: 15/11/23

## Independent Examiner's Report

We report on the accounts of the Chester Music Society, a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee for the year ended 31 July 2023, as attached.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied ourselves that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is our responsibility to;

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- Follow all applicable directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- To state whether matters have come to our attention

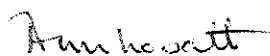
### Basis of Independent Examiners statement

Our examination was conducted in accordance with the directions and guidance given by the Charity Commission. 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 and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our attention;

- Which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements; to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- To which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ann Lovatt FMAAT

Date; 28 February 2024

Trident Tax and Accountancy Ltd

Yr Hen Banc Business Centre, High Street, Caergwrle, Flintshire LL12 9EU

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

(including summary income and expenditure account)

Company Number: 4793760  
Registered Charity: 1099094  
For the year ended 31 July 2023

	Note	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Income</b>					
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies		38,394	0	38,394	45,723
Charitable activities		38,133	5	38,138	27,495
Other trading activities		13,180	0	13,180	11,278
Investments		390	0	390	38
Separate material item of income					
Other		255	0	255	0
<b>Total income</b>		<b>90,352</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>90,357</b>	<b>84,533</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
	2				
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds		3,385	0	3,385	1,676
Charitable activities		82,254	1,560	83,814	63,709
Other		2,562	0	2,562	1,624
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>88,201</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>89,761</b>	<b>67,009</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period</b>					
		2,151	(1,555)	596	17,524
Tax payable		0	0	0	0
<b>Net income/(expenditure) after tax before investment gains/(losses)</b>					
		2,151	(1,555)	596	17,524
Net gains/(losses) on investments	5	(1,518)	(750)	(2,268)	(5,121)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>633</b>	<b>(2,305)</b>	<b>(1,672)</b>	<b>12,403</b>
<b>Extraordinary items</b>					
<b>Transfers between funds</b>					
	11	0	0	0	0
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use					
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>633</b>	<b>(2,305)</b>	<b>(1,672)</b>	<b>12,403</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward at 1 August	10	106,950	45,708	152,658	140,255
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 July</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>107,583</b>	<b>43,402</b>	<b>150,986</b>	<b>152,658</b>

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**

Company Number: 4793760  
 Registered Charity: 1099094  
 For the year ended 31 July 2023

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

	Note	At 31 July 2023		At 31 July 2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible Assets	4		46,789		49,301
Investments	5		65,239		67,507
			<u>112,028</u>		<u>116,808</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors: amounts falling due within 1 year	6	6,257		16	
Amounts falling due within more than 1 year	6	30		30	
Pre-payments for next season	6	257		913	
Cash at Bank & in hand	8	40,198		46,937	
			<u>46,742</u>		<u>47,896</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7			(5,140)	
Amounts falling due within more than one year	7			(634)	
Accruals	7	(7,785)		(6,272)	
		38,957	<b>38,957</b>	35,850	<b>35,850</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>			<u><b>150,986</b></u>		<u><b>152,658</b></u>

**THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY**

Restricted income funds	9	42,219		43,775	
Revaluation restricted - Investments	9	1,183		1,933	
Unrestricted funds:	9	103,527		101,376	
Revaluation unrestricted - Investments	9	4,056		5,574	
			<u><b>150,986</b></u>		<u><b>152,658</b></u>

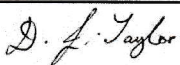

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

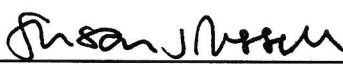
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	D. J. TAYLOR	15-Nov-23
	M. CLARKE	15-Nov-23

Signature of director authenticating accounts being sent to Companies House

Signature	Print Name	
	S. J. RUSSELL	15-Nov-23

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 July 2023

#### 1.1 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

#### 1.2 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: *Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items were required. No restatements were required.

The charity constitutes a public benefit as defined by FRS 102.

#### 1.3 Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue and so the going concern basis of accounting has been adopted.

#### 1.4 Change of accounting policy

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102.

#### 1.5 Income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is entitled to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).

#### 1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure and creditors are recognised when a present legal and constructive obligation exists at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount can be measured reliably. Expenditure is measured on an accruals basis. Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost directly relates to that activity.

#### 1.7 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are shown separately in the SOFA. They are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the general objects of the charity. Restricted funds are those subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors or have been raised for a particular purpose. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged to the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statement. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes. Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

#### 1.8 Assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets used for charitable purposes are stated at cost less depreciation and all repairs are written off as incurred. Depreciation is currently charged at 5%. Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

#### 1.9 Investments

Investments are stated at market value as at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising in the revaluation and disposals of investments during the year. Investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated by comparing previous balance sheet valuation to the year end valuation.

## 2 Analysis of expenditure by activity

Activity	Raising Funds £	Charitable Activities £	Other £	Total £
Society general	0	6,616	2,512	9,128
Celebrity Concerts	232	9,929	0	10,162
Choir	3,105	65,564	50	68,719
Showcase	48	1,704	0	1,752
Total	<u>3,385</u>	<u>83,814</u>	<u>2,562</u>	<u>89,761</u>

3 Fees for examination of accounts	2023 £	2022 £
Cost of independent examination	720	150

## 4 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	
	PIANO £	STAGING £
on acquisition	19,250	37,554
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>		
At 31 July 2022	12,671	36,630
Additions in year	0	0
Value prior to depreciation charge	12,671	36,630
Depreciation on assets brought fwd	634	1,878
Depreciation on additions in year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Depreciation for year	634	1,878
NET BOOK VALUE at 31 Jul 2023	12,038	34,752

## 5 Investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Quilter Cheviot Managed Portfolio			
At 1 August 2022	45,574	21,933	67,507
Unrealised gain (loss)	<u>(1,518)</u>	<u>(750)</u>	<u>(2,268)</u>
At 31 July 2023	<u>44,056</u>	<u>21,183</u>	<u>65,239</u>

## 6 Debtors and prepayments

	2023 £	2022 £
Debtors due within 1 yr	6,257	16
Income Debtors due more than 1 year	30	30
Pre-payments - next season	<u>257</u>	<u>913</u>
Total	<u>6,544</u>	<u>959</u>

## 7 Creditors, accruals & provision

	2023 £	2022 £
Creditors due within 1 year	0	5,140
Creditors due more than 1 year	0	634
Accruals	<u>7,785</u>	<u>6,272</u>
	<u>7,785</u>	<u>12,046</u>
Old Accruals written off	634	

## 8 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023 £	2022 £
Short term deposits	1,288	1,283
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>38,910</u>	<u>45,654</u>
Total	<u>40,198</u>	<u>46,937</u>

9 Funds in the current reporting period	Balance	Resource	Resource	Transfers	Revaluation	Balance
	Brought forward	incoming	outgoing	between	Gain (Loss)	At end
	£	£	£	funds	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Choir Trips Fund	2,649		55			2,593
Celebrity Concerts Baxter Fund	28,070					28,070
Piano Maintenance Fund	4,050		0			4,050
Young Musicians' Fund	9,006		1,500			7,506
	43,775		1,555	0		42,219
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	1,933				(750)	1,183
	45,708	0	1,555	0	(750)	43,402
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
Designated:						
- Showcase Activities Fund	10,391	2,068	1,752			10,707
- Hallett Memorial Fund	914					914
Other Charitable Funds	90,071	88,284	86,449			91,906
	101,376	90,352	88,201	0		103,527
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	5,574				(1,518)	4,056
	106,950	90,352	88,201	0	(1,518)	107,583
<b>Total</b>	<b>152,658</b>	<b>90,352</b>	<b>89,756</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,268)</b>	<b>150,986</b>

The Choir Trips Fund is restricted to use by the Choir on their concert trips.

The restricted Celebrity Concerts Baxter Fund contains donations restricted for use by the Celebrity Concerts section

The restricted Piano Maintenance Fund is to help maintain the quality of the piano used in the Celebrity Concerts series

The restricted Young Musicians' Fund is to provide bursaries for outstanding young musicians and to facilitate access to live classical music performance for young people.

The designated Showcase Activities Fund is set aside for the future stability of the Showcase Section.

The designated Hallett Memorial Fund is set aside for use in activities in memory of Geoffrey & Lila Hallett

10 Funds in the previous reporting period	Balance	Resource	Resource	Transfers	Revaluation	Balance
	Brought forward	incoming	outgoing	between	Gain (Loss)	At end
(Funds defined above)	£	£	£	funds	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Choir Trips Fund	2,744		96			2,649
Celebrity Concerts Baxter Fund	28,070					28,070
Piano Maintenance Fund	4,400		350			4,050
Young Musicians' Fund	9,006					9,006
	44,220		446	0		43,775
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	3,398				(1,465)	1,933
	47,618	0	446	0	(1,465)	45,708
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
Designated:						
- Showcase Activities Fund	10,762	237	607			10,391
- 2021 Fund	15,000			(15,000)		0
- Hallett Memorial Fund	914					914
- Choir Staging Fund	38,000	17,162	37,554	(17,608)		0
Other Charitable Funds	18,731	67,135	28,402	32,608		90,071
	83,406	84,533	66,563			101,376
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	9,230				(3,656)	5,574
	92,636	84,533	66,563	0	(3,656)	106,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>140,255</b>	<b>84,533</b>	<b>67,009</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(5,121)</b>	<b>152,658</b>

The designated 2021 Fund was set up for events associated with the 75th Anniversary celebrations of the Society. These did not take place due to Covid and Fund closed in 2022.

The designated Choir Staging Fund was set aside for purchase of the tiered choir staging. After purchase of staging, Fund closed in 2022.

<b>11 Transfers between funds</b>	
Transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds - Interest from bank accounts	£ 0
Transfers of funds between unrestricted funds and designated funds	£ 0
<b>12 Designated funds</b>	
The designated Showcase Activities fund is set aside for the future stability of the Showcase Section.	
Its current value is:	£ 10,707
A designated Hallett memorial Fund was set aside for activities in memory of Geoffrey & Lila Hallett. Its current value is	£ 914

<b>13 Trustee remuneration and benefits</b>	
Trustees are not paid for their trustee activities and any reimbursements are not material.	
David Taylor was paid £0 (0 last year) for professional accompanist charges as allowed by Memorandum Clause 5 (1).	

<b>15 Related Party Transactions</b>	None
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# CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE OVERALL

For the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>Donations and legacies:</b>				
Donations	1,815		1,815	14,953
Gift aid	6,282		6,282	7,067
Grants	2,000		2,000	6,000
Subscriptions (donation element)	28,297		28,297	17,703
<b>Charitable activities:</b>				
Sales of concert tickets and programmes	35,573		35,573	26,569
Educational activities	2,560	5	2,565	926
<b>Other trading activities:</b>				
Subscriptions (service element)	4,844		4,844	4,233
Sponsorship	500		500	500
Fund raising income	7,836		7,836	6,545
<b>Investments:</b>				
Bank interest	390		390	38
<b>Other</b>	255		255	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>90,352</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>90,357</b>	<b>84,533</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Raising funds</b>	3,385		3,385	1,676
<b>Charitable activities:</b>				
Artists/accompanists/conductors	37,671		37,671	32,116
Administration	471		471	449
Accountancy fees	720		720	150
Bank charges	311		311	267
Insurance	782		782	562
Adverts/publicity	1,540		1,540	796
Hall hire	28,526		28,526	21,375
Instruments/music	2,363		2,363	1,627
Printing programmes/tickets/ticket commission	4,980		4,980	3,164
Miscellaneous production costs	2,649		2,649	2,304
Educational activities	2,242	1,560	3,802	898
<b>Other:</b>				
Depreciation	2,512		2,512	1,574
Other	50		50	50
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>88,201</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>89,761</b>	<b>67,009</b>



## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>a Re: The Society</b>				
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Sponsorship/Patrons/Donations	100		100	9,308
Subscriptions	2,363		2,363	2,484
Gift Aid	510		510	2,474
Grants				6,000
Bank interest	390		390	38
Bank compensation	250		250	
Projects: Piano income	180		180	360
Projects: Chamber Music Workshop	1,405		1,405	926
Projects: Young Musician Competition	1,156		1,156	
Fund raising income				
Miscellaneous				
	<u>6,353</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,353</u>	<u>21,589</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Administration, postage, meetings	174		174	121
Examination of accounts	720		720	150
Insurance	782		782	562
Bank charges	311		311	267
Advertising & Publicity	495		495	100
Training				
Projects: Piano expenses				
Projects: Chamber Music Workshop	992		992	802
Projects: Young Musician Competition	900	1,500	2,400	
Artists - Bursary				
Educational artists	350		350	
Equipment	393		393	
Depreciation	2,512		2,512	1,574
Fund raising expenditure				
Miscellaneous				
	<u>7,628</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>9,128</u>	<u>3,577</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<u>(1,275)</u>	<u>(1,500)</u>	<u>(2,775)</u>	<u>18,012</u>

#### Restricted Fund values

	£	£
	Investments & Cash assets	Total Unrealised Gains if investments had been sold at Y/E
Young Musicians Fund	7,506	296
Piano Maintenance Fund	4,050	95

#### Designated Fund value

	£
	Cash assets at Y/E
Hallet Memorial Fund	914

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
<b>b Re: Celebrity Concerts</b>				
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Sale of non-season tickets	3,477		3,477	510
Subscriptions/season tickets	4,544		4,544	3,763
Programme income	168		168	113
Sponsorship/patrons/donations	1,204		1,204	562
Gift Aid	447		447	303
Grants				
Fund raising income	1,407		1,407	1,157
Miscellaneous				
	<b>11,246</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,246</b>	<b>6,408</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Artists fees & expenses *	7,770		7,770	4,400
Administration	30		30	
Advertising & publicity	92		92	
Hire of halls	961		961	887
Hire & maintenance of instruments	460		460	400
Misc inc PRS	129		129	175
Printing programmes & tickets	30		30	28
Ticket commission	194		194	24
Miscellaneous	263		263	109
Fund raising expenditure	232		232	
	<b>10,162</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,162</b>	<b>6,023</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>385</b>

\* Artist credit £450 due to write off from Y/E 2016

<b>Restricted Fund value</b>	£	£
	Investments & Cash assets at Y/E	Total Unrealised Gains if investments had been sold at Y/E
Celebrity Concerts Baxter Fund	28,070	793

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<b>c Re: Choir</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Sale of tickets	30,073		25,035	
Programme income	793		674	
Sponsorship/patrons/donations	1,011		5,583	
Subscriptions	25,934		15,690	
Gift Aid	5,326		4,290	
Grants	2,000			
Miscellaneous	5		0	
Members' music hire/purchase	1,868		984	
Fund raising income	3,677		4,044	
	<u>70,686</u>		<u>56,299</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Conductors & Accompanist	8,389		6,446	
Artists fees & expenses	3,770		8,367	
Orchestral fees & expenses	16,612		12,503	
Administration	267		328	
Advertising & publicity	936		696	
Hire of halls	12,221		9,026	
Staging costs	14,934		11,462	
Lighting				
Hire & maintenance of instruments				
Music	1,903		1,062	
Printing programmes & tickets	1,154		926	
Ticket commission	3,588		2,186	
Miscellaneous inc PRS	1,730		2,038	
Equipment				
Charity donation	50		50	
Members' music hire/purchase	1,471		50	
Fund raising expenditure	1,634		1,566	
	<u>68,659</u>		<u>56,706</u>	
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<u>2,026</u>		<u>(407)</u>	
<b>TRIPS ACCOUNT (RESTRICTED FUNDS)</b>				
Surplus on agency payments				
Cost of administration		55		96
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u>(55)</u>		<u>(96)</u>
<b>Restricted Fund value</b>	£			
	Cash assets at Y/E			
Senior Choir Trips Fund	2,593			

# CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<b>e Re: Showcase</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Sale of tickets & programmes	1,063		237	
Subscriptions	300			
Refreshments	71			
Sponsorship/Donations				
Misc				
Fundraising income*	634			
	<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>	
		<b>2,068</b>		<b>237</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Artists fees & expenses	1,130		400	
Administration				
Advertising & publicity	16			
Printing	16			
Hire of halls	410		166	
Piano tuning				
Refreshments	48			
Miscellaneous, inc equipment & PRS	133		41	
Fund raising expenditure				
		<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	
		<b>1,752</b>		<b>607</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>
		<b>316</b>		<b>(370)</b>

\*Fund raising credit of £634 due to write off of Gala ticket income from Y/E 2020

<b>Designated Fund value</b>	£
Showcase Activities Fund	Cash assets at Y/E 10,707

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1099094

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# Accounts

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# CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 31 July 2022

Reference & Administrative Details:

**Charity Name:** Chester Music Society

**Charity Number:** 1099094

**Company Number** 4793760

**Principal address:** c/o Dr D Taylor, 77 Mill Lane, Upton, CH2 1BS

**Registered Office:** UHY Hacker Young, St John's Chambers, Love Street, Chester CH1 1QN

**Main Banker:** NatWest, PO Box No 8, 33 Eastgate Street, Chester CH1 1XA

**Members of the Board of Trustees**, who are also directors, on the date the report was approved or during the financial year:

Michael Clarke (Chairman)

Penny Clarke (Vice Chairman)

Sue Russell (Secretary)

David Taylor (Treasurer)

Sue Taylor (Assistant Treasurer)

John Wishlade (Publicity) Co-opted

John Ferrari

Jon Penn

Berkeley Ranby

David Woods resigned January 2022

David Parks-Smith resigned December 2021

John Herson resigned December 2021

## Structure, Governance & Management

The Charity is a Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission. The Board of Trustees meets at least five times a year; day to day management of the activities is in the hands of three sectional committees and designated sub-committees of the Board. Any funds surplus to requirements are held in interest bearing deposit accounts or recommended investments which are reviewed on a regular basis.

One third of the trustees who are subject to retirement by rotation are elected annually at the Company's Annual General Meeting. All Board Members are volunteers and unpaid. There is a simple vetting procedure for new Board Members and they are provided with an information pack about the charity and their responsibilities.

The Charity is a member of Making Music, the UK's foremost umbrella group for amateur music. This assists with technical and developmental aspects of the Charity's activities.

## Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objects are to provide, maintain, improve and advance education in the widest sense of the word by furthering public appreciation of music (Memorandum of Association para. 4).

The Charity aims to play a significant part in Chester's on-going cultural life as one of the strategic arts organisations in the city. It provides a varied programme of predominantly classical music that would not otherwise be provided in the city and surrounding region by commercial organisations. It contributes to the cultural richness of the city and to diversifying the social life of the city centre.

The Charity is organised into three sections: -

- Showcase Concerts provide a platform for local amateur and semi-professional performers from the Chester and neighbouring areas. Opportunities for performance experience are also given to local schools and colleges.
- The Choir: provides musical participation for up to 150 adults of all ages and performs high quality concerts using amateur and professional musicians from the Chester area and beyond.
- Celebrity Concerts bring national and international professional chamber music artists to our Chester audience.

Promotion and implementation of events outside the remit of the three sections are the responsibility of specific sub-committees of the Board of Trustees.

The Charity takes a leading role in the promotion and coordination of musical life in Chester and in cultural initiatives provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

The Trustees have full regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Charity's aims and activities fulfil the public benefit requirement of the Charities Act, 2011. Its charitable purposes are concerned with the advancement of education and the advancement of musical culture. They also contribute to the advancement of citizenship and community development through the opportunities offered to all age groups to hear, participate in, and organise a varied range of musical events. The Charity's beneficiaries are all those in the Chester region and elsewhere who wish to experience its activities as audiences, performers and members.

Ticket Prices and Subscriptions are set to achieve break even against operating cost and expenses as far as is possible. Discounted tickets and subscriptions are offered to unemployed people, people with disabilities, school children and students.

The Society takes a robust and systematic approach to assessing and managing risk. The Risk Register identifies possible risks to the Company and is reviewed on a regular basis. Any new risks that have arisen and any ongoing risks already identified are discussed and acted upon where possible at each Board meeting. The main risks that the Society identified in the current period are the failure to recover membership post the pandemic with consequent loss of income and potential ongoing viability of all sections of the society. The Society has identified mitigation plans to deal with these eventualities both now and going forward.

A comprehensive range of Policies exist for implementation by the Board of Trustees and the wider society membership. These are reviewed on a regular basis and comprise the following topics,

- GDPR
- Financial Reserves
- Investment
- Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults
- Health and Safety
- Equal Opportunities

New Trustees are usually recruited following a period as members of subcommittees or sections and in some cases are co-opted prior to appointment. This ensures, alongside the induction programme that new trustees are aware of their responsibilities.

## **Achievement & Performance**

2021/2022 was another challenging season for the Society. A limited range of events were held starting much later than usual. There was no Young Musician Competition due to the ongoing pandemic affecting schools and colleges.

String Workshop: A financially successful and enjoyable string workshop was held in July at Abbeygate College and enabled 29 participants to play together in chamber groups with guidance from 3 experienced tutors.

- The Choir held only three concerts during the season (although the Christmas concert was held twice). The first concert on restart after Covid was Elijah which was reasonably well attended (327). However, with increased staging costs caused by our venue holder selling its staging a large loss was made. This would normally be offset by a surplus from the Christmas concerts but the resurgence of Covid badly affected audience numbers which further compounded the poor financial position. As a result of this and Covid still being an issue in January, the decision was made to cancel the planned performance of the Verdi Requiem in May 22. The final concert of the season - Handel's Messiah – replaced this and was a great financial success due to the dedication of Choir members in promoting the event and supporting financially. It was also excellent from an artistic standpoint with the full new staging being in place.

- The Celebrity Concert series presented six monthly concerts starting in December through to May. Many of the artists offered extremely beneficial fee rates to help us and them to get started again. The season was considered a great success from an artistic point of view. Audience numbers were down as expected and planned for, with a total of 71 subscribers and occasionally a few external tickets were sold.
- Showcase Concerts offered only two concerts as it was not possible to arrange anything with schools or colleges. Unfortunately, audience numbers were very low and there no subscribers due to there being only two concerts.

CMS activities enrich the experience of participants and contribute to the Society's aim of "furthering the public appreciation of music".

The board owes its volunteers a large debt of thanks and would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the many people who contribute to the success of the organisation.

## **Financial Review.**

The financial resources held by the Society are sufficient to allow it to pursue its prime objective of furthering education and the public appreciation of music.

The Statement of Financial Activities for 2021/22 shows that the total available funds at year end stood at £152,658 with a net positive movement in funds of £12,403 compared with a net positive movement of £249 in 2020/21. Net incoming funds of £14,314 led to unrestricted funds of £106,950 compared with £92,636 in 2020/21. Net outgoing funds of £1,911 resulted in restricted funds of £45,708 against £47,618 in 2020/21. The Notes to the Accounts show that within the unrestricted funds two designated Funds, totalling £11,305, remained at year end. Restricted funds have four named Funds, required to be used for specific named purposes. There are no Funds materially in deficit.

Market uncertainty has resulted in our investments sustaining a loss of £5,121 to £67,507, compared to a gain of £3,580 in 2020/21. Overall, our attitude to investment risk is lower medium and we have a moderate ability to bear an investment loss. The Society does not take into account social, environmental or ethical considerations in its investment policy. The Society's tangible fixed assets that could be disposed of to potentially provide resources for future activity are Choir staging currently valued at £36,630 and a Steinway piano currently valued at £12,671.

Our annual income comes from subscriptions, donations, ticket sales, fund raising and investments. Our expenditure is connected with both performing and promoting live concerts and necessary administration. This year a full programme of Choir concerts, a set of Celebrity Concerts beginning in January 2022 and a small set of Showcase concerts were planned. Due to the ongoing effects of Covid-19, audiences were much lower than budgeted for at the autumn Choir concerts. Thus, financial considerations caused us to redraw the Choir budget to include support from reserves, cancel one of our planned 2022 concerts and run a restricted rehearsal schedule for the remaining one. Aided by a substantial donation from a Choir member, this concert ran successfully with a good audience and resulted in a near break-even position for the Choir at season's end with no need for support from reserves.

Throughout this last year regular on-line meetings of the Board of Trustees and sub-committees continued to ensure proper management of the Society and financial matters were regularly monitored and discussed. In particular no restricted funds were used inappropriately.

The resumption of Choir activities required us to proceed with the purchase of the Choir staging using the Designated Fund of £38,000. In addition, the Board applied for several grants from local charities and issued a staging appeal to members for donations towards the cost of the staging. This appeal was very successful and yielded £17,162, significantly reducing the impact of the cost of the staging on the Society's reserves.

Overall, the financial position, including the reserves, of the Society are such that it is able to plan and run a normal season for 2022/23, whilst being aware that the remaining ongoing effects of Covid-19 and the Energy crisis require careful monitoring and vigilance in order to react where necessary to changing

circumstances and remain financially secure.

## Policy on Reserves

The society has been in operation since 1946 and in order to continue to thrive it needs to set aside sufficient funds to continue to provide its programme of concerts and events in these challenging times.

- Some activities are not income bearing or with low income (Young Musician competition and the schools programme) but contribute significantly to the society's overall objectives.
- The age demographic of our audience and membership is on the older side with the potential to see reductions in both audience and membership numbers.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover a significant underperformance on planned membership or audience figures.
- We need to have sufficient reserves to ensure that we are able to manage our cash flow.
- We need to ensure that we have sufficient reserves to cover any uninsured catastrophic losses in the year.
- We need to build reserves to replace some of the restricted funds created from a generous gift that the society deploys. This will enable the society to continue those activities for which the funds are designated as they become depleted.

The society will therefore aim to set aside sufficient reserves to continue to provide its programme of concerts and events to ensure it meets the charity's aims.

The ongoing assessment and management of risk, prudent management of resources and planning to ensure sufficient reserves will ensure that services are maintained.

The society employs no staff, owns no buildings or any ongoing leases and therefore the effect of unplanned closure to beneficiaries is extremely low.

The society will aim to hold reserves of about £48,000.

## Plans and Outcomes for 2021-22

Plans for 21/22 season

- Plan to retain as many previous members as possible.  
**OUTCOME: There was a reduction of membership numbers as expected post pandemic. These were at levels roughly in line with our planned budgets.**
- Attract new members wherever possible.  
**OUTCOME: A few new members were attracted.**
- Run the season of concerts and events that were planned for the 2020/21 season if possible but with some modification if required.  
**OUTCOME: Many of the Celebrity artists who were planned for 2020/21 were able to perform in the current season at reduced rates. Also, several of the most popular artists from the previous seasons virtual concerts series were invited to perform live for us. One Choir Concert was cancelled as a precaution against potential loss.**
- Ensure all our events and rehearsals are safe which will give confidence for members and audiences to return.  
**OUTCOME: Covid safety procedures produced by our venue providers were properly followed. The Society also produced its own risk assessments for its activities which were also followed.**
- Purchase staging for use in the Cathedral to enable the continuation of high quality concerts.  
**OUTCOME: Staging and handling contracts have been purchased. The new staging is safer and better for sound projection.**
- Maximise the use of local media and press to ensure our restart is visible to the public.  
**OUTCOME: Partially successful. A lot of caution was perceived amongst the general**

***public regarding returning to normal activities such as concert going. As the Covid issue subsided over the period CMS was able to attract far greater audiences especially for the final Choir Concert of the Messiah (as mentioned in the Choir Report).***

## **Plans for the Future**

Plans for 22/23 Season

- Continue to consolidate existing membership numbers and attract new ones.
- Attract new committee members to protect against likely future retirements.
- Work within whatever guidance prevails to ensure our rehearsals and venues are safe.
- Build back to a full programme of events.
- Ensure appropriate budgeting and marketing through the difficult post Covid period to ensure the Society's ability to continue through the coming years.

## **Funds held as Custodian Trustees;**

The Charity does not hold funds on behalf of any other charity.

## **Responsibilities of Trustees**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations and in accordance with the UK generally accepted accounting practices.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare the financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the incoming and outgoing resources for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities. Company law requires that the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Declarations**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Michael Clarke, Chairman

Date: 8 November 2022

## Independent Examiner's Report

I report on the Accounts of the Chester Music Society, a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee for the year ended 31 July 2022. These are set out in the following pages.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- follow all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether matters have come to my attention.

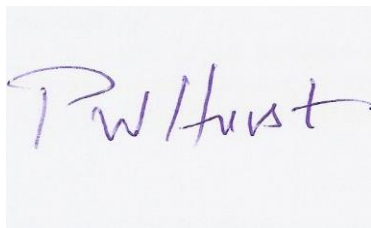
### Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination was conducted in accordance with the Directions and guidance given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any 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 the accounts 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 matter has come to my attention,

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:  
  
to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and  
to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Peter W Hurst FCMA CGMA**  
**Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants**

Cliff Cottage, Cliff Road, Acton Bridge, Northwich, CW8 3QP

Date 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

(including summary income and expenditure account)

Company Number: 4793760  
Registered Charity: 1099094  
For the year ended 31 July 2022

	Note	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>Income</b>					
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies		45,723	0	45,723	6,738
Charitable activities		27,495		27,495	-1,747
Other trading activities		11,278	0	11,278	15
Investments		38	0	38	63
Separate material item of income					
Other		0	0	0	0
<b>Total income</b>		<b>84,533</b>		<b>84,533</b>	<b>5,069</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	2	1,676	0	1,676	0
Charitable activities		63,263	446	63,709	7,717
Other		1,624	0	1,624	683
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>66,563</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>67,009</b>	<b>8,400</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period</b>					
		17,970	(446)	17,524	(3,331)
Tax payable		0	0	0	0
<b>Net income/(expenditure) after tax before investment gains/(losses)</b>					
		17,970	(446)	17,524	(3,331)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	5	(3,656)	(1,465)	(5,121)	3,580
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>14,314</b>	<b>(1,911)</b>	<b>12,403</b>	<b>249</b>
<b>Extraordinary items</b>					
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	11		0		0
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use					
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>14,314</b>	<b>(1,911)</b>	<b>12,403</b>	<b>249</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward at 1 August	10	92,636	47,618	140,255	140,005
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 July</b>	9	<b>106,950</b>	<b>45,708</b>	<b>152,658</b>	<b>140,255</b>

**CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY**

Company Number: 4793760

Registered Charity: 1099094

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

For the year ended 31 July 2022

	Note	At 31 July 2022		At 31 July 2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible Assets	4		49,301		12,971
Investments	5		67,507		72,628
			<u>116,808</u>		<u>85,599</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors: amounts falling due within 1 year	6	16		369	
Amounts falling due within more than 1 year	6	30			
Pre-payments for next season	6	913			
Cash at Bank & in hand	8	46,937		59,760	
		<u>47,896</u>		<u>60,129</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(5,140)		(644)	
Amounts falling due within more than one year	7	(634)			
Accruals	7	(6,272)		(4,830)	
		35,850	<b>35,850</b>	54,655	<b>54,655</b>
			<u>152,658</u>		<u>140,255</u>

**THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY**

Restricted income funds	9	43,775		44,220	
Revaluation restricted - Investments	9	1,933		3,398	
Unrestricted funds:	9	101,376		83,406	
Revaluation unrestricted - Investments	9	5,574		9,230	
			<u>152,658</u>		<u>140,255</u>


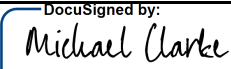
The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

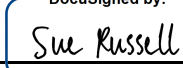
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	D. J. TAYLOR	02-Nov-22
DocuSigned by: 	M. CLARKE	02-Nov-22

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Signature of director authenticating accounts being sent to Companies House

Signature	Print Name	
DocuSigned by: 	S. J. RUSSELL	02-Nov-22

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## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 July 2022

#### 1.1 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the charity being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

#### 1.2 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: *Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items were required. No restatements were required.

The charity constitutes a public benefit as defined by FRS 102.

#### 1.3 Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue and so the going concern basis of accounting has been adopted.

#### 1.4 Change of accounting policy

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102.

#### 1.5 Income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is entitled to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).

#### 1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure and creditors are recognised when a present legal and constructive obligation exists at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount can be measured reliably. Expenditure is measured on an accruals basis. Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost directly relates to that activity.

#### 1.7 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are shown separately in the SOFA. They are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the general objects of the charity. Restricted funds are those subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors or have been raised for a particular purpose. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged to the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statement. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes. Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

#### 1.8 Assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets used for charitable purposes are stated at cost less depreciation and all repairs are written off as incurred. Depreciation is currently charged at 5%. Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

#### 1.9 Investments

Investments are stated at market value as at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes the net gains and losses arising in the revaluation and disposals of investments during the year. Investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated by comparing previous balance sheet valuation to the year end valuation.

## 2 Analysis of expenditure by activity

Activity	Raising Funds £	Charitable Activities £	Other £	Total £
Society general	0	2,003	1,574	3,577
Celebrity Concerts	60	5,963	0	6,023
Choir	1,616	55,136	50	56,802
Showcase	0	607	0	607
Total	<u>1,676</u>	<u>63,709</u>	<u>1,624</u>	<u>67,009</u>

3 Fees for examination of accounts	2022 £	2021 £
Cost of independent examination	150	150

## 4 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	
	PIANO £	STAGING £
on acquisition	18,900	37,554
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>		
At 31 July 2021	12,971	0
Additions in year	350	37,554
Value prior to depreciation charge	13,321	37,554
Depreciation on assets brought fwd	649	0
Depreciation on additions in year	<u>1</u>	<u>924</u>
Depreciation for year	650	924
NET BOOK VALUE at 31 Jul 2022	12,671	36,630

## 5 Investments

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Quilter Cheviot Managed Portfolio			
At 1 August 2021	49,230	23,398	72,628
Unrealised gain (loss)	<u>(3,656)</u>	<u>(1,465)</u>	<u>(5,121)</u>
At 31 July 2022	<u>45,574</u>	<u>21,933</u>	<u>67,507</u>

## 6 Debtors and prepayments

	2022 £	2021 £
Debtors due within 1 yr	16	
IncomeDebtors due more than 1 year	30	30
Pre-payments - next season	<u>913</u>	<u>339</u>
Total	<u>959</u>	<u>369</u>

## 7 Creditors, accruals & provision

	2022 £	2021 £
Creditors due within 1 year	5,140	634
Creditors due more than 1 year	634	10
Accruals	<u>6,272</u>	<u>4,830</u>
	<u>12,046</u>	<u>5,474</u>

Old Accruals written off >7 yrs 0

## 8 Cash at bank and in hand

	2022 £	2021 £
Short term deposits	1,283	37,554
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>45,654</u>	<u>22,207</u>
Total	<u>46,937</u>	<u>59,760</u>

9 Funds in the current reporting period	Balance	Resource	Resource	Transfers	Revaluation	Balance
	Brought forward	incoming	outgoing	between	Gain (Loss)	At end
	£	£	£	funds	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Choir Trips Fund	2,744		96			2,649
Celebrity Concerts Baxter Fund	28,070					28,070
Piano Maintenance Fund	4,400		350			4,050
Young Musicians' Fund	9,006					9,006
	<u>44,220</u>		<u>446</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>43,775</u>
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	3,398				(1,465)	1,933
	<u>47,618</u>		<u>446</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,465)</u>	<u>45,708</u>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
Designated:						
- Showcase Activities Fund	10,762	237	607			10,391
- 2021 Fund	15,000			(15,000)		0
- Hallett Memorial Fund	914					914
- Choir Staging Fund	38,000		37,554	(17,608)		0
Other Charitable Funds	18,731	67,135	28,402	32,608		90,071
	<u>83,406</u>	<u>84,533</u>	<u>66,563</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>101,376</u>
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	9,230				(3,656)	5,574
	<u>92,636</u>	<u>84,533</u>	<u>66,563</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,656)</u>	<u>106,950</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>140,255</b>	<b>84,533</b>	<b>67,009</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(5,121)</b>	<b>152,658</b>

The Choir Trips Fund is restricted to use by the Choir on their concert trips.  
The restricted Celebrity Concerts Baxter Fund contains donations restricted for use by the Celebrity Concerts section  
The restricted Piano Maintenance Fund is to help maintain the quality of the piano used in the Celebrity Concerts series  
The restricted Young Musicians' Fund is to provide bursaries for outstanding young musicians and to facilitate access to live classical music performance for young people.  
The designated Showcase Activities Fund is set aside for the future stability of the Showcase Section.  
The designated 2021 Fund was set up for events associated with the 75th Anniversary celebrations of the Society. These did not take place due to Covid and Fund closed in 2022.  
The designated Hallett Memorial Fund is set aside for use in activities in memory of Geoffrey & Lila Hallett  
The designated Choir Staging Fund was set aside for purchase of the tiered choir staging. After purchase of staging, Fund closed in 2022.

10 Funds in the previous reporting period	Balance	Resource	Resource	Transfers	Revaluation	Balance
	Brought forward	incoming	outgoing	between	Gain (Loss)	At end
(Funds defined above)	£	£	£	funds	£	£
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Choir Trips Fund	4,572	(1,747)	82			2,744
Celebrity Concerts Baxter Fund	30,500		2,430			28,070
Piano Maintenance Fund	4,400					4,400
Young Musicians' Fund	9,006					9,006
	<u>48,478</u>	<u>(1,747)</u>	<u>2,512</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>44,220</u>
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	2,556				842	3,398
	<u>51,034</u>	<u>(1,747)</u>	<u>2,512</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>842</u>	<u>47,618</u>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
Designated:						
- Showcase Activities Fund	11,062	0	300			10,762
- 2021 Fund	15,000					15,000
- Hallett Memorial Fund	914					914
- Choir Staging Fund				38,000		38,000
Other Charitable Funds	55,503	6,816	5,589	(38,000)		18,731
	<u>82,479</u>	<u>6,816</u>	<u>5,889</u>	<u></u>		<u>83,406</u>
Revaluation (Deficit) Gain Investments	6,492				2,738	9,230
	<u>88,971</u>	<u>6,816</u>	<u>5,889</u>	<u></u>	<u>2,738</u>	<u>92,636</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>140,005</b>	<b>5,069</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,580</b>	<b>140,255</b>

<b>11 Transfers between funds</b>	
Transfers between restricted and unrestricted funds	£ 0
Transfers of funds between unrestricted funds and designated funds	£ (32,608)

<b>12 Designated funds</b>	
The designated Showcase Activities fund is set aside for the future stability of the Showcase Section.	
Its current value is:	£ 10,391
A designated 2021 Fund was set aside for events associated with the 75th Anniversary celebrations of the Society. Its current value is	£ 0
A designated Hallett memorial Fund was set aside for activities in memory of Geoffrey & Lila Hallett. Its current value is	£ 914

<b>13 Trustee remuneration and benefits</b>	
Trustees are not paid for their trustee activities and any reimbursements are not material.	
David Taylor was paid £0 (0 last year) for professional accompanist charges as allowed by Memorandum Clause 5 (1).	

<b>15 Related Party Transactions</b>	None
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# CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE OVERALL

For the year ended 31 July 2022

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>Donations and legacies:</b>				
Donations	14,953		14,953	5,720
Gift aid	7,067		7,067	1,018
Grants	6,000		6,000	
Subscriptions (donation element)	17,703		17,703	
<b>Charitable activities:</b>				
Sales of concert tickets and programmes	26,569		26,569	
Educational activities	926	0	926	(1,747)
<b>Other trading activities:</b>				
Subscriptions (service element)	4,233		4,233	
Sponsorship	500		500	
Fund raising income	6,545		6,545	15
<b>Investments:</b>				
Bank interest	38		38	63
<b>Other</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>84,533</b>		<b>84,533</b>	<b>5,069</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Raising funds</b>	<b>1,676</b>		<b>1,676</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Charitable activities:</b>				
Artists/accompanists/conductors	32,116		32,116	7,411
Administration	449		449	117
Accountancy fees	150		150	150
Bank charges	267		267	251
Insurance	562		562	704
Adverts/publicity	796		796	0
Hall hire	21,375		21,375	0
Instruments/music	1,627		1,627	100
Printing programmes/tickets/ticket commission	3,164		3,164	0
Miscellaneous production costs	1,954	350	2,304	(1,098)
Educational activities	802	96	898	82
<b>Other:</b>				
Depreciation	1,574		1,574	683
Other	50		50	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>66,563</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>67,009</b>	<b>8,400</b>

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

For the year ended 31 July 2022

	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Overall summary</b>				
(As per schedules attached)				
Relating to:	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
a				
<b>The Society</b>				
surplus/(deficit)	18,362	(350)	18,012	412
b				
<b>Celebrity Concerts</b>				
surplus/(deficit)	385		385	(2,530)
c				
<b>Choir</b>				
surplus/(deficit)	(407)		(407)	915
d				
<b>Showcase</b>				
surplus/(deficit)	(370)		(370)	(300)
	<u>17,970</u>	<u>(446)</u>	<u>17,524</u>	<u>(3,331)</u>
Unrealised investment gain (loss)	(3,656)	(1,465)	(5,121)	3,580
Transfers between funds			0	0
<b>Overall surplus/(deficit) for season</b>	<u><b>14,314</b></u>	<u><b>(1,911)</b></u>	<u><b>12,403</b></u>	<u><b>249</b></u>

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2022

	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
<b>a Re: The Society</b>				
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Sponsorship/Patrons/Donations	9,308		9,308	4,920
Subscriptions	2,484		2,484	0
Gift Aid	2,474		2,474	1,018
Grants	6,000		6,000	0
Bank interest	38		38	63
Projects: Piano income	360		360	0
Projects: Chamber Music Workshop	926		926	0
Projects: Young Musician Competition	0		0	0
Fund raising income	0		0	0
Miscellaneous	0		0	0
	<u>21,589</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>21,589</u>	<u>6,001</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Administration, postage, meetings	121		121	117
Examination of accounts	150		150	150
Insurance	562		562	704
Bank charges	267		267	251
Advertising & Publicity	100		100	0
Training	0		0	0
Projects: Piano expenses	(350)	350	0	0
Projects: Chamber Music Workshop	802		802	0
Projects: Young Musician Competition	0	0	0	0
Artists - Bursary			0	3,881
Educational artists	0		0	0
Equipment				(198)
Depreciation	1,574		1,574	683
Fund raising expenditure	0		0	0
Miscellaneous	0		0	0
	<u>3,227</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>3,577</u>	<u>5,589</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<u>18,362</u>	<u>(350)</u>	<u>18,012</u>	<u>412</u>

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2022

	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
<b>b Re: Celebrity Concerts</b>				
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Sale of non-season tickets	510		510	0
Subscriptions/season tickets	3,763		3,763	0
Programme income	113		113	0
Sponsorship/patrons/donations	562		562	0
Gift Aid	303		303	0
Grants	0		0	0
Fund raising income	1,157		1,157	0
Bequest	0		0	0
	<u>6,408</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,408</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Artists fees & expenses	4,400	0	4,400	2,430
Administration	0		0	0
Advertising & publicity	0		0	0
Hire of halls	887		887	0
Hire & maintenance of instruments	400		400	100
Misc inc PRS	175		175	0
Printing programmes & tickets	28		28	0
Ticket commission	24		24	0
Miscellaneous	109		109	0
Fund raising expenditure	0		0	0
	<u>6,023</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,023</u>	<u>2,530</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<u>385</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>385</u>	<u>(2,530)</u>

## CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>c Re: Choir</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Sale of tickets	25,035		0	
Programme income	674		0	
Sponsorship/patrons/donations	5,583		800	
Subscriptions	15,690		0	
Gift Aid	4,290		0	
Miscellaneous	0		0	
Members' music hire/purchase	984		15	
Fund raising income	4,044		0	
		<u>56,299</u>		<u>815</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Conductors & Accompanist	6,446		0	
Artists fees & expenses	8,367		800	
Orchestral fees & expenses	12,503		0	
Administration	328		0	
Advertising & publicity	696		0	
Hire of halls	9,026		0	
Staging costs	11,462		0	
Lighting	0		0	
Hire & maintenance of instruments	0		0	
Music	1,062		0	
Printing programmes & tickets	926		0	
Ticket commission	2,186		0	
Miscellaneous inc PRS	2,038		(900)	
Equipment	0		0	
Charity donation	50		0	
Members' music hire/purchase	50		0	
Fund raising expenditure	1,566		0	
		<u>56,706</u>		<u>(100)</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u>(407)</u>		<u>915</u>
<b>TRIPS ACCOUNT (RESTRICTED FUNDS)</b>				
Surplus on agency payments			(1,747)	
Cost of administration		96		82
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u>(96)</u>		<u>(1,828)</u>

# CHESTER MUSIC SOCIETY

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 July 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
e <b>Re: Showcase</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Sale of tickets	237		0	
Subscriptions	0		0	
Refreshments	0		0	
Sponsorship/Donations	0		0	
Misc	0		0	
Fundraising income	0		0	
	<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>	
		<b>237</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Artists fees & expenses	400		300	
Administration	0		0	
Advertising & publicity	0		0	
Printing	0		0	
Hire of halls	166		0	
Piano tuning	0		0	
Refreshments	0		0	
Miscellaneous, inc equipment & PRS	41			
Fund raising expenditure	0		0	
	<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>	
		<b>607</b>		<b>300</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u><u><b>(370)</b></u></u>		<u><u><b>(300)</b></u></u>