

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1141596

Details

Other names BFCS

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [07346050](#)

Registered 2011-04-26

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

Contact

Address 78 Sappgate Lane
Thornton
Bradford
West Yorkshire
BD13 3DY

Phone 07951865008

Email bradfordfestivalchoralsociety@googlemail.com

Website www.bradfordfestivalchoralsociety.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE STUDY AND THE PRACTICE OF CHORAL MUSIC IN ORDER TO FOSTER PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATION OF SUCH MUSIC BY MEANS OF PUBLIC PERFORMANCE AND SUCH OTHER EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE WAYS AS THE CHARITY THROUGH ITS TRUSTEES SHALL DETERMINE FROM TIME TO TIME

Activities: Choral singing; education in choral singing/vocal training; public performances

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BRADFORD CITY
- Bradford City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£93,475	£90,460	-	-
2024-06-30	£74,770	£65,535	-	-
2023-06-30	£34,179	£39,829	-	-
2022-06-30	£54,501	£57,304	-	-
2021-06-30	£25,277	£32,916	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Elaine Carol Schack	Chair	2023-10-18
Colin Richard Penfold		2022-01-23
Dr Christopher John Healey		2025-10-22
Dr Linda Wilson		2025-10-22
Dr Susan Ruth Whittle		2023-10-18
Elizabeth Kingsley		2019-10-23
JOHN PATRICK DISKEN		
James Roger Kuenssberg Kingsley		2022-10-19
Kate Emily Limbert		2024-10-23
MARK CLAYTON		
Sara Jane Daniel		2019-10-23
Sue Hayton		2017-10-18
Susan Elizabeth Holmes		2022-01-23
Susan Margaret Bennett		2019-10-23

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1141596

Accounts



Annual Report July 2024 to June 2025

Registered charity: 1141596
Registered company in England: 7346050
Registered office: 78, Sappgate Lane, Thornton, Bradford BD13 3DY
www.bradfordfestivalchoralsociety.org.uk
Facebook: Bradford Festival Choral Society X: @bfcs1856

Contents

Chair's Report	3.
Music Director's Report	4.
Chorus Secretary's Report	5
News from the library	6.
Bradford Friendship Choir Report	7.
Treasurer's Report	9.
Legal and administrative information	10.
Accounts	11.

Elaine Schack, Chair's Report

2024/2025 achievements linked to our six strategic aims:

1.To sing a range of music centred on the classical canon

This year our concerts have featured music by Rossini, Carl Orff, Reena Esmail, Roxanna Panufnik, Sally Beamish, Judith Weir, Anna Thorvaldsdottir, Vierne and Parry. Our Musical Director Thomas Leech and our Assistant MD Christopher Pulleyn put together musical programmes that are diverse, interesting and challenging. As a result in September 2025, Bradford Festival Choral Society was named the **winner of the inaugural Making Music UK Diverse Programming Award**. The award celebrates ensembles whose repertoire reflects the breadth and richness of today's world. BFCS was recognised for its adventurous and inclusive programming, with judges praising the choir as *"living and breathing diverse programming"* and noting its *"authentic and fully integrated approach."*

2.To maintain financial health by active planning

Trustees receive a report from our Finance Officer at every meeting. Increased membership and good audiences have enabled us to maintain a healthy balance this year. Concerts are extremely costly to put on with fees for the venue, the orchestra and the soloists, so good ticket sales are crucial. We have also raised funds through additional events like the Come and Sing days, sponsorship, merchandise, programme sales, raffles, the Composers Club and Bring and Buy sales. A Finance Report is provided to members annually.

3.Maintain membership

Choir members have been so important to the success of BFCS this year. Membership numbers have increased. We had our biggest Christmas choir ever and, at the Cathedral we could hardly all fit in there were so many of us! We aim for a cohort of 120+ members to draw on in order to perform big classical works. Thanks go to all members who have spread the word and encouraged others to come and join us.

4.Increase concert audience

All our concerts have seen good ticket sales this year, thanks to members for spreading the word and especially to the tireless efforts of our Marketing and Communications Trustee. The choir has been featured on the Big Screens in Bradford City Park and at the Darley Street market. Articles promoting concerts have been featured in the Yorkshire Post, Yorkshire Life, The T&A and the Asian Express as well as being strongly promoted on social media.

5.Seek to foster music in the wider Bradford community

We have continued to support the Bradford Friendship Choir and were delighted when some of our members joined with them at RISE the opening ceremony of BD25. We are currently looking at ways to further collaborate with them in the future. We invite members of the Friendship Choir to our concerts along with members of the Anchor Project and Bradford Music Service. Our performance of This Love Between Us by Reena Esmail enabled us to reach out to communities that don't usually attend our concerts. As a result, trustee **Sara Daniel was nominated for the Asian Express Outstanding Woman of Culture award**.

6.Maintain the organisation in a way that fosters effectiveness, democracy and accountability.

The choir is run by a group of volunteer Trustees who meet twice a term. As a registered charity we comply with the Charities Commission requirements, with appropriate risk assessments, Safeguarding lead and all policies in place. Our Company Secretary organises the AGM so members can hold trustees accountable and have their say.

Tom Leech, Music Director's Report

The 2024-2025 season continued to build on recent successes and development, and marked the first full season of rehearsals in the choir's current regular rehearsal venue, BGS Clock House.

Our autumn programme featured Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle - a great sing, its melodic ease belying the difficulty of many of the choruses for the choir. It was a great opportunity to focus on the choir's overall sound, and our regular autumn Come and Sing afternoon provided further impetus in October. The concert itself was very successful musically, with a great team of soloists, internationally renowned organist Jonathan Scott playing an authentic 19th century harmonium (and treating us to a demonstration and two virtuosic solos) and of course Chris' superb rendition of the piano part.

The Christmas Concert was excellent, with a selection of repertoire both new and familiar, including a reintroduction of Gordon Langford's Christmas Fantasy to our repertoire, and young soloists from Leeds Cathedral Choir. Rothwell Temperance Band accompanied brilliantly, and provided three outstanding band only items.

We then moved on to the spring concert, with Carmina Burana and Reena Esmail's This love between us. The familiarity of Carmina to many seasoned choral singers doesn't make it any less demanding, requiring great stamina and confidence in the huge amount of text - and the choir rapidly and positively responded to the challenge. The complicated Esmail was harder to get to grips with in the initial rehearsal, but with careful planning and lots of hard work, we reached the concert day in good shape, albeit with a degree of trepidation. Putting this together in a short afternoon rehearsal, with sitar and tabla players unfamiliar to this kind of rehearsal (although well prepared by us in advance) was a great achievement - and the audience were delighted with the final result. Reena wrote to me last month saying:

'I know this performance was so many months ago, but I just wanted to write to you and say that it has still been reverberating -- I can't tell you how many times I will meet someone from the UK who will say that they were in the audience, or knew a soloist, or even just heard about it happening. I think it has made such a wonderful impact in ways I am still learning! Thank you so much for all you did to make this performance such a resounding success.'
The concert was a key part in our recent Making Music award for diverse programming.

Finally, our summer concert saw us perform in Bradford Cathedral for the first time since 2010 in a programme of varied sacred music for choir and organ. With our largest summer concert choir since we introduced summer concerts, the sound was excellent - enhanced by Will Campbell's superb accompaniments - and the choir gave compelling accounts of much music new to us, including recent motets by Judith Weir, Anthony Gray and Daniel Justin, as well as Vierne's Messe Solennelle.

It's been another very positive year with the choir, and we're looking ahead to a very good season, including two major oratorios at St George's Hall. We need to continue to work hard to build audience numbers, ensure the balance of voice parts and experienced to less-experienced members, and look at how we can realistically offer more musical development to members. Our programming continues to be diverse and innovative, and choirs like ours must play an active role in ensuring classical choral music has a vibrant future.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, trustees, and of course to Chris for his superb musical support. Above all thank you to our members for their commitment to BFCS.

Sue Bennett, Chorus Secretary Report

A good year! The Choir membership numbers remain stable with a very slight increase from 133 at the end of the 2023-24 season with 47 Sopranos, 48 Altos, 11 Tenors, 27 Basses to 136 at the end of the 2024-25 year with 45 Sopranos, 50 Altos, 12 Tenors & 29 Basses as we welcomed new members to replace those that have left.

We continue to enjoy the excellent facilities at BGS. Clock House is a great venue with onsite parking and the fact that we can use the same venue for the whole year, is great for the musical continuity. Continuing to stream rehearsals on Zoom is again proving helpful (if tricky at times) in enabling members to access rehearsals if they cannot attend in person.

For Concerts the singing numbers were better than last year with audience numbers up too. In November Rossini Petite Messe Solennelle at Price Hall was very well received and had 111 singers (90 last year) and a good audience. The Christmas Concert with Brass Band is always enjoyed by everyone and had 98 singers (97 last year). Carmina Burana which we sang at St George's Hall was amazing with 110 choir members and extra guest singers (117 last year) and the Summer Concert, Echoes of Eternity, at Bradford Cathedral had a choir of 100 (74 last year). Huge thanks to Tom and Chris for all these and particularly for the Reena Esmail piece This Love Between Us - which despite being out of our comfort zone, and challenging, was a real triumph!

If we want to continue to sing at these wonderful venues it's really important to support Tom and Chris by trying to attend all rehearsals and concerts. They work very hard to get us to a high standard musically but we need to be at the rehearsals to benefit from that. It's so important to prioritise the concerts and sell the tickets to enable them to be musically and financially viable. More singers usually generate higher audience numbers!

We still need to keep recruiting members to replace those that leave for a variety of reasons – mainly work commitments, retirement or family issues. The website (which is looking great now), social media and fliers are all important in encouraging new members to come but the personal approach is still the most effective - so please continue to encourage your friends, family and work colleagues to come along to a rehearsal and continue to circulate leaflets, publicise our concerts and events and most importantly - sell tickets! Huge thanks to Sara Daniel who has done a great job with her enthusiasm, marketing and advertising to drive up sales.

Thank you to all members for your amazing help and support for everything we do. Your contributions for the raffles, bring and buys and providing amazing food for the buffets have helped raise over £1500 this year. Thanks also to all those who help with rehearsals and concerts - to Rosy Lambert who organises the voice checks and along with Anne Huntley and Hilary Luckham greet you cheerfully at registration; to Elizabeth Emmett who organises the refreshments; Colin Penfold and Judith Martin who sort all the music; Sara Daniel who sends the weekly email; James Kingsley who sells tickets; John Martins who organises the food bank; Sue Whittle who organises the concerts; Zoe Pilling who runs the Composers Club and to the Trustees –who work very hard in a variety of roles and especially to Elaine for taking on the role of Chair and doing it so well.

2024-2025 has proved to be a great year with many successes for the choir – in no small measure because of the fantastic work and the brilliant job Tom and Chris do. Rehearsals are always purposeful, fast paced, challenging, productive - and fun! - with the aim of taking us forward to greater things. Tom and Chris your skills defy description and I think you know how much we all appreciate you. Thank you for the brilliant job you do both with rehearsals and concerts, giving us the opportunity to sing amazing music

News from the library, Colin Penfold and Judith Martin

Judith Martin (Assistant Librarian) and I would first like to thank everyone for looking after their copies and returning them promptly without too many reminders – reports from fellow librarians suggest that not all choirs have such punctilious members. You really make our task that much lighter.

Issuing and collecting in music is the proverbial tip of the iceberg. First, BFCS has a policy of supplying all the music for our programme (not all choirs do this); this means hiring it in (which is why returning it is so important), buying commercial copies, or printing copies under licence. Our main source is Leeds City Music Library (formerly West Yorkshire Music Service); they are always most helpful, and easily accessible, thus saving us a vast amount on postage. Similarly, printing is done by Bradford Cathedral at very competitive rates.

Second, we have a thriving business in hiring out music old and new. The catalogue was updated and digitised during Covid, which makes responding to enquiries much easier. From time to time we have a cull of worn-out or redundant copies, but it is surprising what we are asked for, most recently, Stanford's Songs of the Fleet, which are in such poor condition that we might have thrown them out; instead, we hired them at a discount. The income covers the annual rental of part of an attic for storage above St Peter's Church Hall, Shipley.

As you can imagine, for some concerts where we are singing several small works, the task of collating music takes up some space and time, and we are both fortunate to live in tolerant homes. We are also grateful for those members who offer the occasional extra pair of hands, and would always welcome more.

Deb Collett and Shirley Brierley, Co-Chairs, Bradford Friendship Choir

Bradford Friendship Choir is BFCS's community outreach; a joyful singing sanctuary which focuses on welcoming and supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. We celebrate our diversity and shared experience through the power of song. This cooperative joint venture is made possible by the generous commitment of many volunteers from both choirs. Notably Elaine as the principal link, Mark as Treasurer, Sue Whittle for her invaluable administrative support, and many others.

We have enjoyed being part of Bradford 2025 enormously. We secured grants from both the Creative Communities and Creative Health funding streams and have also performed at the RISE opening event, Beacon Lister Park and look forward to singing at the grand opening of Hope in Flight at the Anchor Project in October, and in Salts Mill during the final weekend of the wonderful exhibition We Will Sing.

Although our attendance numbers at our weekly sessions are consistent, the membership of our choir is not. On any Tuesday, over 50% of members are asylum seekers or refugees and between 3 and 6 of those will be people newly arrived, sometimes only days ago. We strive to ensure everybody feels welcome and safe. There is no pressure to sing. We became increasingly aware of the impact of the hostile environment we are all living in, and the extent to which so many of our choir members' lives are affected by traumatic experiences. So, we have embarked on a Trauma Informed Practice learning and development project involving 10 choir members and our Musical Directing Team. It has been a great opportunity to work together sharing knowledge, questions and suggestions. It has increased peoples' confidence to be more active and thus increased our capacity to do more. Which is just as well because there have been so many opportunities! Bradford 2025 has been generous in offering free places (as has Bradford Festival Choral Society) but it takes a lot of volunteer person power to encourage and support uptake.

It has been great to have a consistent and developing musical leadership. Alice and Furaha have worked hard to create a relaxing warmup routine and introduced a wide range of songs, both for our own enjoyment and for our public performances.

We have recently advertised widely for new musicians to join our team, as we seek to further diversify and offer opportunities to global majority and refugee experienced potential choir leaders. We have been very excited by the response. Furaha will be our Musical Director for 4 months to February 2026 whilst Alice has a well-earned sabbatical (not a rest though as she will be touring!)

We have submitted an Awards for All bid to cover most of our costs throughout 2026, including increasing our sessions from 40 to 46 a year. Our fingers are crossed and we should know the outcome by November 2025.

Bradford Friendship Choir photographs overleaf from the top:
RISE rehearsal for Bradford UK City of Culture, January 2025
RISE Opening Ceremony for Bradford UK City of Culture, January 2025
Summer Picnic Creative Communities BD 2025 event with Anchor Project June 2025
Lister Park BD2025 event: Singing at the Tent of Hope event in August 2025.



Mark Clayton, Treasurer's Report

The Choir members are all unpaid volunteers and derive no financial benefit from membership. Choir members pay a subscription set at the Annual General Meeting.

The Choir's income for the year was £93,475, of which £68,632 was generated to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £24,842 was generated to support Bradford Friendship Choir.

The Choir's expenditure was £90,460, of which £68,634 was used to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £21,826 was used to support Bradford Friendship Choir.

The Choir generated a surplus of £3,014 which included a deficit of -£2 for the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and a surplus of £3,016 for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

Income from BFCS concerts performed over the year was £27,996. Concert costs were £36,094. Concert sponsorship was £1,200 which meant that BFCS concerts generated a deficit of -£6,897.

Bradford Friendship Choir concerts and performances generated income of £1,160 over the year. Non concert income was £64,278 of which £39,436 was generated to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £24,842 was generated to support Bradford Friendship Choir.

Non concert expenditure was £54,367, of which £32,541 was used to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £21,826 was used to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir generated a non-concert surplus of £9,912 of which £6,896 was a surplus for the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £3,016 was a surplus for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

The Choir's funds available at the end of the year were £45,234, of which £15,789 was restricted to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The total funds available to Bradford Festival Choral Society excluding Bradford Friendship Choir funds at the end of the year were £29,445.

Full details are set out in the attached Statement of financial affairs, balance sheet, income and expenditure accounts.

The accounts have been independently examined by John Martins (MA Cantab, Mathematics), who has been Managing Director / Chairman of the Board of Datacable Ltd and its predecessor companies for 36 years and has been submitting accounts to Companies House throughout that time, and carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. Details are in the attached Independent Examiners Statement.

Reserves policy

It is BFCS's policy to retain sufficient in reserves for BFCS operation costs and overheads for six months. At the end of the financial year un-restricted reserves were £29,186 which is more than adequate.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

(Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Legal and administrative information

Year ended 30 June 2025

Company Number	07346050
Charity Number	1141596
Trustees	Elaine Schack, Chair Mark Clayton, Treasurer Sue Hayton, Secretary Sue Bennett Susan Holmes Elizabeth Kingsley James Kingsley Colin Penfold Zoe Callon Sue Whittle Sara Daniel John Diskin
Registered Office	78 Sappgate Lane Thornton Bradford England BD13 3DY
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc Bradford West Yorkshire
Independent Examiner	John Martin Datacable Ltd Unit 17, Parkwood Business Park Parkwood Street Keighley BD21 4WD

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the accounts of the society for the year ended 30 June 2025 is in respect of an examination carried out under s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under s. 144(2) of the Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts (under s.145(5)(b) of the Act);
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission
- (3) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s. 145 of the Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the committee and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

- (1) In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and which comply with the regulations
- have not been met.

John Martins (MA Cantab, Mathematics)

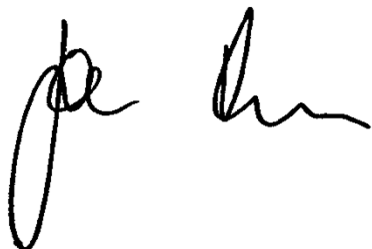
DataCable Ltd

Unit 17, Parkwood Business Park

Parkwood Street

Keighley

BD21 4WD



4th October 2025

Bradford Festival Choral Society

**Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 30 June 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2024 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income:	10				
Subscriptions		25,882	-	25,882	22,502
Donations		1,448	3,629	5,077	5,700
Activities for generating funds:	10				
Fundraising activities		11,117	-	11,117	8,860
Music hire		664	-	664	314
Investment income		325	-	325	352
Incoming resources from charitable activities:	3				
Concerts & performance income		27,996	1,160	29,156	23,901
Grants		-	20,053	20,053	11,940
Sponsorship		1,200	-	1,200	1,201
Total incoming resources		68,632	24,842	93,475	74,770
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising activities		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities:					
Concerts & performance expenses	4	(36,094)	-	(36,094)	(28,040)
Rehearsal & other costs	4	(31,109)	(22,826)	(53,935)	(37,075)
Governance costs					
Independent Examiner's fees	11	(432)	-	(432)	(420)
Total resources expended		(67,634)	(22,826)	(90,460)	(65,656)
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		998	2,016	3,014	9,235
Transfers between funds			-	-	-
Total funds brought forward	8	28,188	14,032	42,221	32,986
Total funds carried forward		29,186	16,048	45,234	42,221

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

Mark Clayton - Treasurer

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		-		-
Current assets					
Stocks		69		71	
Debtors	6	15,100		16,744	
Cash and bank balances		32,259		26,036	
		<u>47,428</u>		<u>42,851</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due in					
less than one year	7	(2,195)		(630)	
Net current assets			45,234		42,221
Net assets			<u>45,234</u>		<u>42,221</u>
Reserves					
Unrestricted funds	8		29,186		28,188
Restricted funds	8		16,048		14,032
	8		<u>45,234</u>		<u>42,221</u>

For the year ended 30th June 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476..

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies subject to small companies' régime and were approved by the board on 22 October 2025.

.....
Elaine Schack
Chair

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports

Year ended 30 June 2025

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) and follow the recommendations in *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2005*.

(b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on the straight line basis on tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off each asset over its expected useful life at the following annual rates:

Equipment	10%
-----------	-----

(c) Grant income

General purpose grants are credited to the income and expenditure account in the period received. Ear-marked grant income is matched to the associated expenditure and recognised in the accounts in the period when the performance expenses are incurred.

(d) Leasing

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to income and expenditure account as incurred.

2 Net incoming resources

2025	2024
£	£

Is stated after charging:

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets owned by the company	-	-
--	---	---

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2025

3 Incoming resources - charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	2024		Total £
				Unrestricted £	Designated £	
Grants & sponsorship						
Other	1,200	-	1,200	1,201	-	1,201
Income from concerts and performances: Gross income from admission charges, programme and refreshment sales	27,996	-	27,996	23,774	-	23,774
	29,196	-	29,196	24,975	-	24,975

4 Analysis of expenditure on charitable expenses

	Concerts and performances £	Rehearsal & other costs £	Total £	2024		Total £
				Concerts and performances £	Rehearsal & other costs £	
Musical director's & accompanists' fees	-	(13,019)	(13,019)	-	(10,504)	(10,504)
Conductor, musicians & soloists fees	(23,790)	(125)	(23,915)	(20,401)	(612)	(21,013)
Production expenses	(3,666)	(5,341)	(9,006)	(2,468)	(4,262)	(6,730)
Venue & facilities hire	(5,162)	(3,957)	(9,118)	(3,762)	(4,277)	(8,039)
Box office and front of house	(722)	-	(722)	(429)	-	(429)
Promotion & marketing	(2,713)	(3,374)	(6,086)	(939)	(2,786)	(3,725)
Other costs	(42)	(6,109)	(6,151)	(42)	(2,583)	(2,625)
Donations	-	(185)	(185)	-	(407)	(407)
Friendship Choir	-	(21,826)	(21,826)	-	(11,643)	(11,643)
	(36,094)	(53,935)	(90,028)	(28,041)	(37,074)	(65,115)

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2025

5 Tangible Fixed assets	Office Equipment & musical instruments	Total
Cost:	£	£
At start of period	-	-
Additions	-	-
	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Depreciation:		
At start of period	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value		
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At start of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
6 Debtors & prepayments	2025	2024
	£	£
Accrued income	15,100	13,500
Prepayments		682
	<u>15,100</u>	<u>14,182</u>

Accrued income includes £15,100 of Gift Aid covering the last four years which is in the process of being claimed.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2025

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors & accruals	(2,195)	(630)
Deferred income	-	-
	<u>(2,195)</u>	<u>(630)</u>

8 Movement in funds

	At start of year	Movement in funds			At end of year
		Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfer	
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Transfers on incorporation:					
Bullock Fund	209	-	-	-	209
Music Fund	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Scholarship Fund	50	-	-	-	50
Friendship Choir	12,773	24,842	(21,826)	-	15,789
Total restricted funds	<u>14,032</u>	<u>24,842</u>	<u>(22,826)</u>	-	<u>16,048</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	28,188	67,432	(67,634)	1,200	29,186
Designated funds:					
Sponsorship	-	1,200	-	(1,200)	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>28,188</u>	<u>68,632</u>	<u>(67,634)</u>	-	<u>29,186</u>
Total funds	<u>42,220</u>	<u>93,475</u>	<u>(90,460)</u>	-	<u>45,234</u>

9 Guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

Bradford Festival Choral Society
Detailed income & expenditure account
Year ended 30 June 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
10 Income				
Members' subscriptions		22,178		18,736
Gift aid tax relief - Current Year		3,500		3,500
Composers Club		700		777
Friendship Choir Donations		3,329		4,227
Friendship Choir Gift Aid - Current Year		300		400
General Donation		1,448		308
Grants		-		-
Friendship Choir Grants		20,053		11,940
Interest received		325		352
Self-help & fund-raising		4,977		2,734
Performance fees		-		-
Friendship Choir Performance Fees		1,160		127
Come & sing - fees & Income		5,440		5,349
Learn To Sing		-		-
Music hire/sales		664		314
Gift aid Adjustment - Previous Years		204		266
Friendship Choir Gift Aid Adjustment - Previous Years		-		766
		<u>64,278</u>		<u>49,795</u>
Concerts surplus/(deficit), per schedule		(6,897)		(3,065)
11 Expenses				
Rehearsals/General				
MD Voice Check fees	(	180 )	(	450)
Choir MD	(	8,320 )	(	5,400)
Accompanists fees	(	4,404 )	(	4,384)
Voice coaching	(	115 )	(	270)
Non concert performance fees/Costs	(	125 )	(	612)
Come & Sing	(	3,177 )	(	3,663)
Friendship Choir Support	(	21,826 )	(	11,643)
Room hire	(	3,957 )	(	4,277)
Folders Purchase		-	(	302)
Learn to Sing Course		-		-
Subscriptions	(	566 )	(	543)
Music Scores Purchase	(	1,928 )	(	600)
Music Library Costs	(	770 )	(	648)
Printing, postage & stationery	(	511 )	(	79)
Advertising/Promotion	(	2,233 )	(	2,330)
Meeting Room Costs	(	190 )	(	106)
Fund Raising Costs	(	4,088 )	(	564)
Independent examiner's fee	(	432 )	(	420)
Gifts & Sundries	(	236)		-
Bank charges		-		-
Other Charges		-		-
Musical Equipment	(	25 )	(	420)
Website & Domain names etc	(	629 )	(	377)
Choir Development		-		-
Donations	(	185 )	(	407)
Pre Payment Write Down	(	470)		-
	-	<u>(54,367)</u>		<u>(37,495)</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the season		<u>3,014</u>		<u>9,235</u>

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Concerts account

Year ended 30 June 2025

	2024-25 Season				Total £	2024 Total £
	Rossini	Xmas	Carmina Burana	Echoes of Eternity		
	£	£	£	£		
12 Income						
Ticket sales	3,034	3,192	14,326	3,750	24,302	20,230
Programme/Other sales	300	482	826	305	1,913	1,797
Sale of refreshments	484	783	-	-	1,267	1,061
Raffle	245	270	-	-	515	686
Gross income	<u>4,063</u>	<u>4,727</u>	<u>15,151</u>	<u>4,055</u>	<u>27,996</u>	<u>23,774</u>
13 Concert costs						
Soloists	(1,750)	-	(1,950)	-	(3,700)	(3,866)
Organist/accompanist	(1,050)	(200)	(250)	(250)	(1,750)	(850)
Ensemble/Musicians	-	(1,400)	(11,900)	-	(13,300)	(10,850)
Chorus Singers	(320)	(550)	(545)	(425)	(1,840)	(1,935)
Conductor	(800)	(800)	(800)	(800)	(3,200)	(2,900)
Instrument hire and tuning	(370)	-	-	-	(370)	-
Soloists Gifts	(35)	(23)	(54)	(16)	(127)	(33)
Venue Hire	(1,004)	(1,004)	(1,100)	(1,787)	(4,894)	(2,603)
Technical Charges	-	-	(268)	-	(268)	(1,159)
Production Charges	-	-	-	-	-	(87)
Music hire etc	(177)	(164)	(1,131)	(460)	(1,933)	(1,176)
Ticket Print Costs	(55)	(55)	-	(45)	(156)	(939)
Publicity Costs	(319)	(309)	(1,205)	(880)	(2,713)	(1,065)
Programmes	(220)	(310)	(395)	(155)	(1,080)	(1,065)
Refreshment Costs	(208)	(514)	-	-	(722)	(429)
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	(21)	(21)	-	-	(42)	(42)
Total costs	<u>(6,329)</u>	<u>(5,349)</u>	<u>(19,598)</u>	<u>(4,818)</u>	<u>(36,094)</u>	<u>(28,040)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before sponsorship	(2,265)	(622)	(4,447)	(763)	(8,097)	(4,266)
Sponsorship:	300	350	300	250	1,200	1,200
Net surplus / (deficit)	<u>(1,965)</u>	<u>(272)</u>	<u>(4,147)</u>	<u>(513)</u>	<u>(6,897)</u>	<u>(3,065)</u>

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1141596

Accounts



Annual Report July 2023 to June 2024

Registered charity: 1141596
Registered company in England: 7346050
Registered office: 78, Saggate Lane, Thornton, Bradford BD13 3DY
www.bradfordfestivalchoralsociety.org.uk
Facebook: Bradford Festival Choral Society X: @bfcs1856

Contents

Chair's report	3.
Music Director's Report	4.
Chorus Secretary's Report	6.
Bradford Friendship Choir Report	7.
Treasurer's Report	11.
Legal and administrative information	12.
Accounts	13.

Sara Daniel, Chair's Report

This past year has been pivotal for us, marked by key achievements that align with our strategic aims.

A New Home: A major change this year was our move to Bradford Grammar School for rehearsals. This venue has provided consistency throughout our season, as well as offering a reliable and accessible space for our members. With ample parking and proximity to public transport, participation has become more convenient, aligning with our goal of maintaining a strong membership.

Membership Growth: Our membership has grown, with the performance of *Elijah* being a key highlight that attracted more singers. We've also made strides in recruiting more tenors and basses, a priority in achieving the sound envisioned by our musical team. Recruitment of experienced singers, including tenors and basses remains a focus to uphold our musical standards.

Expanding Our Reach: We have enhanced our publicity efforts. Notably, we showcased our choir on Bradford City Park's big screen, reaching a wider audience along with a dedicated budget for paid press articles, increasing our visibility and attracting new concertgoers. Additionally, we improved member awareness of our financial model, clarifying the role of membership fees and ticket sales in sustaining our activities. This has strengthened support for ticket sales and helped achieve our goal of increasing audience numbers and maintaining financial stability.

Increasing Concert Audiences: In addition to our outreach efforts, we have been striving to increase concert audiences with high quality musical programming and performances, as well as exploring different venue locations and concert times. The exceptional standard of guest professional musicians also supports this aim, with our own fundraising efforts such as the 100 Composers Club, bring and buy sales and our raffles supporting this financially. The overwhelmingly positive feedback from our audiences is a testament to the efforts of our excellent musical team as well as to the commitment of our members.

Community: Community spirit remains central to our choir's identity. We continued our support for Bradford Friendship Choir, and our members generously supported the Bradford Metropolitan Food Bank. Our 'pay it forward' initiative for *Elijah* was a success, with choir members funding tickets for refugees, asylum seekers, and young musicians supported by Bradford Music Service. These efforts have strengthened partnerships with local groups and introduced music to new audiences.

Accessibility: We have maintained our offer of free tickets for under 18s and £5 tickets for under 30s and those on a low income for our own concerts. To make our performances even more inclusive, we have continued to provide resources for our young audience members, and we introduced a quiet space at concert venues for anyone needing respite from the bustle of a busy concert venue. This initiative was well-received and reflects our commitment to ensuring that everyone can enjoy our music in a welcoming environment.

Conclusion: I'm sad to confirm that it is time for me to step down as chair, and while it is difficult to pull back from this role, I know the choir will continue to thrive under new leadership. The accomplishments over the last season have set a strong foundation for the future, and I look forward to supporting our new chair in building on this success in the coming year. Thank you to all our members, volunteers, trustees, and musical team for their unwavering support; without your many and varied contributions our choir would not be what it is today, and I'm personally very proud of the journey we are on together.

Tom Leech, Music Director's Report

We can look back on the 2023-24 season with a great deal of musical satisfaction and pride as the choir continues to develop musically and grow in membership.

Our autumn programme returned to Will Todd's Mass in Blue and extracts from Duke Ellington's Sacred Concerts, as well as music by Anna Thorvaldsdottir and a world premiere of Now Welcome Somer by Lillie Harris. The choir sang very well in what was a musically and stylistically demanding concert, and it was great to collaborate with musicians from the local (and excellent) GT Big Band.

The achievement of the concert was supported by a very enjoyable and well-attended Mass in Blue workshop earlier in the term - having Lorna, soloist for the main concert, drop in to sing in the informal performance really helped the choir get a sense of how exciting the November concert would be.

The Christmas Concert had many highlights in a programme including several pieces new to the choir (among them works by Sally Beamish, Lillie Harris and Sasha Johnson-Manning). While preparation was made slightly awkward by the - completely necessary - experimentation with different rehearsal venues, the choir did a great job, and as usual Rothwell Temperance Band accompanied brilliantly, and provided three outstanding band only items.

Building on the success of 2023's Mozart Requiem, we returned to St George's Hall as part of the Bradford International Concert Season for Mendelssohn's Elijah, one of the most substantial works the choir have performed in my time as Musical Director. Rehearsals started at Bradford Grammar School Clock House, and we rapidly got used to the rooms and have enjoyed the venue.

In preparation we put on a full-day workshop, with vocal coaching from ex-Voces8 soprano Eleonore Cockerham and tenor Alex Kyle, and guest conducting from Paul McCreesh, Artistic Director of Gabrieli, and conductor on one of the finest recordings of Elijah available. This excellent day was invaluable preparation!

The concert itself was a great success - it's a tremendously hard piece to pull together with just a three-hour rehearsal on the day - with the orchestra excellent and soloists outstanding. We were joined by some young singers from the Diocese of Leeds, including soloist Michelle Ocheme, and the choir sang brilliantly, with a great range of expression and superb stamina.

This then marked the start of my pre-planned term sabbatical - the first break I've had from BFCS since taking on the role in January 2008. This was planned to provide me with the opportunity to observe a number of other choirs, and for Chris to gain experience directing BFCS (and the choir to enjoy his input!). From watching many different rehearsals last term I've gained some new ideas, different ways of doing the same things, and confidence that BFCS is indeed a very well-run choir with an excellent atmosphere and - dare I say it - very good rehearsals!

Of the summer term, Chris writes:

It was a great experience to step into the driving seat for a term, and I was flattered that Tom felt confident enough to trust me with the keys! It's one thing to step in and cover a rehearsal, but quite another to have the responsibility to plan, prepare and organise one concert. We kicked things off with our performance at Cliffe Castle - we successfully managed to condense Elijah - normally a two-hour work - into one hour, while still keeping a

sense of the narrative, and with just one soloist - the impressive, young Baritone Jonny Mills, and Jenny Martins' wonderful accompaniment. It was great to have an extra chance to perform the piece, and a great turn out from the choir after the Easter break, as well as a packed audience who seemed to thoroughly enjoy the performance.

Then it was straight back to work for our Opera Odyssey - I'd worked hard to try and do something a bit different for the Summer concert - and I think my efforts were well worth it! It was a challenging programme, largely due to the languages and the challenging score-reading, but it was so rewarding to see, week by week, the choir grow in confidence and be won over by my dramatic concept. The end result was a really exciting concert with some fantastic and committed singing (and acting!) by the choir, with lots of fun had by all, a sold out venue, and fantastic audience feedback.

I hope that we can use the Opera Odyssey concert as a template for future summer concerts - to experiment and try new ideas, to push ourselves out of our comfort zone, and be at the forefront of new ways for choral societies to programme, present and perform.

I'd also like to give a special mention to Will Campbell for stepping in to play for the term - we were so lucky to find someone who was so skilled and so friendly and supportive - he was the perfect fit for this choir, and I thoroughly enjoyed working with him.

It's been an excellent year with the choir, and we're looking ahead to a very good season, including an ambitious spring concert in St George's again. We need to continue to work hard to build audience numbers, ensure the balance of voice parts and experienced to less-experienced members, and look at how we can realistically offer more musical development to members. Our programming continues to be diverse and innovative, and choirs like ours must play an active role in ensuring classical choral music has a vibrant future.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, trustees, and of course to Chris for his superb musical support. Above all thank you to our members for their commitment to BFCS.

Sue Bennett, Chorus Secretary Report

In September 2023 I'm pleased to say we started the year with 115 members (compared to 96 in Sept 2022) – 45 Sopranos, 41 Altos, 8 Tenors, 21 Basses and this increased to 133 members by the Summer term – 47 Sopranos, 48 Altos, 11 Tenors, 27 Basses.

The increase in subs that more members generate means more investment in concerts which are very expensive! We were also able to change our rehearsal venue to Clock House at BGS - a great venue with excellent facilities and parking, on good transport routes and we can use the same venue for all of the year without the need to change because of exams which is great for the musical continuity.

Continuing to stream rehearsals on Zoom is still proving helpful in enabling members to access rehearsals if they cannot attend in person.

Concert singing numbers were also much better last year with audience numbers up too. Mass in Blue at Price Hall with a great band was very well received and had 90 singers. The Christmas Concert with Brass Band is always enjoyed by everyone and had 97 singers. Mendelssohn's Elijah which we sang at SGH was amazing with 117 choir members and extra guest singers and the Summer Concert of Opera Choruses at Skipton Town Hall had 74 choir members and wonderful Opera North soloists. Huge thanks to Tom and Chris for these.

If we want to continue to sing at great venues it's still really important to support Tom and Chris by committing to attend all rehearsals and concerts. They work very hard to get us to a high standard musically but we need to be at the rehearsals and to prioritise the concerts and sell the tickets to enable them to be musically and financially viable. Concerts are expensive and fewer singers impact directly on audience numbers.

To ensure the choir continues to grow and maintain the ability to take on these larger choral works, it's important to keep recruiting more members. Most of these come through searching the website (which is looking great now), social media, fliers or from personal recommendation so please continue to encourage your friends, family and work colleagues to come along to a rehearsal and circulate leaflets, publicise our concerts and events and most importantly – sell tickets!

A big thank you to all those who help with rehearsals and concerts - to Rosy Lambert who organises the Voice Checks and along with Anne Huntley and Hilary Luckham help with registration. Thanks too to Elizabeth Emmett who organises the refreshments, Colin Penfold and Judith Martin who sort all the music, Zoe Callan who sends the weekly email, James Kingsley who sells ticket, John Martins who organises the food bank, Sue Whittle who organises the concerts, to the Trustees, to Zoe Pilling who runs the Composers Club which made an excellent £867 and finally thank you to all of you who have supported this and the raffles and Bring and Buys which have raised £1929-50 this year – really valuable sources of income!

2023-2024 has proved to be a very encouraging year with many successes for the choir – in no small measure because of the fantastic work and the brilliant job Tom and Chris do. Rehearsals are always purposeful, challenging - and fun - with the aim of taking us forward to greater things. I'm sure Tom has got new ideas and enthusiasm from his term's sabbatical and hopefully Chris really enjoyed his tremendous concert. We all did!

Thank you Tom and Chris and FINALLY of course thank you Sara, for all your enthusiasm, leadership, marketing and everything you have done to promote BFCS.

Shirley Brierley and Deb Collett Co-Chairs, Bradford Friendship Choir

Bradford Friendship Choir is a joyful singing sanctuary which focuses on welcoming and supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. We celebrate our diversity and shared experience through the power of song.

The beginning of this financial year was full of uncertainty. We had no grant funding, Kala Sangam was due to close for a massive refurbishment over the winter, many of our choir members were highly anxious about the threat of removal to Rwanda and we were still rebuilding after covid.

What a different picture now. We have completed an Awards for All Lottery project with two aims; creating four collaborative events with Bradford based refugee led groups and expanding and diversifying our musical team. We are pleased that Alice Phelps remains as our Musical Director to guide us through such changes. Mary Jane Walker is now on maternity leave, and we have welcomed back Fran Wyburn on several occasions. Our new Musical Assistants have been Mian Rahman and more recently Furaha Mussanzi who has brought an exciting new dynamic to our choir. We look forward to developing our relationships with BIASAN, Bradford Action for Refugees (Experts by Experience Group) and Bradford African Community in the years to come.

After much searching for a new venue, Kala Sangam offered us space in their temporary home at Bank House. We have a lovely, safe space right in the city centre and plan to move back with Kala Sangam once their building is complete and reopens as Bradford Arts Centre (hopefully August 2025). We have had to pay rent since January 2024 as Freedom Studios were no longer able to support us. Many thanks to them for their generosity since BFC first began. Fortunately, Sovereign Healthcare awarded us some funding towards the rent, as our basic running costs for 40 weekly sessions a year have now reached about £15,500.

Donations are vital and we ask those who can afford it to pay £5 every session, several choir members contribute regularly via standing orders, and we continue to promote our JustGiving campaign through our social media channels, website and flyers. This year, donations reached just over a quarter of our total budget, and we hope to increase that proportion. We are reliant on grant funding and were delighted to learn our application to Bradford 2025 Creative Communities Fund was successful, enabling us to deliver another exciting project next year.

We are so pleased to have achieved all our aims outlined in last year's report. None of which was possible without an enormous amount of support and volunteer labour. We are grateful for the contribution that Bradford Festival Choral Society members make to the continuing development of our choir. Thanks to Sara for her energy, enthusiasm and support, to Mark for keeping the accounts ship shape, to Sue Whittle for her administrative wizardry, to Sue Hayton for her help and guidance on personnel and safeguarding issues, and also to James for organising the online aspect of our sessions which have now ceased, and for maintaining our songbook.

Huge thanks to Karen Jones who was our main link with BFCS and co-chair for many years, taking a leading role in fundraising and project management as well as being such a cheerful and integral member of the choir. We wish her well and have welcomed Elaine Schack as our new link with BFCS.

Over the last 12 months, we have performed at Lawrence Batley Theatre at the summer Ras-e-Milan, as part of Leeds Piano Trail in Bradford City Centre and in Peel Park at the Great Get Together as part of Bradford Refugee Week. In addition, we sang with BIASAN

earlier in the year and had an amazing drumming and singing session this summer. This is in addition to our usual joyful sessions for 40 plus weeks of the year.

This coming year kicks off with our participation in Voices Weaving; a collaborative project involving 8 varied choirs across the north with composer Michael Betteridge and poet Ali Al-Jamri. We are working together throughout the autumn to produce an original song in Arabic and Farsi and will make a professional recording and music video. Then on to our Seasons Greetings project for Bradford 2025. We are also partners in the Street Choirs Festival in Bradford during June 2025. We approach this with a little more confidence now the Rwanda removal threat has been removed and Bradford has not been targeted by far-right groups – long may that continue.

Shirley is continuing as co-chair and has been joined by Deb. Their work is helped by increasing numbers of choir members, both during and in between choir sessions. It is truly a team effort with many volunteers helping each week in various ways including Aliaa, Lyn, Carol, James, Gurbinder and many others as needed. Lyn continues as our safeguarding lead and we now have a Code of Practice as well as adhering to the BFCS safeguarding protocol.

All in all we are going from strength to strength and many thanks to our amazing Musical Directing Team who ensure our sessions are always joyful, fun and welcoming.

You can access information about the choir, see our catalogue of short films, find out how to donate or to join us all through our website and also our LinkTree:

www.bradfordfriendshipchoir.com [Bradford Friendship Choir | Facebook | Link tree](#)

Photographs of BFC events

Lawrence Batley Theatre Event, Kirklees August 2023 :



Bradford Immigration and Asylum Support Network (BIASAN) and Bradford Friendship Choir January 2024 :



Leeds Piano Trail in Broadway Bradford May 2024 :



Drumming Session June 2024:



Mark Clayton, Treasurer's Report

The Choir members are all unpaid volunteers and derive no financial benefit from membership. Choir members pay a subscription set at the Annual General Meeting. The Choir's income for the year was £74,770, of which £57,310 was generated to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £17,460 was generated to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir's expenditure was £65,535, of which £53,892 was used to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £11,643 was used to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir generated a surplus of £9,235 which included a surplus of £3,418 for the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and a surplus of £5,816 for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

Income from concerts performed over the year was £23,774. Concert costs were £28,046. Concert sponsorship was £1,201 which meant that concerts generated a deficit of -£3,065. Non concert income was £49,668, of which £32,208 was generated to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £17,460 was generated to support Bradford Friendship Choir. Non concert expenditure was £37,495, of which £25,852 was used to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £11,643 was used to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir generated a non-concert surplus of £12,173 of which £6,357 was a surplus for the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £5,816 was a surplus for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

The Choir's funds available at the end of the year were £42,221, of which £12,773 was restricted to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The total funds available to Bradford Festival Choral Society excluding Bradford Friendship Choir funds at the end of the year were £29,447.

Reserves policy

It is BFCS's policy to retain sufficient in reserves for operation costs and overheads for six months. At the end of the financial year un-restricted reserves were £28,188 which is more than adequate.

All details of accounts are in the statement of financial affairs, balance sheet, income and expenditure accounts below.

The accounts have been independently examined by Malcolm V Walker of Walker Broadbent Associates and carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. Details are in the attached Independent Examiners Statement.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

(Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Legal and administrative information

Year ended 30 June 2024

Company Number	07346050
Charity Number	1141596
Trustees	Sara Daniel, Chair Mark Clayton, Treasurer Sue Hayton, Secretary Sue Bennett Susan Holmes Elizabeth Kingsley James Kingsley Colin Penfold Zoe Callon Sue Whittle Elaine Schack John Diskin
Registered Office	78 Sappgate Lane Thornton Bradford England BD13 3DY
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc Bradford West Yorkshire
Independent Examiner	Malcolm Walker Brosnans Chartered Accountants Aireside House Royd Ings Avenue Keighley West Yorkshire BD21 4BZ

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the accounts of the society for the year ended 30 June 2024 is in respect of an examination carried out under s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under s. 144(2) of the Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts (under s.145(5)(b) of the Act);
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission
- (3) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT


My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s. 145 of the Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the committee and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

- (1) In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and which comply with the regulationshave not been met.

- (2) In order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached I draw your attention to the paragraph at the foot of note 6.

Malcolm V Walker B Mus, FCA, CTA
Brosnans Chartered Accountants
Aireside House
Royd Ings Avenue
Keighley
West Yorkshire
BD21 4BZ



9th October 2024

Bradford Festival Choral Society

**Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2023 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income:	10				
Subscriptions		22,502	-	22,502	16,988
Donations		308	5,393	5,700	4,203
Activities for generating funds:	10				
Fundraising activities		8,860	-	8,860	6,443
Music hire		314	-	314	330
Investment income		352	-	352	184
Incoming resources from charitable activities:	3				
Concerts & performance income		23,774	127	23,901	27,012
Grants		-	11,940	11,940	5,401
Sponsorship		1,201	-	1,201	400
Total incoming resources		57,310	17,460	74,770	60,961
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising activities		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities:					
Concerts & performance expenses	4	(28,040)	-	(28,040)	(28,369)
Rehearsal & other costs	4	(25,432)	(11,643)	(37,075)	(39,429)
Governance costs					
Independent Examiner's fees	11	(420)	-	(420)	(400)
Total resources expended		(53,892)	(11,643)	(65,535)	(68,199)
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		3,418	5,816	9,235	(7,238)
Transfers between funds			-	-	-
Total funds brought forward	8	24,770	8,216	32,986	40,224
Total funds carried forward		28,188	14,032	42,221	32,986

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

Mark Clayton - Treasurer

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		-		-
Current assets					
Stocks		71		71	
Debtors	6	16,744		14,182	
Cash and bank balances		26,036		20,163	
		<u>42,851</u>		<u>34,416</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due in					
less than one year	7	(630)		(1,430)	
Net current assets			42,221		32,986
Net assets			<u>42,221</u>		<u>32,986</u>
Reserves					
Unrestricted funds	8		28,188		24,770
Restricted funds	8		14,032		8,216
	8		<u>42,221</u>		<u>32,986</u>

For the year ended 30th June 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476..

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies subject to small companies' régime and were approved by the board on 14 October 2024.

.....
Sara Daniel
Chair

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports

Year ended 30 June 2024

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) and follow the recommendations in *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2005*.

(b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on the straight line basis on tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off each asset over its expected useful life at the following annual rates:

Equipment	10%
-----------	-----

(c) Grant income

General purpose grants are credited to the income and expenditure account in the period received. Ear-marked grant income is matched to the associated expenditure and recognised in the accounts in the period when the performance expenses are incurred.

(d) Leasing

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to income and expenditure account as incurred.

2 Net incoming resources

2024	2023
£	£

Is stated after charging:

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets owned by the company	-	-
--	---	---

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2024

3 Incoming resources - charitable activities

			Total	2023		Total
	Unrestricted	Designated		Unrestricted	Designated	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants & sponsorship						
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1,201	-	1,201	400	-	400
Income from concerts and performances: Gross income from admission charges, programme and refreshment sales	23,774	-	23,774	26,382	-	26,382
	24,975	-	24,975	26,782	-	26,782

4 Analysis of expenditure on charitable expenses

			Total	2023		Total
	Concerts and performances	Rehearsal & other costs		Concerts and performances	Rehearsal & other costs	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Musical director's & accompanists' fees	-	(10,504)	(10,504)	-	(10,077)	(10,077)
Conductor, musicians & soloists fees	(20,401)	(612)	(21,013)	(23,840)	(750)	(24,590)
Production expenses	(2,468)	(4,263)	(6,730)	(2,618)	(6,128)	(8,746)
Venue & facilities hire	(3,762)	(4,277)	(8,039)	(350)	(4,004)	(4,354)
Box office and front of house	(429)	-	(429)	(457)	-	(457)
Promotion & marketing	(939)	(2,786)	(3,725)	(1,062)	(1,652)	(2,714)
Other costs	(42)	(2,583)	(2,625)	(42)	(1,500)	(1,542)
Donations	-	(407)	(407)	-	-	-
Friendship Choir	-	(11,643)	(11,643)	-	(15,319)	(15,319)
	(28,040)	(37,075)	(65,115)	(28,369)	(39,429)	(67,799)

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2024

5 Tangible Fixed assets

	Office Equipment & musical instruments	Total
Cost:	£	£
At start of period	-	-
Additions	-	-
	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	-	-
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Depreciation:		
At start of period	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
	-	-
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value		
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At start of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2024

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors & accruals	(630)	(1,430)
Deferred income	-	-
	<u>(630)</u>	<u>(1,430)</u>

8 Movement in funds

	At start of year	Movement in funds			At end of year
		Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfer	
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Transfers on incorporation:					
Bullock Fund	209	-	-	-	209
Music Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Scholarship Fund	50	-	-	-	50
Friendship Choir	6,957	17,460	(11,643)	-	12,773
Total restricted funds	<u>8,216</u>	<u>17,460</u>	<u>(11,643)</u>	-	<u>14,032</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	24,770	56,109	(53,892)	1,201	28,188
Designated funds:					
Sponsorship	-	1,201	-	(1,201)	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>24,770</u>	<u>57,310</u>	<u>(53,892)</u>	-	<u>28,188</u>
Total funds	<u><u>32,986</u></u>	<u><u>74,770</u></u>	<u><u>(65,535)</u></u>	-	<u><u>42,221</u></u>

9 Guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

Bradford Festival Choral Society
Detailed income & expenditure account
Year ended 30 June 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
10 Income				
Members' subscriptions		18,736		13,988
Gift aid tax relief - Current Year		3,500		3,000
200 Club		777		-
Friendship Choir Donations		4,227		3,603
Friendship Choir Gift Aid - Current Year		400		600
General Donation		308		-
Grants		-		-
Friendship Choir Grants		11,940		5,401
Interest received		352		184
Self-help & fund-raising		2,734		1,295
Performance fees		-		-
Friendship Choir Performance Fees		127		630
Come & sing - fees & Income		5,349		2,382
Learn To Sing		-		2,766
Music hire/sales		314		330
Gift aid Adjustment - Previous Years		266		-
Friendship Choir Gift Aid Adjustment - Previous Years		766		-
		<u>49,795</u>		<u>34,179</u>
Concerts surplus/(deficit), per schedule	(	3,065)	(	1,587)
11 Expenses				
Rehearsals/General				
MD Voice Check fees	(	450)	(	360)
Choir MD	(	5,400)	(	5,226)
Accompanists fees	(	4,384)	(	4,491)
Voice coaching	(	270)		-
Non concert performance fees/Costs	(	612)	(	750)
Come & Sing	(	3,663)	(	2,719)
Friendship Choir Support	(	11,643)	(	15,319)
Room hire	(	4,277)	(	4,004)
Folders Purchase	(	302)		-
Learn to Sing Course		-	(	2,868)
Subscriptions	(	543)	(	508)
Music Scores Purchase	(	600)	(	353)
Music Library Costs	(	648)	(	625)
Printing, postage & stationery	(	79)	(	66)
Advertising/Promotion	(	2,330)	(	1,142)
Meeting Room Costs	(	106)	(	25)
Fund Raising Costs	(	564)		-
Independent examiner's fee	(	420)	(	400)
Gifts & Sundries		-	(	188)
Musical Equipment	(	420)		-
Website & Domain names etc	(	377)	(	443)
Choir Development		-	(	342)
Donations	(	407)		-
	-	<u>(37,495)</u>		<u>(39,829)</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the season		<u>9,235</u>		<u>(7,238)</u>

Bradford Festival Choral Society
Concerts account
Year ended 30 June 2024

	2023-24 Season				Total
	Mass in	Xmas	Elijah	Opera	
	Blue			Odyssey	
	£	£	£	£	£
12 Income					
Ticket sales	2,988	2,900	11,498	2,844	20,230
Programme/Other sales	384	373	780	260	1,797
Sale of refreshments	560	502	-	-	1,061
Raffle	264	267	-	155	686
Gross income	<u>4,195</u>	<u>4,042</u>	<u>12,278</u>	<u>3,259</u>	<u>23,774</u>
13 Concert costs					
Soloists	(400)	-	(2,466)	(1,000)	(3,866)
Organist/accompanist	(350)	(200)	-	(300)	(850)
Ensemble/Musicians	(1,500)	(1,400)	(7,950)	-	(10,850)
Chorus Singers	(150)	(325)	(1,310)	(150)	(1,935)
Conductor	(725)	(725)	(725)	(725)	(2,900)
Instrument hire and tuning	-	-	-	-	-
Soloists Gifts	-	-	(33)	-	(33)
Venue Hire	(1,102)	(1,102)	(400)	-	(2,603)
Technical Charges	(1,159)	-	-	-	(1,159)
Production Charges	-	-	(87)	-	(87)
Music hire etc	(517)	(105)	(404)	(150)	(1,176)
Ticket Print Costs	(53)	(54)	-	-	(107)
Publicity Costs	(275)	(279)	(230)	(155)	(939)
Programmes	(275)	(255)	(355)	(180)	(1,065)
Refreshment Costs	(214)	(214)	-	-	(429)
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	(21)	(21)	-	-	(42)
Total costs	<u>(6,741)</u>	<u>(4,680)</u>	<u>(13,960)</u>	<u>(2,660)</u>	<u>(28,040)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before sponsorship	(2,545)	(639)	(1,682)	599	(4,266)
Sponsorship:	251	100	700	150	1,201
	-	-	-	-	-
Net (deficit) surplus	<u>(2,294)</u>	<u>(539)</u>	<u>(982)</u>	<u>749</u>	<u>(3,065)</u>

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1141596

Accounts

Bradford Festival Choral Society

A classical choir with community spirit – since 1856

Annual Report July 2022 to June 2023

Registered charity: 1141596
Registered company in England: 7346050
Registered office: 78 Sappgate Lane, Thornton Bradford BD13 3DY
www.bradfordfestivalchoralsociety.org.uk Twitter: @BFCS1856
Facebook: Bradford Festival Choral Society

Sara Daniel, Chair's Report

Our 2022-2023 season has been an eventful one with wonderful music-making and much to celebrate. We started our year with a Learn to Sing course (SING!) in Bingley led by Will Bruce; our joint Bradford Festival Choral Society and Bradford Friendship Choir team won the Making Music Group Hero Award for their work on our virtual collaboration the previous year; and we enjoyed a large and enthusiastic audience for Handel's *Messiah* in November 2022. We welcomed some of our SING! course participants to sing their own pieces at our traditional Christmas concert with Rothwell Temperance Band along with a talented young soloist from Bradford Catholic Youth Choir. Shortly after our Christmas concert we were announced as one of the five amateur organisations shortlisted for the 'Inspiration Award' as part of what is widely regarded as the BAFTAs of classical music - the Royal Philharmonic Awards.

We started 2023 with our second Learn to Sing course of the season; much of the cohort joined our Come & Sing Mozart *Requiem* in March where we had over 150 singers for an amazing workshop with guest tutors as well as our inspirational musical team. We enjoyed an audience of over 200 people at Cliffe Castle in Keighley for their free 'Music at the Museum' series - this was the highest attended concert of the series, and we were pleased to be able to raise funds for the 'Good Food Project' in Keighley as part of this event. The following week we were grateful to be able to take a small group of members to sing at Undercliffe Cemetery as part of their Musicians & Entertainers Tour; at least three of our musicians from the 1850s are buried at Undercliffe Cemetery and it was wonderful to be able to be part of the tour and learn about some interesting Victorian characters who were such an important part of our choir's history.

In April our choir were excited to return to St George's Hall with Mozart's *Requiem* with Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra as part of the Bradford Theatres International Orchestral Concert. We were delighted to take part in this series in the choir's historic home and we had a bumper audience of over 900 for the evening. We were thrilled with all the feedback and reviews following this magnificent concert.

We ended our 2022-2023 season with our summer concert at Bradford's Ukrainian Centre, a very enjoyable if warm concert but with a disappointing audience. More work is needed for all future concerts to ensure we have suitable audience numbers for financial sustainability as well as the need to spread the enjoyment of the music created.

There have been challenges this year, particularly with sourcing a consistent venue due to school halls being unavailable during exam season plus some dates for other school events. This is something that trustees need to continue to work on to find the right long-term solution for rehearsals for the choir.

We are proud to support the Bradford Metropolitan Food Bank with members donating once per month at rehearsals, and the Food Bank confirmed that the choir is one of their largest donors. Many thanks to John and Cathy Martins who collect and deliver on behalf of the choir each month.

On behalf of the trustees, I would like to thank our musical team for their commitment and drive, our audience for supporting us, and most of all our members for their continued commitment and to those members who give their time to support to the running of the choir – we simply could not do it without you.

Tom Leech, Musical Director's Report

The past season - 2022-23 - has been one of musical consolidation, preparing foundations for further growth and development in coming seasons, and particularly in looking forward to BD2025.

We programmed our first concert Messiah performance since 2014, launching this with an early-season Come and Sing event as part of the Saltaire Festival, and subsequently enjoying plenty of rehearsal time on this familiar but often demanding music. Our performance - with a great team of soloists and excellent playing from Baroque in the North - was well attended and musically accomplished, it was a real joy to conduct the choir in this great piece again.

Our Christmas concert included many old favourites and plenty for the excellent Rothwell Temperance Band to accompany, including Darius Battiwalla's exuberant arrangements of The Calypso Carol and Hail Smiling Morn. We performed Roxanna Panufnik's setting of the Ukrainian carol Spy, Isuse, Spy and the quality of the choir's performance was very good throughout.

Towards the end of the previous season we took the ambitious step of deciding to commit to a performance as part of the Bradford International Concert Season, with a performance of Handel Coronation Anthems and Mozart Requiem in St George's Hall with the Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra. In preparation we created and delivered a longer format Come and Sing workshop, with two external vocal coaches and a team of soloists, and the choir worked extremely hard to prepare the music for our return to St George's. A preview performance at Cliffe Castle was excellent experience, and the final performance - with YSO Musical Director Ben Crick conducting the Mozart - was a great success, with both our and the Concert Season's largest audience for many years.

The late April concert date for the spring concert meant there was reduced time to prepare for the summer concert, and this was further disrupted by a necessary rehearsal venue change. Nevertheless, the choir performed a very varied programme really well - tackling music normally considered the property of small ensembles with musical finesse and vocal quality. It was a pleasure for us to be joined by Ukrainian soprano Sveta Ryadchenko, and guest musicians on percussion and piano.

All in all, a very enjoyable season with the choir - and enhanced by our Making Music award (and shortlisting too) and the shortlisting for the Royal Philharmonic Society Inspiration award.

I wrote in last year's report that we must focus on building up membership to our pre-pandemic levels (tenors and basses in particular) and increasing audience numbers in order to make our programming ambitions feasible (and responsible) financially and musically. The choir is growing, with an improving balance of voice parts and experienced to less-experienced members - enabling us to continue our broad range of repertoire and innovative programming. Audience numbers are more of a concern and I hope this year we can be clearer that increasing our audience attendance has a direct impact on the financial situation of the choir and thus what we can offer our members.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, trustees, and of course to Chris for his superb musical support. Above all thank you to our members for their commitment to BFCS.

Karen Jones, Bradford Friendship Choir Report

Affiliated to Bradford Festival Choral Society (BFCS), Bradford Friendship Choir is a joyful singing sanctuary which focuses on welcoming and supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. We celebrate our diversity through the power of song.

We took part in some great events in 2022-23: the Lister Park Lantern Parade; Good Chance Theatre poetry and writing evening; the Bradford Doula birthday celebration; the Schools of Sanctuary award ceremony. A highlight was the Refugee Week Great Get Together celebration when we sang our new song 'City of the World' with children from Westminster Primary School. The development of the song was funded by a Bradford 2025 mini seed commission ([link to video](#)) and we were delighted to invite Bradford Voices and BFCS members to sing with us at the premiere launch. In August, it was exciting to sing along with Song Geet (fresh from their appearance at the Coronation!) at the Lawrence Batley Theatre in Huddersfield.

BFC has a steering group chaired by **Shirley Brierley**, with BFCS trustee **Karen Jones** in attendance. Other committee places comprise representatives from the choir membership. Meetings are open to all members to attend.

Safeguarding, annual accounts and risk assessment come under the aegis of BFCS. **Sue Hayton** is the named safeguarding trustee.

Alice Phelps is the musical director with **Mary-Jane Walker** in assistance. We are aiming to expand the delivery team. Watch this space!

Facts about the choir and its link with BFCS.
Thank you all, for your support!



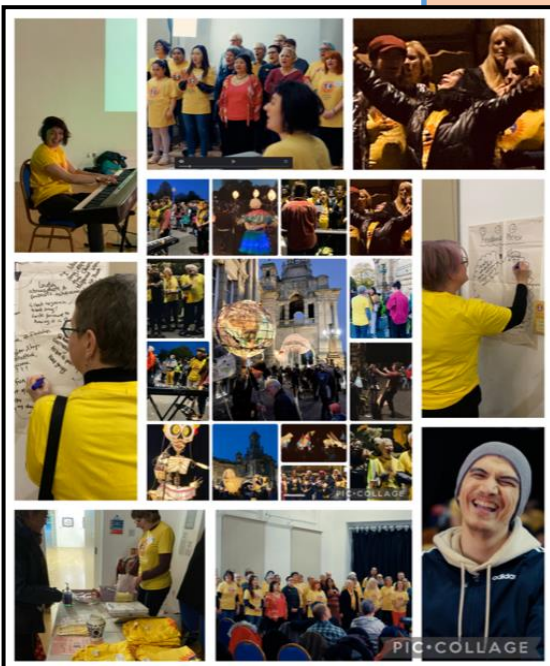
Every effort is made to keep in contact with all members via email, social media platforms and buddy phone calls. Currently we have 40+ members engaged in online and in-person sessions.

We have a strong online presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram 137 subscribers on YouTube. **Follow us!**

Mark Clayton is the treasurer. Income is dependent on the generosity of private donations and any successful applications for funding. Find out how to donate online [here](#)

6pm on Tuesday
Blended online and in person sessions
Details on our [Linktree](#)
And website www.bradfordfriendshipchoir.com

All welcome on Zoom or at the Kala Sangam Arts Centre in Bradford until November 2023
New venue tbc - we'll let you know!



Challenges and Future Plans

To secure funding to enable us to develop, flourish and offer blended models of inspirational online and in-person weekly sessions.

To ensure stability and consistency for members with a fixed venue.

To sing, perform and collaborate with more choirs and groups in the district.

To expand the musical direction team to include musicians with lived experience as refugees and/or global majority artists.

To increase refugee members' volunteering involvement in the running of the choir.

'Choir is the highlight of my week. It is fun and joyful and always makes me feel happy'.

Sue Bennett, Chorus Secretary Report

After the problems of the previous 2 years the 2021-2022 season membership increased to 112 with 39 Sopranos, 41 Altos, 9 Tenors and 23 Basses by the end of the year. Members returned gradually - there were only 96 members in September 2022, but new members came from the Learn to Sing course and joined us for our Christmas concert and then others returned or joined to sing the Mozart Requiem at St. George's Hall.

We returned to St. Bede's for our rehearsals in September and while the facilities are good there is still an issue with being able to access the hall sometimes due to school use for exams and meetings - which meant we had to change venue for the summer rehearsals to Bradford and Bingley rugby club - but inside this time!

Continuing to stream rehearsals on Zoom proved very helpful in enabling members to access rehearsals if feeling unwell or unsure about coming. The fantastic music of the Messiah meant the concert was well supported with 86 members singing and it was really appreciated by a great audience. The Christmas concert was also really uplifting and enjoyed by the audience and all who took part. For this concert we had only 72 singers. Obviously it is a busy time but we do need members to commit to singing in all the concerts and trying to prioritise them more.

In January 2023 we resumed rehearsals and the amazing music of Mozart's Requiem encouraged new members (and some returning members) to join us to sing this iconic work. The concert at St. George's Hall in April was a real triumph with a choir of 100, plus a few guest singers all enjoying it immensely. The hall was almost full and we had over 900 in the audience which made it a memorable occasion. We worked hard again for the summer concert with 68 singers – and again it would have been nice to have had a few more supporting this.

To ensure the choir continues to grow and maintain the ability to take on these larger choral works, it's really important to keep recruiting more members. Most of these come from either searching the website, social media, fliers or from personal recommendation so please encourage your friends, family and work colleagues to come along to a rehearsal and continue to circulate leaflets, publicise our concerts and events and most importantly – sell tickets! A big thanks to Sara who has done a great job in promoting BFCS on social media this year.

If we want to continue to sing at great venues it's really important to support Tom and Chris by committing to attend all rehearsals and concerts. They work very hard to get us to a high standard musically but we need to be at the rehearsals and concerts and sell the tickets to enable them to be financially viable. Concerts are expensive and fewer singers impact directly on audience numbers.

We are a welcoming and friendly choir so a big thank you to all those who help with rehearsals - to Rosy Lambert who organises the Voice Checks and along with Hilary Luckham and Anne Huntley help with registration, to Elizabeth Emmett who organises the refreshments, to Colin Penfold and Judith Martin who sort all the music, to Zoe Callan who sends the weekly email and to the Trustees and everyone else who help in a variety of ways. On that note - huge thanks to all of you who buy raffle tickets and help and contribute to the Bring and Buy Sales! This year the raffles and B&Buy's have raised a fantastic £1888.30 which helps towards the costs of those expensive concerts.

2022-2023 has proved to be a very encouraging year with many successes for the choir – in no small measure because of the fantastic work and the brilliant job of Tom and Chris.

Mark Clayton, Treasurer's Report

The Choir members are all unpaid volunteers and derive no financial benefit from membership. Choir members pay a subscription set at the Annual General Meeting.

The Choir's income for the year was £60,961, of which £50,727 was generated to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £10,234 was generated to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir's expenditure was £68,199, of which £52,879 was used to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £15,319 was used to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir generated a deficit of -£7,238 which included a deficit of -£2,153 for the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and a deficit of -£5,085 for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

Income from concerts performed over the year was £26,382. Concert costs were £28,369. Concert sponsorship was £400 which meant that concerts generated a deficit of -£1,587.

Non-concert income was £34,179 and non-concert expenditure was £39,829 which generated a deficit of -£5,650 of which -£565 was a deficit for the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and -£5,085 was a deficit for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

The Choir's funds available at the end of the year were £32,986, of which £6,957 was restricted to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The total funds available to Bradford Festival Choral Society excluding Bradford Friendship Choir funds at the end of the year were £26,029.

Reserves policy

It is BFCS's policy to retain sufficient in reserves for operation costs and overheads for six months. At the end of the financial year un-restricted reserves were £24,770 which is more than adequate.

All details of accounts are in the statement of financial affairs, balance sheet, income and expenditure accounts below.

The accounts have been independently examined by Malcolm V Walker of Walker Broadbent Associates and carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. Details are in the attached Independent Examiners Statement.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

(Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Legal and administrative information

Year ended 30 June 2023

Company Number	07346050
Charity Number	1141596
Trustees	Sara Daniel, Chair Sue Hayton Company Secretary Mark Clayton Treasurer Joan Letocha John Disken Karen Jones Elizabeth Kingsley James Kingsley Lucy Hennessy Susan Elizabeth Holmes Susan Bennett Colin Penfold Zoe Anne Callan
Registered Office	78 Sappgate Lane Thornton Bradford England BD13 3DY
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc Bradford West Yorkshire
Independent Examiner	Malcolm Walker Brosnans Chartered Accountants Aireside House Royd Ings Avenue Keighley West Yorkshire BD21 4BZ

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the accounts of the society for the year ended 30 June 2023 is in respect of an examination carried out under s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under s. 144(2) of the Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts (under s.145(5)(b) of the Act);
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission
- (3) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s. 145 of the Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the committee and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

(1) In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe

that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and which comply with the regulations

have not been met.

(2) In order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached I draw your attention to the paragraph at the foot of note 6.

Malcolm V Walker B Mus, FCA, CTA
Brosnans Chartered Accountants
Aireside House
Royd Ings Avenue
Keighley
West Yorkshire
BD21 4BZ

Malcolm V. Walker

5th October 2023

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income:	10				
Subscriptions		16,988	-	16,988	14,733
Donations		-	4,203	4,203	8,237
Activities for generating funds:	10				
Fundraising activities		6,443	-	6,443	428
Music hire		330	-	330	360
Investment income		184	-	184	13
Incoming resources from charitable activities:	3				
Concerts & performance income		26,382	630	27,012	11,581
Grants		-	5,401	5,401	16,149
Sponsorship		400	-	400	3,000
Total incoming resources		50,727	10,234	60,961	54,501
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising activities		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities:					
Concerts & performance expenses	4	(28,369)	-	(28,369)	(23,592)
Rehearsal & other costs	4	(24,110)	(15,319)	(39,429)	(33,322)
Governance costs					
Independent Examiner's fees	11	(400)	-	(400)	(390)
Total resources expended		(52,879)	(15,319)	(68,199)	(57,304)
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		(2,153)	(5,085)	(7,238)	(2,803)
Transfers between funds			-	-	-
Total funds brought forward	8	26,923	13,301	40,224	43,027
Total funds carried forward		24,770	8,216	32,986	40,224

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

Balance Sheet**as at 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		-		-
Current assets					
Stocks		71		71	
Debtors	6	14,182		10,370	
Cash and bank balances		20,163		35,768	
		<u>34,416</u>		<u>46,209</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	7	(1,430)		(5,985)	
Net current assets			32,986		40,224
Net assets			<u>32,986</u>		<u>40,224</u>
Reserves					
Unrestricted funds	8		24,770		26,923
Restricted funds	8		8,216		13,301
	8		<u>32,986</u>		<u>40,224</u>

For the year ended 30th June 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476..

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies subject to small companies' régime and were approved by the board on 11 October 2023.

.....
Sara Daniel
Chair

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports

Year ended 30 June 2023

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) and follow the recommendations in *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2005*.

(b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on the straight line basis on tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off each asset over its expected useful life at the following annual rates:

Equipment	10%
-----------	-----

(c) Grant income

General purpose grants are credited to the income and expenditure account in the period received. Ear-marked grant income is matched to the associated expenditure and recognised in the accounts in the period when the performance expenses are incurred.

(d) Leasing

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to income and expenditure account as incurred.

2 Net incoming resources

2023	2022
£	£

Is stated after charging:

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets owned by the company	-	-
--	---	---

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2023

3 Incoming resources - charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	2022		Total £
				Unrestricted £	Designated £	
Grants & sponsorship						
D Holdsworth	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Other	400	-	400	-	-	-
Income from concerts and performances: Gross income from admission charges, programme and refreshment sales	26,382	-	26,382	11,581	-	11,581
	26,782	-	26,782	14,581	-	14,581

4 Analysis of expenditure on charitable expenses

	Concerts and performances £	Rehearsal & other costs £	Total £	2022		Total £
				Concerts and performances £	Rehearsal & other costs £	
Musical director's & accompanists' fees	-	(10,077)	(10,077)	-	(9,512)	(9,512)
Conductor, musicians & soloists fees	(23,840)	(750)	(24,590)	(16,411)	-	(16,411)
Production expenses	(2,618)	(6,128)	(8,746)	(3,059)	(700)	(3,759)
Venue & facilities hire	(350)	(4,004)	(4,354)	(2,897)	(4,899)	(7,796)
Box office and front of house	(457)	-	(457)	(735)	-	(735)
Promotion & marketing	(1,062)	(1,652)	(2,714)	(352)	(506)	(858)
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other costs	(42)	(1,500)	(1,542)	(139)	(2,370)	(2,509)
Donations	-	-	-	-	(1,138)	(1,138)
Friendship Choir	-	(15,319)	(15,319)	-	(14,197)	(14,197)
	(28,369)	(39,429)	(67,799)	(23,592)	(33,322)	(56,914)

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2023

5 Tangible Fixed assets	Office Equipment & musical instruments	Total
Cost:	£	£
At start of period	655	655
Additions	-	-
	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At end of period	<u>655</u>	<u>655</u>
Depreciation:		
At start of period	655	655
Charge for the year	-	-
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
At end of period	<u>655</u>	<u>655</u>
Net book value		
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At start of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
6 Debtors & prepayments	2023	2022
	£	£
Accrued income	13,500	9,900
Prepayments	682	470
	<u>14,182</u>	<u>10,370</u>

Prepayments include a concert deposit of £470 paid to Leeds Town Hall in 2010 for a future concert, the recoverability of which is doubtful.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2023

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors & accruals	(1,430)	(5,985)
Deferred income	-	-
	<u>(1,430)</u>	<u>(5,985)</u>

8 Movement in funds

	At start of year	Movement in funds			At end of year
		Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfer	
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Transfers on incorporation:					
Bullock Fund	209	-	-	-	209
Music Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Scholarship Fund	50	-	-	-	50
Friendship Choir	12,042	10,234	(15,319)	-	6,957
Total restricted funds	<u>13,301</u>	<u>10,234</u>	<u>(15,319)</u>	-	<u>8,216</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	26,923	50,327	(52,879)	400	24,770
Designated funds:					
Sponsorship	-	400	-	(400)	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>26,923</u>	<u>50,727</u>	<u>(52,879)</u>	-	<u>24,770</u>
Total funds	<u><u>40,224</u></u>	<u><u>60,961</u></u>	<u><u>(68,199)</u></u>	-	<u><u>32,986</u></u>

9 Guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

Bradford Festival Choral Society
Detailed income & expenditure account
Year ended 30 June 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
10 Income				
Members' subscriptions		13,988		12,433
Gift aid tax relief		3,000		2,300
200 Club donation		-		100
Friendship Choir Donations		3,603		3,113
Friendship Choir Gift Aid		600		600
General Donation		-		4,423
Grants		-		-
Friendship Choir Grants		5,401		16,149
Interest received		184		13
Self-help & fund-raising		1,295		210
Performance fees		-		-
Friendship Choir Performance Fees		630		-
Come & sing - fees & Income		2,382		218
Learn To Sing		2,766		-
Music hire/sales		330		360
Gift aid Adjustment		-		-
Friendship Choir Gift Aid Adjustment		-		-
		<u>34,179</u>		<u>39,920</u>
Concerts surplus/(deficit), per schedule	(	1,587)	(	9,011)
11 Expenses				
Rehearsals/General				
MD Voice Check fees	(	360)	(	80)
Choir MD	(	5,226)	(	5,825)
Accompanists fees	(	4,491)	(	3,607)
Voice coaching		-		-
Virtual Rehearsal Costs		-	(	174)
Non concert performance fees/Costs	(	750)		-
Come & Sing	(	2,719)	(	700)
Friendship Choir Support	(	15,319)	(	14,197)
Transfer from voice coaching fund		-		-
Room hire	(	4,004)	(	4,899)
Folders Purchase		-	(	264)
Learn to Sing Course	(	2,868)		-
Subscriptions	(	508)	(	502)
Music Scores Purchase	(	353)		-
Music Library Costs	(	625)		-
Printing, postage & stationery	(	66)	(	105)
Advertising/Promotion	(	1,142)	(	310)
Meeting Room Costs	(	25)		-
Fund Raising Costs		-		-
Independent examiner's fee	(	400)	(	390)
Gifts & Sundries	(	188)		-
Bank charges		-		-
Other Charges		-	(	100)
Musical Equipment		-	(	950)
Depreciation		-		-
Reduction in stock values		-		-
Website & Domain names etc	(	443)	(	91)
Gift aid debtor not recoverable		-		-
Choir Development	(	342)	(	380)
Donations		-	(	1,138)
	-	<u>(39,829)</u>		<u>(33,712)</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the season	(	<u>7,238</u>)	(	<u>2,803</u>)

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Concerts account

Year ended 30 June 2023

	2022-23 Season				Total
	Messiah	Xmas	Mozart	Choral Universe	
	£	£	£	£	
12 Income					
Ticket sales	6,159	2,939	12,588	1,149	22,835
Programme/Other sales	424	267	850	145	1,686
Sale of refreshments	561	537	-	42	1,140
Raffle	305	266	-	150	721
Gross income	<u>7,449</u>	<u>4,010</u>	<u>13,438</u>	<u>1,486</u>	<u>26,382</u>
13 Concert costs					
Soloists	(1,600)	-	(1,700)	(212)	(3,512)
Organist/accompanist	(375)	(150)	(150)	(250)	(925)
Ensemble/Musicians	(3,495)	(1,400)	(9,588)	(150)	(14,632)
Chorus Singers	(475)	(225)	(1,020)	(150)	(1,870)
Conductor	(725)	(725)	(725)	(725)	(2,900)
Instrument hire and tuning	(450)	-	(450)	-	(900)
Soloists Gifts	-	-	(53)	-	(53)
Venue Hire	-	-	-	(350)	(350)
Music hire etc	(8)	(122)	(104)	(110)	(344)
Ticket Print Costs	(47)	(44)	-	(47)	(139)
Publicity Costs	(70)	(55)	(867)	(70)	(1,062)
Programmes	(310)	(280)	(255)	(140)	(985)
Refreshment Costs	(229)	(228)	-	-	(457)
Hospitality	-	-	(198)	-	(198)
Other Expenses	(21)	(21)	-	-	(42)
Total costs	<u>(7,805)</u>	<u>(3,250)</u>	<u>(15,110)</u>	<u>(2,205)</u>	<u>(28,369)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before sponsorship	(356)	760	(1,672)	(719)	(1,987)
Sponsorship:					
	100	-	100	200	400
	-	-	-	-	-
Net (deficit) surplus	<u>(256)</u>	<u>760</u>	<u>(1,572)</u>	<u>(519)</u>	<u>(1,587)</u>

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1141596

Accounts

Bradford Festival Choral Society

A classical choir with community spirit – since 1856

Annual Report July 2021 to June 2022



Registered charity: 1141596
Registered company in England: 7346050
Registered office: 78 Sappgate Lane, Thornton Bradford BD13 3DY
www.bradfordfestivalchoralsociety.org.uk Twitter: @BFCS1856
Facebook: Bradford Festival Choral Society

Rob Voakes, Chair's Report

After 18 months of the choir managing to rehearse and perform despite all the disruption of the pandemic our guarded hope at the start of the 2021/22 season was a return to something approaching normality.

Membership of c100 was down about 20% on pre-pandemic totals but we were confident that we had sufficient numbers and quality to tackle an ambitious programme, including Bach's St. Mathew Passion in March 2022.

We began in September with our final digital recording, this time two songs recorded with members of the Bradford Friendship Choir, for refugees, asylum seekers and friends. We have been in a supportive relationship with BFC since 2015 and sung with them previously, but this was a more ambitious project. It involved splicing together individual recordings from some sixty members of both choirs, and creating unique digital performances.

The project, funded by the Arts Council, was worthwhile in itself, but in addition it achieved the Making Music Group Hero award for 2021.

Our first concert of the season in November 2021 was a selection of pieces the choir had rehearsed on ZOOM during the pandemic, and live, during September and October. It was a real boost to be performing in public and we achieved a respectable audience of around 200.

In late November and December, despite the success of the vaccine programme, Covid cases rapidly increased, depleting both the choir and the audience for our Christmas concert.

At the start of January we reviewed plans to perform St. Mathew Passion but decided we had to demonstrate we were fully back in business as a major choral society. We rehearsed steadily in January, February and March, and the number of members attending gradually increased. The concert on 19th March proved to be a resounding success. The performance was musically impressive and, we achieved an audience of over 300, our best for many years prior to Covid.

The performance was opened by the choir singing the Ukrainian national anthem and included a bucket collection for Ukrainian refugees. Our final concert of the season was performed at the Ukrainian Centre in Bradford. The choir again sang the Ukrainian national anthem, this time led by an aspiring music director, a refugee from Ukraine.

Reviewing 2021/22, on behalf of the choir, I would like to express appreciation to our Music Director, Tom Leech and accompanist and Assistant Music Director, Chris Pulleyn, for their skill and determination in getting the very best from the choir.

On a personal note, after nearly four years, I am stepping down from the position of Chair of the trustees of BFCS. BFCS has played an important part in Bradford's cultural history for over 160 years and continues to prove itself relevant and worthwhile today I feel honoured to have been Chair, and offer my successor my very best wishes.

Tom Leech, Musical Director's Report

At the end of last season's report, I wrote about our first three rehearsals in person - held in a marquee at Bingley Rugby Club. The online efforts and those tentative first rehearsals in person meant that we entered the 2021-22 season with remarkable levels of enthusiasm, viable membership for our programming and our excellent team of volunteers and trustees well-placed to hit the ground running.

Our November programme combined some of the music performed in our online rehearsals with other familiar and new music, continuing our commitment to programming music by composers outside of the 'stale, pale and male' canon. With music by Esenvalds, Stephen Paulus and Eric Whitacre's spectacular *Cloudburst*, the male portion of the programme was anything but stale, and the choir excelled in the expressive range of these pieces, bringing a similar commitment and willingness to try new styles in Reena Esmail's *TaReKiTa*. Lili Boulanger's *Hymne au Soleil* has featured in several previous programmes, and I think this was our best performance of this dramatic work yet. Excellent piano, flute and percussion accompaniment added variety and it was a really enjoyable and high quality return to performing - the only disappointment being the small audience, understandable given the continued concern about Covid.

Christmas felt like the return of some kind of musical normality - the choir did an amazing job given our illness-hit numbers, performing with the smallest number of singers at a main concert in my time with the choir. Audience and band alike commented on how good the choir sounded, and the programme combined old favourites with new repertoire, including Tamsin Jones' *Noel Verbum*.

Lockdown had prevented us from performing Bach's *St Matthew Passion*, and we returned to this in January with at least some residual memory of our previous rehearsals. This allowed some real musical and vocal development to take place, and despite the difficulty and quantity of the music, the choir gave an excellent and dramatic performance. It was a delight to be joined by Baroque in the North, on period instruments, Bradford Catholic Youth Choir singing the ripieno choir part, and a team of outstanding soloists, including the excellent Joseph Doody as the evangelist.

Our summer concert featured more Baroque music - Bach's charming cantata 196 'Der Herr denket an uns', Barbara Strozzi's madrigal 'Silentio nocivo' and a concert performance of Purcell's 'Dido and Aeneas'. We performed in Bradford's Ukrainian Centre, and the concert began with an appropriate and moving rendition of the Ukrainian national anthem, conducted by a refugee musician from Odessa, Viktoriia Prysiashna. Although the acoustics and staging arrangements were not particularly favourable, the performance was very good - aided by an excellent team of young soloists, and a Baroque string group, with Chris playing continuo.

In the coming season we must focus on building up membership to our pre-pandemic levels (tenors and basses in particular) and increasing audience numbers in order to make our programming ambitions feasible (and responsible) financially and musically. Many choirs are now in great difficulty following the challenges of the pandemic, and I feel we have a real responsibility to contribute to the recovery of this wonderful tradition of amateur and community music making.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, trustees, and of course to Chris for his superb musical support. Above all thank you to our members for their commitment to BFCS.

Karen Jones, Bradford Friendship Choir Report

Affiliated to Bradford Festival Choral Society, Bradford Friendship Choir is a joyful singing sanctuary which focuses on welcoming and supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. We celebrate our diversity through the power of song.

Woohoo! We are back! Our challenge this year has been to re-engage membership and reach out to new singers and audiences. The Arts Council funding has helped us to do this. The collaboration with BFCS was a joy and we are delighted that the creative team from both choirs won the Making Music Group Heroes Award 2022. We also loved working with community artist Thabo Mkwanzani, singing in Peel Park for Refugee Week and recently taking part in the national Cities of Sanctuary conference.

We have a strong online presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram 125 subscribers on YouTube. **Follow us!**

**Facts about the Choir
and its link with
BFCS.
Thank you all
for your support!**



Alice Phelps is the musical director with **Mary-Jane Walker** in assistance

BFC has a committee which is chaired by **Shirley Brierley**, with BFCS trustee **Karen Jones** in attendance. Other committee places comprise representatives from the choir membership. Meetings are open to all members to attend.

Every effort is made to keep in contact with all members via email, social media platforms and buddy phone calls. Currently we have 40+ members engaged in online and in-person sessions.

BFC has its own bank account within the main BFCS account. **Mark Clayton** is the treasurer. Income is dependent on the generosity of private donations and any successful funding applications.

Safeguarding, annual accounts and risk assessment come under the aegis of BFCS. **Sue Hayton** is the named safeguarding trustee.



Blended online and in person sessions run 6pm on Tuesdays – details on website www.bradfordfriendshipchoir.com.

All welcome on Zoom or at the Kala Sangam Arts Centre in Bradford!

Challenges and future plans

- To continue to find ways to support our singers to enjoy and participate in Bradford's thriving cultural scene in the lead up to Bradford 2025
- To secure funding to enable us to develop, flourish and offer a blended model of inspirational online and in-person weekly sessions.

Sue Bennett, Chorus Secretary Report

In the 2019 – 20 season before we went into lockdown we had 119 members. For the 2020-2021 year our numbers had dropped to 88 - because of Covid and we finished that year with 3 rehearsals in the outdoor marquee at Bradford and Bingley rugby club.

Thankfully by September 2021 choir returned to indoor rehearsals, but at Bradford Grammar School where the larger space enabled us to be socially distanced. Members returned gradually and we had 108 in total – but not all at the same time! 43 Sops, 41 Altos, 7 Tenors and 17 Basses including 17 new members. Some paid their subs but didn't feel comfortable to come back to rehearsals, new members joined and circumstances meant some left.

Not all members attended in person initially and streaming rehearsals on Zoom proved incredibly helpful – over 20 singers used Zoom – some for every week and others just occasionally if feeling unwell or suffering from Covid. .Rehearsals still had some restrictions and the use of masks, social distancing and eventually Lateral Flow tests did help contain the spread of the virus. Gradually the situation improved and more members were attending in person but at the November concert we still had only 63 singers. It was so uplifting being able to sing in a live concert again and the reduced numbers did mean we could have more space for the choir and audience.

By Christmas a new variant caused Covid numbers to increase again and though we still had fewer singers than normal in the concert it was enjoyed by the audience and all who took part.

In January we resumed St Matthew Passion rehearsals and this is when most of our new members (and some returning members) joined us to sing this fantastic music. There were still uncertainties but the concert in March was a real triumph with a choir of 92 (out of 94 singing members) plus a few guest singers all enjoying it immensely.

Inevitably some members have left - and with fewer members it has a financial and musical impact on the ability of the choir to take on larger choral works so it's really important to keep recruiting more members. Most of these come from either searching the website/ YouTube etc. or from personal recommendation so please encourage your friends, family and work colleagues to come along to a rehearsal and continue to circulate leaflets and publicise our concerts.

Many thanks to Rosy who organises the voice checks. Obviously there were no voice checks last year but voice checks for the new members went ahead and those for existing members will resume again later.

Covid regulations and changes of venue have produced their own challenges. We used St. Bede's for the Spring term and then returned to St. Peters for the summer term - so a big thanks to all those who help with rehearsals - to Rosy Lambert, Hilary Luckham, Anne Huntley and Elizabeth Emmett, and to the Trustees and everyone who has helped in a variety of ways to try to keep us all safe.

We also remember Cynthia Thresh, Peter Kelly and Joyce Poot who were all valued members of the choir and died recently.

2021-2022 proved to be another challenging year! Thanks to Sara and James for streaming the rehearsals and a huge thanks to Tom and Chris for all your amazing work and the brilliant job you do. Finally: Thank you Rob for being an excellent Chairman and guiding us throughout the year. We couldn't have done it without you!

Mark Clayton, Treasurer's Report

Financial Review

The Choir members are all unpaid volunteers and derive no financial benefit from membership. Choir members pay a subscription set at the Annual General Meeting.

The Choir's income for the year was £54,501, of which £34,639 was generated to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £19,862 was generated to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir's expenditure was £57,304, of which £43,107 was used to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £14,197 was used to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir generated a deficit of -£2,803 which included a deficit of -£8,469 for the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and a £5,666 surplus for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

Income from concerts performed over the year was £11,581. Concert costs were £23,592. Concert sponsorship was £3,000 which meant that concerts generated a deficit of -£9,011. Non concert income was £39,920 and non concert expenditure was £33,712 which generated a net surplus of £6,208, of which £542 was generated to support the Bradford Festival Choral Society choir and £5,666 was generated to support the Bradford Friendship Choir.

The Choir's funds available at the end of the year were £40,224, of which £12,042 was restricted to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The total funds available to Bradford Festival Choral Society excluding Bradford Friendship Choir funds at the end of the year were £28,182.

Details are in the Statement of financial affairs, balance sheet, income and expenditure accounts below.

The accounts have been independently examined by Malcolm V Walker of Walker Broadbent Associates and carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. Details are in the Independent Examiners Statement below.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

(Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Legal and administrative information

Year ended 30 June 2022

Company Number	07346050
Charity Number	1141596
Trustees	Rob Voakes, Chair Sue Hayton Company Secretary Mark Clayton Treasurer Joan Letocha John Disken Karen Jones Liz Kingsley Lucy Hennessy Elizabeth Holmes Sara Daniel Sue Bennett Colin Penfold Zoeann Callan
Registered Office	78 Sappgate Lane Thornton Bradford England BD13 3DY
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc Bradford West Yorkshire
Independent Examiner	Malcolm Walker Walker Broadbent Associates Ltd Lencett House 45 Boroughgate Otley West Yorkshire LS21 1 AG

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the accounts of the society for the year ended 30 June 2022 is in respect of an examination carried out under s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under s. 144(2) of the Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts (under s.145(5)(b) of the Act);
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission
- (3) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s. 145 of the Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the committee and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

(1) In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and which comply with the regulations

have not been met.

(2) In order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached I draw your attention to the paragraph at the foot of note 6.

Malcolm V Walker B Mus, FCA, CTA
Walker Broadbent Associates
Chartered Accountants
Lencett House
45 Boroughgate
Otley
LS21 1AG
10 October 2022

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2021 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income:	10				
Subscriptions		14,733	-	14,733	13,350
Donations		4,523	3,713	8,237	7,924
Activities for generating funds:	10				
Fundraising activities		428	-	428	-
Music hire		360	-	360	-
Investment income		13	-	13	3
Incoming resources from charitable activities:	3				
Concerts & performance income		11,581	-	11,581	-
Grants		-	16,149	16,149	1,000
Sponsorship		3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Total incoming resources		34,639	19,862	54,501	25,277
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising activities		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities:					
Concerts & performance expenses	4	(23,592)	-	(23,592)	(12,150)
Rehearsal & other costs	4	(19,125)	(14,197)	(33,322)	(20,406)
Governance costs					
Independent Examiner's fees	11	(390)	-	(390)	(360)
Total resources expended		(43,107)	(14,197)	(57,304)	(32,916)
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		(8,469)	5,666	(2,803)	(7,640)
Transfers between funds			-	-	-
Total funds brought forward	8	35,392	7,635	43,027	50,667
Total funds carried forward		26,923	13,301	40,224	43,027

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2022

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		-		-
Current assets					
Stocks		71		71	
Debtors	6	10,370		7,470	
Cash and bank balances		<u>35,768</u>		<u>40,411</u>	
		<u>46,209</u>		<u>47,952</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	7	(5,985)		(4,925)	
Net current assets			40,224		43,027
Net assets			<u>40,224</u>		<u>43,027</u>
Reserves					
Unrestricted funds	8		26,923		35,392
Restricted funds	8		13,301		7,635
	8		<u>40,224</u>		<u>43,027</u>

For the year ended 30th June 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476..

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies subject to small companies' régime and were approved by the board on 19 October 2022.

.....
Rob Voakes,
Chair

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports

Year ended 30 June 2022

#

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) and follow the recommendations in *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2005*.

(b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on the straight line basis on tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off each asset over its expected useful life at the following annual rates:

Equipment	10%
-----------	-----

(c) Grant income

General purpose grants are credited to the income and expenditure account in the period received. Ear-marked grant income is matched to the associated expenditure and recognised in the accounts in the period when the performance expenses are incurred.

(d) Leasing

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to income and expenditure account as incurred.

2 Net incoming resources

	2022	2021
	£	£
Is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets owned by the company	-	5

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2022

3 Incoming resources - charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	2021		Total £
				Unrestricted £	Designated £	
Grants & sponsorship						
D Holdsworth	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
The Emerald Foundation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income from concerts and performances:						
Gross income from admission charges, programme and refreshment sales	11,581	-	11,581	-	-	-
	<u>14,581</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,581</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,000</u>

4 Analysis of expenditure on charitable expenses

	Concerts and performances £	Rehearsal & other costs £	Total £	2021		Total £
				Concerts and performances £	Rehearsal & other costs £	
Musical director's & accompanists' fees	-	(9,512)	(9,512)	-	(9,543)	(9,543)
Conductor, musicians & soloists fees	(16,411)	-	(16,411)	(8,095)	-	(8,095)
Production expenses	(3,059)	(700)	(3,759)	(4,030)	-	(4,030)
Venue & facilities hire	(2,897)	(4,899)	(7,796)	-	(150)	(150)
Box office and front of house	(735)	-	(735)	-	-	-
Promotion & marketing	(352)	(506)	(858)	(25)	(198)	(223)
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	(5)	(5)
Other costs	(139)	(2,370)	(2,509)	-	(1,176)	(1,176)
Donations	-	(1,138)	(1,138)	-	(1,406)	(1,406)
Friendship Choir	-	(14,197)	(14,197)	-	(7,929)	(7,929)
	<u>(23,592)</u>	<u>(33,322)</u>	<u>(56,914)</u>	<u>(12,150)</u>	<u>(20,406)</u>	<u>(32,556)</u>

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2022

5 Tangible Fixed assets	Office Equipment & musical instruments	Total
Cost:	£	£
At start of period	655	655
Additions	-	-
	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At end of period	<u>655</u>	<u>655</u>
Depreciation:		
At start of period	655	655
Charge for the year	-	-
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
At end of period	<u>655</u>	<u>655</u>
Net book value		
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At start of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
6 Debtors & prepayments	2022	2021
	£	£
Accrued income	9,900	7,000
Prepayments	470	470
	<u>10,370</u>	<u>7,470</u>

Prepayments include a concert deposit of £470 paid to Leeds Town Hall in 2010 for a future concert, the recoverability of which is doubtful.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2022

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors & accruals	(5,985)	(4,925)
Deferred income	-	-
	<u>(5,985)</u>	<u>(4,925)</u>

8 Movement in funds

	At start of year	Movement in funds			At end of year
	£	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfer £	£
Restricted funds:					
Transfers on incorporation:					
Bullock Fund	209	-	-	-	209
Music Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Scholarship Fund	50	-	-	-	50
Friendship Choir	6,376	19,862	(14,197)	-	12,042
Total restricted funds	<u>7,635</u>	<u>19,862</u>	<u>(14,197)</u>	-	<u>13,301</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	35,392	31,639	(43,107)	3,000	26,923
Designated funds:					
Sponsorship	-	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>35,392</u>	<u>34,639</u>	<u>(43,107)</u>	-	<u>26,923</u>
Total funds	<u>43,027</u>	<u>54,501</u>	<u>(57,304)</u>	-	<u>40,224</u>

9 Guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

Bradford Festival Choral Society
Detailed income & expenditure account
Year ended 30 June 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
10 Income				
Members' subscriptions		12,433		9,773
Gift aid tax relief		2,300		2,657
200 Club donation		100		-
Friendship Choir Donations		3,113		5,151
Friendship Choir Gift Aid		600		900
General Donation		4,423		907
Friendship Choir Grants		16,149		1,000
Interest received		13		3
Self-help & fund-raising		210		-
Come & sing - fees & Income		218		-
Music hire/sales		360		-
Gift aid Adjustment		-		920
Friendship Choir Gift Aid Adjustment		-		967
		<u>39,920</u>		<u>22,277</u>
Concerts surplus/(deficit), per schedule	(	9,011 )	(	9,150)
11 Expenses				
Rehearsals/General				
MD auditions fees	(	80)		-
Choir MD	(	5,825 )	(	6,008)
Accompanists fees	(	3,607 )	(	3,465)
Voice coaching		-	(	70)
Virtual Rehearsal Costs	(	174 )	(	294)
Come & Sing	(	700)		-
Friendship Choir Support	(	14,197 )	(	7,929)
Room hire	(	4,899 )	(	150)
Folders Purchase	(	264)		-
Subscriptions	(	502 )	(	497)
Printing, postage & stationery	(	105)		-
Advertising/Promotion	(	310)		-
Independent examiner's fee	(	390 )	(	360)
Other Charges	(	100 )	(	135)
Musical Equipment	(	950)		-
Depreciation		-	(	5)
Website & Domain names etc	(	91 )	(	198)
Choir Development	(	380 )	(	250)
Donations	(	1,138 )	(	1,406)
	-	<u>(33,712)</u>		<u>(20,766)</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the season	(	<u>2,803 )</u>	(	<u>7,640)</u>

Bradford Festival Choral Society
Concerts account
Year ended 30 June 2022

	2021-22 Season				Total £
	Cloudburst	Xmas	Bach SMP	Faith Passion	
	£	£	£	£	
12 Income					
Ticket sales	1,785	2,283	4,731	1,494	10,293
Programme/Other sales	172	196	296	112	776
Sale of refreshments	-	111	344	58	513
Gross income	<u>1,957</u>	<u>2,590</u>	<u>5,371</u>	<u>1,663</u>	<u>11,581</u>
13 Concert costs					
Soloists	(200)	-	(2,013)	(950)	(3,163)
Organist/accompanist	(200)	(200)	(265)	(300)	(965)
Ensemble/Musicians	(682)	(1,400)	(4,906)	(1,070)	(8,058)
Chorus Singers	(600)	(300)	(450)	(75)	(1,425)
Conductor	(675)	(675)	(725)	(725)	(2,800)
Instrument hire and tuning	-	-	(450)	-	(450)
Soloists Gifts	-	-	-	(50)	(50)
Venue Hire	(828)	(828)	(892)	(350)	(2,897)
Music hire etc	(627)	(168)	(404)	(130)	(1,329)
Ticket Print Costs	(48)	(43)	(44)	(40)	(175)
Publicity Costs	-	(50)	(192)	(110)	(352)
Programmes	(345)	(200)	(250)	(223)	(1,018)
Refreshment Costs	-	(508)	(227)	-	(735)
Hospitality	(37)	-	-	-	(37)
Other Expenses	(45)	(64)	(30)	-	(139)
Total costs	<u>(4,287)</u>	<u>(4,435)</u>	<u>(10,848)</u>	<u>(4,022)</u>	<u>(23,592)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) before sponsors	(2,330)	(1,845)	(5,478)	(2,358)	(12,011)
Sponsorship:					
Donald Holdsworth	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
					-
Net (deficit) surplus	<u>(2,330)</u>	<u>(1,845)</u>	<u>(2,478)</u>	<u>(2,358)</u>	<u>(9,011)</u>

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1141596

Accounts

Bradford Festival Choral Society
A classical choir with community spirit since 1856

Annual Report
2020/21

Rob Voakes, Chair's report

This has been our second year of the Covid 19 pandemic, with members of the choir and supporters experiencing lock-downs, ZOOM rehearsals and digital performances. All of us have missed the joy of personal contacts, and some have lost friends or family. We've had to live with the anxiety of assessing risks and taking precautions, and balancing what feels safe with what makes life worth living.

The opportunities for us to be excited and moved by "live" art and music have been severely restricted, and only slowly, became available again towards the end of our performance year (June).



In this context our choir presented four complete concerts.

The Road Home was premiered in September 2020, though rehearsed and recorded in the previous season. Along with the November and December concerts *This Shining Night*, and *A Virtual Christmas Singalong*, these performances gave the choir members an activity and focus providing welcome relief from the daily news of illness and loss.

These concerts were the product of work by all in the Choir, but particularly from our music team, Tom Leech and Chris Pulleyn. Life during the worst of the pandemic would have been much worse without receiving their weekly input of professionalism, determination and patience.

For many of us Christmas 2020, was severely disrupted by the sudden imposition of travel restrictions from London and elsewhere. It was therefore particularly moving to learn that for some members, our *Christmas Singalong*, enabled those separated by quarantines to be virtually together, sharing festive music and seeing family members on screen.

One unintended by-product of our digital recordings has been the development of a virtual library to showcase our work on YouTube. As well as a permanent display of our achievements, this archive has a great resource for us to send digital links to friends and others who might not be ready to appreciate whole classical concerts, but who can enjoy one of the many short pieces. A favourite of mine is the second video we made available of *Sure on This Shining Night*, with Chris playing the beautiful introduction, surrounded by the starry night sky. Superb.



The *Haydn Mass* would have been an ambitious project in any year. During a pandemic, the practical and technical difficulties were considerable and the costs significant. Nevertheless the trustees and Tom felt it important to tackle this piece and to show that despite the pandemic, we could present a major work, with an orchestra, and do so to a high standard.



I think we saw it as a kind of defiance. The result, premiered on May 8th 2021, surpassed all our expectations. The work has now had over 1500 views - a recording of which we can be immensely proud.

The enjoyment of the piece was enhanced by the relaxed, good-natured and informative pre-concert talk with Tom and Chris, Payee Chen and Ben Crick.

We decided from the first digital concert to give any donation we received, to those suffering hardship due to lockdown. In 2020/21 we raised and donated nearly £2,000 shared between the Bradford Metropolitan Food Bank, The Bradford Friendship Choir and Ben's Music Foundation, a West Yorkshire charity providing support for disadvantaged young musicians.

Two trustees, Karen Jones and Sue Hayton, also spent innumerable hours helping the Bradford Friendship Choir (BFC) to make an application for funding from the Arts Council. The result, a substantial grant that provides BFC a base of much needed financial stability.

A demanding year for us all, but one in which the Choir maintained its reputation for musical quality, innovation and engagement with the wider world. I think we can be proud of what we've done

On behalf of the trustees I would like to thank Tom and Chris, our audience and our members, and all the volunteers and helpers who contribute to the choir,

Welcome back.

Tom Leech, Musical Director's Report

When I wrote about our period online for the 2019-20 season annual report, I still hoped that we would see regular live rehearsals and some performances in the 20-21 edition. How little I knew! March 11th 2020 stubbornly remained as our last rehearsal together, and Chris and I - aided by the excellent support of the choir and trustees - ploughed on into the digital world.

The first digital season in BFCS's history started with our launch concert 'The Road Home', featuring our first composite video and audio recordings, as well as some archive material we'd unearthed.

We then moved on to a second virtual choir project 'This shining night', where Chris and I created new video and audio composites. Much of the repertoire was entirely new to the choir, including music by Clara Schumann, Stanford and Coleridge-Taylor, and we were really pleased with the results.

During this period, we were also delighted to welcome composers Roxanna Panufnik and Paul Mealor to our online rehearsals - they both gave their time very generously and were fascinating to talk to. Additionally we commissioned some vocal resources for our members and other singers to use, with videos from singers Peyee Chen, Hannah Mason and Phil Wilcox, all on our YouTube channel.

As Christmas drew near, I suspect we all felt a certain weariness with the stress and strain of making individual recordings - I certainly felt that in the editing process, but the effort was rewarded in a Christmas sing along full of cheer and a sense of community that was extremely welcome, despite some restrictions being lifted at the time.

And then it was back into lockdown...and time for our most ambitious virtual choir recording.

Many of us missed the opportunity to sing a large, or larger, work, so we decided that a recording project featuring Haydn's Nelson Mass, soloists and orchestral musicians, would be a statement of optimism and intent. Inevitably it turned out to be far harder work than Chris or I anticipated, from creating the initial backing tracks to administering vast amounts of data and finally attempting to edit it together despite clearly inadequate computing power! Amazingly - and with all the hard work from choir members responding to our increasingly desperate requests to record videos - it came together and was a remarkable success.

After a few rehearsals singing through larger works, it was delightful to end the season with three in person rehearsals outdoors at Bingley Rugby Club - a real delight for us all to see each other again after such a difficult period.

The future of course remains rather uncertain, but I think the support from members and trustees of our ambitious digital existence has provided the choir with a stronger foundation than we would have had otherwise, and more importantly I hope it's given our members pleasure, focus and community at a time when these were so badly needed.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, trustees, and of course to Chris (and Jenny when deputising) for his superb musical support. Above all thank you to our members for their commitment to BFCS.

Sue Bennett, Chorus Secretary's Report

In the 2019 – 20 season before we went into lockdown we had 119 members -- 43 Sops, 45 Altos, 10 Tenors, 21 Basses. 2020 was a year like no other! BFCS members were enjoying rehearsing for The St. Matthew Passion and nearing the concert when suddenly rehearsals stopped and we were in Coronavirus lockdown.

For the 2020-2021 season we had 88 members – a significant decrease on the previous year –but given the uncertainty a fantastic response and support from the members. Not everyone went on Zoom so big thanks to all who paid but did not access the online rehearsals. It was a huge learning curve for everyone and so a big thanks also to all who did rehearse on Zoom and who sent in recordings for the concerts – traumatic at times – but definitely worth it as it had lots of positive outcomes and gave us an online presence.

The decrease in numbers obviously has had an impact. Some who could not access the online rehearsals and concerts said they would return once live rehearsal resumed and some were leaving anyway because of moving to be nearer family or work etc. but our usual recruitment to attract new members obviously couldn't happen. We did welcome some temporary members for some of the sessions - but apart from one, this did not translate into full membership as most lived too far away! Some members have now returned but others are still waiting until Covid numbers decrease further and hopefully they will join us for the Christmas concert and the St. Matthew Passion.

Now we still have 88 members – 33 Sops, 36 Altos, 7 Tenors, 13 Basses. Some longstanding members have decided to retire and others have left but we are really pleased to welcome 12 New Members and really hope they enjoy singing with us. Obviously with fewer members this has a financial impact and also a musical impact in the ability of the choir to take on larger choral works so it's really important to attract more members.

Most new members come from either searching the website/ YouTube etc. or from personal recommendation, so please encourage your friends, family and work colleagues to come along to a rehearsal and continue to circulate leaflets and publicise our concerts. We definitely need more numbers to do the St. Matthew Passion justice and to support the excellent work Tom and Chris do to ensure we do the best we can.

Many thanks to Rosy who organises the voice checks. Obviously there were no voice checks last year but voice checks for the new members were organised for October and those for existing members will be scheduled for sometime after Christmas.

Covid regulations and changes of venue have produced their own challenges so a big thanks to all those who help with rehearsals - to Cynthia Thresh, Rosy Lambert, Hilary Luckham and Anne Huntley who do the registers, and to the Trustees and everyone who has helped in a variety of ways to try to keep us all safe.

2020/2021 has proved to be another very challenging year so well done to everyone for rising to those challenges set. Tom and Chris have enabled us to meet together on Zoom and produce some wonderful concerts culminating in the Haydn Nelson Mass which we all enjoyed. The streaming of rehearsals has extended the chance of joining online rehearsals if unable to make it in person and this is proving very beneficial.

Thanks Tom and Chris for all your amazing work and the brilliant job you do.

Finally: Thank you Rob for being an excellent Chairman and guiding us throughout this most difficult of times. We couldn't have done it without you!

Karen Jones, Bradford Friendship Choir Report

Affiliated to Bradford Festival Choral Society, Bradford Friendship Choir is a joyful singing sanctuary which focuses on welcoming and supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. We celebrate our diversity through the power of song.

'Supporting Bradford's singing sanctuary in these challenging times is vital. Securing a sustainable funding stream to do this is, therefore, our main priority' (AGM report 2020). These were the final words in last year's report and it is wonderful to be able to record this year that we have been successful in securing a £15,000 project grant which will see us through until summer 2022. This means we can:

- Support refugees and asylum seekers' participation in weekly online and monthly face-to-face sessions
- Collaborate with BFCS to produce 2 short videos that celebrate our partnership, build the online presence for both choirs and enable us to reach wider and more diverse audiences
- Invite community artists to lead sessions to develop musical, cultural and social interaction
- Work proactively with a wide range of partner organisations in Bradford

We have a strong online presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram 125 subscribers on YouTube. **Follow us!**

BFC has a committee which is chaired by **Shirley Brierley**, with BFCS trustee **Karen Jones** in attendance. Other committee places comprise representatives from the choir membership. Meetings are open to all members to attend.

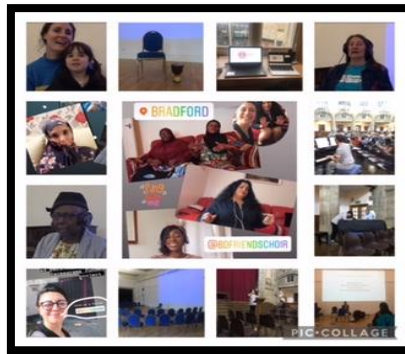
BFC has its own bank account within the main BFCS account. **Mark Clayton** is the treasurer. Income is dependent on the generosity of private donations and any successful funding applications.

Facts about the Choir and its link with BFCS.
Thank you all for your support!



Alice Phelps is the musical director with **Pariss Elektra** as the deputy director

Every effort is made to keep in contact with all members via email, social media platforms and buddy phone calls. Currently we have 40+ members engaged in online and in-person sessions.



Safeguarding, annual accounts and risk assessment come under the aegis of BFCS. **Sue Hayton** is the named safeguarding trustee.

Blended online and in person sessions run on Tuesdays – details on website www.bradfordfriendshipchoir.com.

All welcome on Zoom or at the Kala Sangam Arts Centre in Bradford!

Challenges and future plans

- Pre-pandemic, we were regularly welcoming 50+ singers to our sessions at Kala Sangam Arts Centre in Bradford and we have a membership of 80+. Our challenge is now to re-engage this membership and reach out to new singers and audiences.
- To make sure we have a successful project track record so we are in a good position to apply for further funding.

Mark Clayton, Treasurer's Report

The Choir members are all unpaid volunteers and derive no financial benefit from membership. Choir members pay a subscription set at the Annual General Meeting.

The Choir's income for the year was £25,277, of which £8,018 was generated to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir's expenditure was £32,916, of which £7,929 was used to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The Choir generated a deficit of -£7,640 which included a £88 surplus for the Bradford Friendship Choir.

Income from concerts performed over the year was £0 as audience payments for the online concerts were classed as donations rather than ticket sales. Concert costs were £12,150. Concert sponsorship was £3,000 which meant that concerts generated a deficit of -£9,150. Non-concert income was £22,277 and non-concert expenditure was £20,766 which generated a net surplus of £1,511 of which £89 was generated to support the Bradford Friendship Choir.

The Choir's funds available at the end of the year were £43,027, of which £6,376 was restricted to support Bradford Friendship Choir. The total funds available to Bradford Festival Choral Society excluding Bradford Friendship Choirs funds at the end of the year were £36,651.

Details are in the Statement of financial affairs, balance sheet, income and expenditure accounts below.

The accounts have been independently examined by Malcolm V Walker of Walker Broadbent Associates and carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. Details are in the Independent Examiners Statement below.

Bradford Festival Choral Society Accounts

(Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Legal and administrative information

Year ended 30 June 2021

Company Number	07346050
Charity Number	1141596
Trustees	Rob Voakes, Chair Sue Hayton Company Secretary Mark Clayton Treasurer Joan Letocha John Disken Karen Jones Liz Kingsley Lucy Hennessy Ivan Henderson Sara Daniel Sue Bennett Zoe Callan
Registered Office	78 Sappgate Lane Thornton, Bradford West Yorkshire BD13 3DY
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc Bingley West Yorkshire
Independent Examiner	Malcolm Walker Walker Broadbent Associates Ltd Lencett House 45 Boroughgate Otley West Yorkshire LS21 1 AG

BRADFORD FESTIVAL CHORAL SOCIETY

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report on the accounts of the society for the year ended 30 June 2021 is in respect of an examination carried out under s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under s. 144(2) of the Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts (under s.145(5)(b) of the Act);
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission
- (3) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s. 145 of the Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the committee and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

(1) In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and which comply with the regulations have not been met.

(2) In order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached I draw your attention to the paragraph at the foot of note 6.

Malcolm V Walker B Mus, FCA, CTA
Walker Broadbent Associates
Chartered Accountants
Lencett House
45 Boroughgate
Otley
LS21 1AG
27 October 2021

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2020 £
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income:	10				
Subscriptions		13,350	-	13,350	18,048
Donations		907	7,017	7,924	8,144
Activities for generating funds:	10				
Fundraising activities		-	-	-	994
Music hire		-	-	-	251
Investment income		3	-	3	37
Incoming resources from charitable activities:	3				
Concerts & performance income		-	-	-	7,688
Grants		-	1,000	1,000	-
Sponsorship		3,000	-	3,000	6,000
Total incoming resources		17,259	8,017	25,277	41,162
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds:					
Fundraising activities		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities:					
Concerts & performance expenses	4	(12,150)	-	(12,150)	(11,821)
Rehearsal & other costs	4	(12,477)	(7,929)	(20,406)	(24,162)
Governance costs					
Independent Examiner's fees	11	(360)	-	(360)	(330)
Total resources expended		(24,987)	(7,929)	(32,916)	(36,313)
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		(7,728)	88	(7,640)	4,849
Transfers between funds			-	-	-
Total funds brought forward	8	43,120	7,547	50,667	45,817
Total funds carried forward		35,392	7,635	43,027	50,666

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	5		-		5
Current assets					
Stocks		71		71	
Debtors	6	7,470		11,070	
Cash and bank balances		<u>40,411</u>		<u>40,190</u>	
		<u>47,952</u>		<u>51,331</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	7	(4,925)		(670)	
Net current assets			43,027		50,661
Net assets			<u>43,027</u>		<u>50,666</u>
Reserves					
Unrestricted funds	8		35,392		43,120
Restricted funds	8		7,635		7,547
	8		<u>43,027</u>		<u>50,666</u>

For the year ended 30th June 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476..

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies subject to small companies' régime and were approved by the board on 3 November 2021.

.....
Rob Voakes,
Chair

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports

Year ended 30 June 2021

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007) and follow the recommendations in *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2005*.

(b) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided on the straight line basis on tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off each asset over its expected useful life at the following annual rates:

Equipment	10%
-----------	-----

(c) Grant income

General purpose grants are credited to the income and expenditure account in the period received. Ear-marked grant income is matched to the associated expenditure and recognised in the accounts in the period when the performance expenses are incurred.

(d) Leasing

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to income and expenditure account as incurred.

2 Net incoming resources

	2021	2020
	£	£
Is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets owned by the company	5	65

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2021

3 Incoming resources - charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	2020		Total
				Unrestricted	Designated	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants & sponsorship						
D Holdsworth	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
The Emerald Foundation	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Income from concerts and performances: Gross income from admission charges, programme and refreshment sales	-	-	-	14,179	-	14,179
	3,000	-	3,000	20,179	-	20,179

4 Analysis of expenditure on charitable expenses

	Concerts and performances	Rehearsal & other costs	Total	2020		Total
				Concerts and performances	Rehearsal & other costs	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Musical director's & accompanists' fees	-	(9,543)	(9,543)	-	(7,955)	(7,955)
Conductor, musicians & soloists fees	(8,095)	-	(8,095)	(7,885)	(910)	(8,795)
Production expenses	(4,030)	-	(4,030)	(1,355)	(2,123)	(3,478)
Venue & facilities hire	-	(150)	(150)	(2,131)	(2,207)	(4,338)
Box office and front of house	-	-	-	-	-	-
Promotion & marketing	(25)	(198)	(223)	(450)	(263)	(713)
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	(5)	(5)	-	(5)	(5)
Other costs	-	(1,176)	(1,176)	-	(1,715)	(1,715)
Donations	-	(1,406)	(1,406)	-	-	-
Friendship Choir	-	(7,929)	(7,929)	-	(8,924)	(8,924)
	(12,150)	(20,406)	(32,556)	(11,821)	(24,102)	(35,923)

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2021

5 Tangible Fixed assets	Office Equipment & musical instruments	Total
Cost:	£	£
At start of period	655	655
Additions	-	-
	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At end of period	<u>655</u>	<u>655</u>
Depreciation:		
At start of period	650	650
Charge for the year	5	5
Eliminated on disposal	-	-
At end of period	<u>655</u>	<u>655</u>
Net book value		
At end of period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At start of period	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
6 Debtors & prepayments	2021	2020
	£	£
Accrued income	7,000	10,600
Prepayments	470	470
	<u>7,470</u>	<u>11,070</u>

Prepayments include a concert deposit of £470 paid to Leeds Town Hall in 2010 for a future concert, the recoverability of which is doubtful.

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Notes to the Accounts and Reports (continued)

Year ended 30 June 2021

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors & accruals	(4,925)	670
Deferred income	-	-
	<u>(4,925)</u>	<u>670</u>

8 Movement in funds

	At start of year	Movement in funds			At end of year
	£	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfer £	£
Restricted funds:					
Transfers on incorporation:					
Bullock Fund	209	-	-	-	209
Music Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Scholarship Fund	50	-	-	-	50
Friendship Choir	6,288	8,017	(7,929)	-	6,376
Total restricted funds	<u>7,547</u>	<u>8,017</u>	<u>(7,929)</u>	-	<u>7,635</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	43,120	14,259	(24,987)	3,000	35,392
Designated funds:					
Sponsorship	-	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>43,120</u>	<u>17,259</u>	<u>(24,987)</u>	-	<u>35,392</u>
Total funds	<u>50,667</u>	<u>25,277</u>	<u>(32,916)</u>	-	<u>43,027</u>

9 Guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

Bradford Festival Choral Society
Detailed income & expenditure account
Year ended 30 June 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
10 Income				
Members' subscriptions		9,773		15,348
Gift aid tax relief		2,657		2,700
200 Club donation		-		245
Friendship Choir Donations		5,151		6,399
Friendship Choir Gift Aid		900		1,500
General Donation		907		-
Grants		-		-
Friendship Choir Grants		1,000		-
Interest received		3		37
Self-help & fund-raising		-		354
Performance fees		-		345
Friendship Choir Performance Fees		-		1,719
Come & sing - fees & Income		-		296
Learn To Sing		-		-
Music hire/sales		-		251
Gift aid Adjustment		920		-
Friendship Choir Gift Aid Adjustment		967		-
		<u>22,277</u>		<u>29,193</u>
Concerts surplus/(deficit), per schedule		(9,150)		148
11 Expenses				
Rehearsals/General				
MD auditions fees		-	(135)	
Choir MD		(6,008)	(4,590)	
Accompanists fees		(3,465)	(3,230)	
Voice coaching		(70)	-	
Virtual Rehearsal Costs		(294)	-	
Non concert performance fees/Costs		-	(910)	
Come & Sing		-	(925)	
Friendship Choir Support		(7,929)	(8,924)	
Transfer from voice coaching fund		-	-	
Room hire		(150)	(2,207)	
Folders Purchase		-	-	
Learn to Sing Course		-	-	
Subscriptions		(497)	(497)	
Music Scores Purchase		-	(1,170)	
Music Library Costs		-	(75)	
Printing, postage & stationery		-	(103)	
Advertising/Promotion		-	(150)	
Meeting Room Costs		-	(80)	
Fund Raising Costs		-	-	
Independent examiner's fee		(360)	(330)	
Gifts & Sundries		-	(28)	
Bank charges		-	-	
Other Charges		(135)	(163)	
Depreciation		(5)	(5)	
Reduction in stock values		-	-	
Website & Domain names etc		(198)	(10)	
Gift aid debtor not recoverable		-	-	
Choir Development		(250)	(900)	
Donations		(1,406)		
		<u>- (20,766)</u>	<u>(24,492)</u>	<u>(24,492)</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the season		<u>(7,640)</u>		<u>4,849</u>

Bradford Festival Choral Society

Concerts account

Year ended 30 June 2021

2020-21 Season

	Road Home	Autumn	Xmas	Haydn	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
12 Income					
Ticket sales	-	-	-	-	-
Programme/Other sales	-	-	-	-	-
Sale of refreshments	-	-	-	-	-
Raffle	-	-	-	-	-
Gross income	-	-	-	-	-
13 Concert costs					
Soloists	(70)	(100)	-	(925)	(1,095)
Organist/accompanist	(250)	(350)	(150)	(1,200)	(1,950)
Ensemble/Musicians	-	-	-	(1,725)	(1,725)
Compere	-	-	-	-	-
Chorus Singers	-	-	-	-	-
Conductor	(675)	(675)	(675)	(1,300)	(3,325)
Instrument hire and tuning	-	-	-	-	-
Soloists Gifts	-	-	(135)	(154)	(289)
Venue Hire	-	-	-	-	-
Technical Charges	-	-	-	-	-
Production Charges	-	-	-	-	-
Online Production Charges	(1,655)	(686)	-	(1,400)	(3,741)
Music hire etc	-	-	-	-	-
Box office charges	-	-	-	-	-
Ticket Print Costs	-	-	-	-	-
PRS	-	-	-	-	-
Publicity Printing Costs	(25)	-	-	-	(25)
Programmes	-	-	-	-	-
Refreshment Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Total costs	(2,675)	(1,811)	(960)	(6,704)	(12,150)
Surplus/(deficit) before sponsors	(2,675)	(1,811)	(960)	(6,704)	(12,150)
Sponsorship:					
Donald Holdsworth	-	-	-	3,000	3,000
Emerald	-	-	-	-	-
					-
Net (deficit) surplus	(2,675)	(1,811)	(960)	(3,704)	(9,150)

