

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

England & Wales · Charity number 1153396

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	08198937
Registered	2013-08-14
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Flat 103 2A St. Luke's Avenue London SW4 7EB
Phone	07973846256
Email	manager@englishchamberchoir.co.uk
Website	www.englishchamberchoir.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE SCIENCES AND ARTS AND IN PARTICULAR THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC BY THE PRESENTATION OF RECITALS AND CONCERTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES, PRIMARILY BY THE ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR.

Activities: This charity aims to educate the general public in the sciences and arts and in particular in the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities primarily by the English Chamber Choir.

Classification

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

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£54,420	£45,745	-	-
2024-08-31	£45,130	£42,759	-	-
2023-08-31	£52,619	£44,796	-	-
2022-08-31	£35,223	£42,264	-	-
2021-08-31	£9,396	£13,345	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MARK ANDREW ROPER	Chair	2019-09-28
Deborah Anne O'Connor		2025-04-18
Dr Martin Duncan Douglas		2019-09-28
FRANCOIS BOUCARD		2013-08-09
HUGH JAMES ANDREW JOSLIN		2016-01-26
Hannah Malise Davies		2022-03-09
Helen Hester Judith Gironi		2022-03-09
Katrina Anne Wooltorton		2024-03-12
MARIANNE ASTON		2013-08-09
Timothy Michael Johns		2024-03-12

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1153396

Accounts

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

Starting: 1st September 2024

Ending: 31st August 2025

Section A – Charity Reference and administrative details

Charity Name:	English Chamber Choir
Charity Registration Number:	1153396 (England and Wales)
Company Registration Number:	8198937 (England and Wales)
Registered Office:	Flat 103 The Library Building 2A St Luke's Avenue London England SW4 7EB
Trustees	Marianne Aston Francois Boucard (Treasurer) Hannah Davies Martin Douglas Helen Gironi Timothy Johns Hugh Joslin Deborah O'Connor Mark Roper (Chair) Katrina Woollorton
Charity Registration Date:	14 August 2013
Bankers:	NatWest Tower Bridge Branch PO Box 9765 201 Tooley Street London SE1 2ZH
Independent Examiner:	Karen Bloomfield, FCA Fieldhead New Road Liskeard PL14 4HB
Website:	www.englishchamberchoir.co.uk
Contact email:	manager@englishchamberchoir.co.uk

9 Trustees held office for the whole period from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025:

Marianne Aston
Francois Boucard
Hannah Davies
Martin Douglas
Helen Gironi
Timothy Johns
Hugh Joslin
Mark Roper
Katrina Woollorton

1 Trustee was appointed during the period:

Deborah O'Connor served from 18th April 2025 to 31st August 2025

Hannah Davies was formerly known as Hannah Ainsworth, her legal name was updated in the register of Trustees of the charity on 22nd February 2025.

Section B – Structure, governance and management

English Chamber Choir (the Charity, also the ECC) is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, incorporated on 03 September 2012 in England and Wales with company number 8198937, which was granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396.

The Charity started its activities on 01 September 2013 when a Transfer of Undertaking Deed transferred all assets and liabilities to the Charity from the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales, which was registered on 13 May 1975 and formally ceased to exist on 28 January 2014. This change of legal structure did not change the nature of the activity of the ECC, which is to run a London-based chamber choir of about 50 singers called the English Chamber Choir which has been in existence since 1972.

The governing document for the Charity is the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 03 September 2012.

The organisation is governed by elected Trustees who are also directors of English Chamber Choir for the purpose of company law. The Trustees are elected by the choir's membership at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees' roles include Chair, Treasurer and officers without defined portfolio. The Trustees for the period are listed in section A.

The Board of Trustees holds meetings at least on a quarterly basis. The Trustees are volunteers and do not get any remuneration for their role.

The Charity has no employees. It uses the services of professional experts who work on a freelance basis, including:

- Rufus Frowde, Artistic Director
- Guy Protheroe, Conductor Emeritus
- Richard Hills, Accompanist and deputy conductor
- Andreana Chan, Accompanist

The Trustees developed and implemented the following policies for the Charity:

1. Social Media Policy
2. Safeguarding Policy Statement
3. Equal Opportunities Policy
4. Data Protection Policy
5. Health and Safety Policy
6. Whistleblowing Policy
7. Conflict of Interest Policy
8. Complaints Policy
9. Privacy Policy (protection of personal information)

Section C – Objectives and activities

Aim and objectives

As per the objects stated in the Articles of Association, English Chamber Choir aims to educate the public in the sciences and arts and in particular the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities, primarily by the English Chamber Choir.

The Charity's main goals include:

- welcoming a diverse choir membership and providing the singers with the environment and support to achieve musical excellence;
- performing a wide range of music styles to diverse audiences;
- promoting English music and rarely performed material;
- supporting living composers by performing their music and commissioning new works.

Membership

The ECC is proud of its diverse SATB membership, which includes about 50 singers with all sorts of professional backgrounds and a wide range of ages, from students to pensioners. Our members are selected through auditions purely on musical criteria and we can provide further musical education by arranging or sponsoring individual singing lessons.

It is an ECC policy that no singer who demonstrates the required high standard of ability and commitment should be excluded on financial grounds. In consequence the choir provides financial assistance to those in hardship or not in full-time employment by way of subsidising travel expenses for out of London engagements, or subsidising singing lessons, or providing discretionary concessions on the annual £276 membership fee.

Since 2017 the ECC has been running a scholarship scheme designed for the recruitment of junior singers, essentially graduates who have just finished university. Under this scheme the new members don't have to pay any membership fee and are offered complimentary singing lessons in their initial year, and exceptionally for subsequent periods at the Trustees' discretion.

Musical activities – Rehearsals

The ECC holds its weekly rehearsals on Tuesdays in the City of London in Holy Sepulchre, the National Musicians Church, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2DQ.

Musical activities – Own productions

The ECC promoted 3 concerts in London or further afield in England.

1) 29 September 2024 – St Marylebone, London NW1 5LT Immortal Fire. Conductors: Guy Protheroe & Rufus Frowde

A concert in tribute to the 50 years where Ann & Guy Protheroe led the ECC. The choir was joined on this occasion by many returning members and the programme was curated to include works that have particular significance to Ann & Guy, including:

- Harris: *Holy is the True Light*
- Britten: *Hymn to St Cecilia*
- Byrd: *Civitas Sancti Tui*
- Bax: *Mater ora filium*
- Schoenberg: *Friede auf Erden*
- Vaughan Williams: *The Cloud-Capped Towers*
- Stanford: *The Blue Bird*
- Frowde: *Love Divine*

2) 19 December 2024 – St James Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL A Ceremony of Carols. Conductor: Rufus Frowde.

Programme including:

- Willcocks: *Once in Royal David's City*
- Poston: *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*
- Frowde: *There is no Rose of Such Virtue*
- Tallis: *Vdete miraculum*
- Chilcott: *In Dulci Jubilo*
- Vaughan Williams: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
- Britten: *A Ceremony of Carols*
- Chilcott: *Good King Wenceslas*
- Dove: *Run, Shepherds, Run!*
- Willcocks: *O come, all ye faithful*

3) 18 April 2025 – Holy Trinity Church, Guildford, GU1 3RR The Crucifixion. Conductor: Rufus Frowde

Programme including:

- Sanders: *The Reproaches*
- Stainer: *The Crucifixion*

Musical activities – Hired productions

In addition to the ECC's own promotions detailed in the previous section (3 concerts), the choir was hired to perform a wide range of music styles in various venues (another 18 performances) in the year to 31 August 2025.

Those performances included:

- 1) Royal Albert Hall: the ECC was engaged in 5 performances of live music during film screenings (Harry Potter, on 01 & 02 & 03 Nov 2024).
- 2) Royal Academy of Arts: carol singing on 30 Nov 2024 at a private event for RAA members.
- 3) Garrison Chapel, Chelsea: carol singing for the King's Trust on 30 Nov & 01 Dec 2024.
- 4) Royal Collection, The King's Gallery: carol singing on 04 & 05 Dec 2024.
- 5) Weekend in Staffordshire with
 - Concert *O Gladsome Light* on 01 Feb 2025 in Seighford St Chad (ST18 9PQ)
 - Sunday service on 02 Feb 2025 in Eccleshall Holy Trinity (ST21 6BY)
- 6) Barnes Festival, in St Mary's Church Barnes, London SW13 9HL. Final concert of the festival on 29 Mar 2025, with the Barnes Festival Orchestra and the Tiffin Chamber Choir, conducted by James Day, with performance of Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*.
- 7) St Mary's Luton (LU1 3JF), concert *On Eagle's Wings* at the invitation of the Luton Music Club, on 09 June 2025.
Programme including:
 - *O Gloriosissimi Lux* - Hildegard of Bingen
 - *Seek him that maketh the seven stars* - Jonathan Dove
 - *De Angelis* - Christos Hatzis
 - *The Seal Lullaby* - Eric Whitacre
 - *Bird Songs* - Richard Sisson
 - *Stars* - Eriks Esenvalds
- 8) Hampton Court Royal Chapel – Evensong on 05 July 2025.
- 9) Westminster Abbey – Evensong on 17 July 2025
- 10) Opera Holland Park – 2 performances of *Beethoven, I Shall Hear in Heaven*, on 06 & 08 Aug 2025

Section D – Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

At each Board meeting the Trustees review the outcome of past activities and plan future projects with a view to deliver on the ECC's stated charitable aims.

The Trustees are confident that the activities listed in section C for the period are in line with our charitable objectives, so there will be no material change in the nature of our activities in the next period.

Our own promotions are very much in line with our charitable aims of performing a wider and more unusual repertoire for the public but they are more challenging than commercial productions for attracting large audiences. Our experience is that nowadays it is extremely difficult to raise funds and donations with the aim of performing live choral music, so the way we found to successfully fund loss-making activities is to also do more commercial and profitable activities. In consequence, the Trustees are very keen to maintain our association with organisations like Royal Albert Hall Productions.

Section E – Financial Review

Financial position

The balance sheet of English Chamber Choir at 31 August 2025 shows total net assets of £28,111. The Trustees believe that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

The statement of financial activities shows that during the period the Charity had a total income of £54,420 and a total expenditure of £45,745 hence a total net profit of £8,675.

Reserves policy

The Trustees note that the fixed costs of running the choir (including weekly rehearsal costs and annual administration costs) did not match the annual recurrent income (including the subscriptions by the choir members and the associated Gift Aid).

In the year to 31 August 2025 the recurrent annual income was £12,557 and the annual fixed costs were £17,871 resulting in a shortfall of £5,313.

This year the shortfall was covered by the net profit generated by commercial engagements. However the Trustees are aware of the risk of relying on this commercial income and have identified the following risk factors:

- The income from hired performances could be delayed (including because of dispute or litigation or bankruptcy).
- The profitable commercial relationships could well dry up or disappear.

The 2 years of pandemic evidenced that the risk that performance income could disappear is not theoretical as the ECC experienced it further to the closure of all performance venues.

The Trustees adopted the policy that the Charity should maintain financial reserves that should exceed the net costs of running the choir for at least one year. To this end the level of reserves is targeted at £10,000.

The Trustees are also satisfied that the actual reserves are held in a physically segregated account (the NatWest Business Reserve account). Those reserves are in effect considered as non-available cash for normal charitable activities. The Trustees keep that in mind when assessing the affordability of any new project, especially for projects that have high upfront costs like studio recordings.

Sources of funding

This year the sources of funding were performance fees from hired productions (56%), membership fees, donations and associated Gift Aid (28%), ticket sales from own productions (14%) and ancillary income (2%).

Investment Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the board of Trustees of the Charity has the power to make investments however it sees fit in line with the furtherance of its objectives. Given the small size of available cash, the Trustees have not considered investments this year.

Section F – Declaration

The Trustees of English Chamber Choir declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above on 13 February 2026 and they have mandated the Treasurer to sign on their behalf:



Francois Boucard, Treasurer

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Limited by Guarantee

Company Registration Number: 8198937 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Report of the Directors and Unaudited Financial Statements

Period of accounts

Start date: 1st September 2024

End date: 31st August 2025

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Contents of the Financial Statements - Period Ended 31st August 2025

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ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Information - Period Ended 31st August 2025

Company Registration Number: 8198937 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Registered Office: Flat 103 The Library Building
2A St Luke's Avenue
London
England
SW4 7EB

Directors
Marianne Aston
Francois Boucard
Hannah Davies
Martin Douglas
Helen Gironi
Timothy Johns
Hugh Joslin
Deborah O'Connor
Mark Roper
Katrina Wooltorton

Date of Incorporation 3rd September 2012

Bankers: NatWest
Tower Bridge Branch
PO Box 9765
201 Tooley Street
London
SE1 2ZH

Independent Examiner: Karen Bloomfield, FCA
Fieldhead
New Road
Liskeard
PL14 4HB

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Report of the Directors - Period Ended 31st August 2025

The directors present their report and the unaudited financial statements of English Chamber Choir (the "Company" or the "ECC") for the period ended 31st August 2025.

Directors

9 directors held office for the whole period from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025:

Marianne Aston

Francois Boucard

Hannah Davies

Martin Douglas

Helen Gironi

Timothy Johns

Hugh Joslin

Mark Roper

Katrina Woollorton

1 director was appointed during the period:

Deborah O'Connor served from 18th April 2025 to 31st August 2025

Hannah Davies was formerly known as Hannah Ainsworth, her legal name was updated in the register of directors of the Company on 22nd February 2025.

Principal activity and review of the business

The Company is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The Company has no employees.

The Company was incorporated on 03 September 2012 in order to run a chamber choir called the English Chamber Choir in replacement of the Society which had been running it since 1972 and was called the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales. The transfer of operations between the two entities was delayed until after the Company registered 8198937 was also granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396. The Company started actual business further to the Transfer of Undertaking Deed signed between the English Chamber Choir Society and the Company on 01 September 2013.

The Company continued to operate its bank accounts with NatWest during the period, there was no opening and no closing of any account during the period.

As per the objects specified in its Articles of Association, the Company's principal activity is to educate the public in the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities primarily by the English Chamber Choir. The activities of the Company in the period were similar to those in the previous period and the Directors do not anticipate any change in the nature of these activities going forward.

During the period Rufus Frowde continued to serve as the Artistic Director of the Company. Guy Protheroe remained involved with the ECC on a project basis in his role as Conductor Emeritus.

The artistic team also continued to include Richard Hills and Andreana Chan, who support Rufus as accompanists and occasionally deputise for him in a conducting role.

Results and financial position

The results for the year are shown in the statement of financial activities on page 7. The net profit for the period was £8,675.

The balance sheet as detailed on page 8 shows surplus carried forward of £28,111. The Directors believe that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

Responsibilities of the directors in respect of the Financial Statements

The Directors (who are also the trustees of English Chamber Choir for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

Independent examiner

The Directors (also Trustees for the purposes of charity law) have not required the Company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. They also consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination was needed.

The Trustees appointed Karen Bloomfield, FCA, to perform this independent examination. A separate Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts was prepared for filing with the Charity Commission.

Karen Bloomfield, FCA
Fieldhead, New Road, Liskeard, PL14 4HB

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 13 February 2026 and signed on behalf of the Board by:



Francois Boucard
Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Statement of Financial Activities - Period Ended 31st August 2025.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Income						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	15,019	0	0	15,019	14,165
Charitable activities	4	37,824	0	0	37,824	29,569
Other trading activities	5	980	0	0	980	422
Investments	6	331	0	0	331	274
Other	7	266	0	0	266	700
Total Income		54,420	0	0	54,420	45,130
Expenditure						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	8	(42,343)	0	0	(42,343)	(38,521)
Other	9	(3,402)	0	0	(3,402)	(4,508)
Total Expenditure		(45,745)	0	0	(45,745)	(42,759)
Net Income/(Expenditure)		8,675	0	0	8,675	2,371
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward		19,436	0	0	19,436	17,065
Total funds Carried Forward		28,111	0	0	28,111	19,436

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Balance Sheet – As at 31st August 2025.

	Notes	At 31 August 2025		At 31 August 2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets			0		0
Current Assets					
Stocks		0		0	
Debtors	11	1,000		0	
Cash at bank and in hand	13	30,214		19,886	
		31,214		19,886	
Creditors: Amounts falling due Within One Year	12	(3,103)		(450)	
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		28,111		19,436	
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		28,111		19,436	
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)		28,111		19,436	
Funds					
Endowment funds		0		0	
Restricted income funds		0		0	
Unrestricted income funds		28,111		19,436	
Total Funds		28,111		19,436	

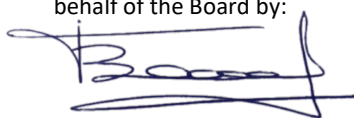
The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

The directors are satisfied that the Company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477(2) and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476(1) of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (i) ensuring that the Company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirement of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act with respect to financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 13 February 2026 and signed on behalf of the Board by:



Francois Boucard
Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Notes to the Financial Statements - Period Ended 31st August 2025.

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006 and The Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Report) Regulations 2008
- the Charities Act 2011
- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

(b) Cash Flow Statement

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

(c) Fund Accounting

- **Endowment funds** are those funds which the charity must hold and retain and not spend as income. The income arising is used for charitable purposes and capital gains are retained within the fund.
- **Restricted funds** are those funds which must be spent as income on the particular purposes specified by the donor or specifically identified in appeal literature.
- **Unrestricted funds** are those funds that can be spent at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

(d) Income

Recognition of income	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Offsetting	There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income or expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met.
Legacies	Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
Contractual income and performance related grants	This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.
Income from membership subscriptions	Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which give a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

(e) Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.
Governance and support costs	Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.
Creditors	The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.
Provisions for liabilities	A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.
Basic Financial Instruments	The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 10.7 FRS 102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19 FRS 102 SORP.

(f) Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	All fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset over the useful economic life of that asset, which in all cases is estimated at 3 years.
Stocks and work in progress	Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Goods and services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock. Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.
Debtors	Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, the liability of members is limited to £1.

3. Income – Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Donations	2,462	0	0	2,462	3,521
Grants	0	0	0	0	0
Legacies	0	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid	1,907	0	0	1,907	1,655
Membership subscriptions	10,650	0	0	10,650	8,989
	15,019	0	0	15,019	14,165

4. Income - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Performance fees	30,450	0	0	30,450	24,200
Ticket sales	7,374	0	0	7,374	5,369
Advertising sales	0	0	0	0	0
	37,824	0	0	37,824	29,569

A material component of performance fees comprises the contracts with the Royal Albert Hall (£22,300 in year 2025; £15,750 in year 2024).

5. Income – Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restrict ed Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Merchandising income	0	0	0	0	20
Rental of music scores	980	0	0	980	402
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0	0
	980	0	0	980	422

6. Income - Investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Bank interest income	331	0	0	331	274
	331	0	0	331	274

7. Income - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Other income	266	0	0	266	700
	266	0	0	266	700

8. Expenditure - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Hire of halls	8,733	0	0	8,733	8,672
Professional fees - rehearsals	10,603	0	0	10,603	7,685
Professional fees - concerts	17,498	0	0	17,498	17,273
Professional fees - support	1,150	0	0	1,150	2,665
Music hire / purchase	3,726	0	0	3,726	868
Marketing and publicity	633	0	0	633	1,088
	42,343	0	0	42,343	38,251

9. Expenditure - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2025 £	Total Funds Year 2024 £
Premises costs	0	0	0	0	1,265
Independent examiner's fees	0	0	0	0	0
Accountancy fees	0	0	0	0	0
Tax advisory fees	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0
Bank charges	105	0	0	105	92
Technology	1,270	0	0	1,270	1,154
Miscellaneous purchases	2,027	0	0	2,027	1,997
	3,402	0	0	3,402	4,508

The premises costs in year 2024 represent the hire of a self-storage box to host the ECC library for a few months in wait for a permanent arrangement.

10. Staff Costs and Emoluments, Directors' Remuneration

10.1 – Staff costs

The Company had no employees during the financial year (2024: nil).

All professionals involved in the charitable activities and supporting activities supplied their services on a freelance basis.

10.2 – Directors' remuneration and benefits

No Director received any remuneration during the year (2024: nil) and no Director had any personal interest in any contract entered into by the Company during the year (2024: nil).

10.3 – Transactions with Directors

Expenses paid on behalf of the Company were reimbursed to the following directors:

Name	Position	Amount Year 2025 (£)	Amount Year 2024 (£)	Nature of transactions
Martin Douglas	Director	1,396	1,356	Music hire/purchase, postage, self-storage box
Mark Roper	Director	156	361	Technology, printing
Marianne Aston	Director	9	0	Postage

10.4 – Transactions with other related parties

Related parties in addition to the Company Directors are defined in SORP FRS 102 as:

- An individual with authority and responsibility for planning, directing or controlling the activities of the entity, either directly or indirectly (the key management personnel).
- An officer, agent or employee of the charity who has authority and responsibility for the charity as key management personnel. This includes senior staff members who make decisions, or budget holders who have power to spend significant amounts of the charity's resources.
- A trustee and their close family members and those entities which they control or in which they have a significant interest.

There was no financial transaction in year 2025 with any individual or entity qualifying as other related party.

11. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 August 2025	At 31 August 2024
	£	£
Tax receivable	0	0
Performance debtors	1,000	0
Membership debtors	0	0
Other debtors	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	0	0
	1,000	0

12. Creditors and accruals

	At 31 August 2025	At 31 August 2024
	£	£
Professional fees creditors	1,295	0
Other creditors	1,808	450
Accruals and deferred income	0	0
	3,103	450

13. Cash at bank and in hand

	At 31 August 2025	At 31 August 2024
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	30,214	19,886
Short term deposits	0	0
Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	0	0
	30,214	19,886

14. Basic Financial Instruments

Basic Financial Instruments including debtors, creditors and cash, were entered at fair value at inception and there has been no impairment since.

15. Taxation

As a charity the Company is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 466 to 493 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Company.

The Company is not registered for VAT because its VAT taxable turnover is below the threshold set by HMRC.

16. Going concern

The financial statements are prepared with the assumption that the Company is a going concern. The Company will continue for the foreseeable future and it is not the intention to, nor is there the need to, liquidate the company or cease its activities.

The Company has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 AUGUST 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1153396

Set out on pages

1 to 16

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:**Date:** 25 January 2026**Name:**

Karen Bloomfield

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

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

Address:

Fieldhead, New Road

Liskeard

Cornwall PL14 4HB

Section B**Disclosure**

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

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

None

Accounts

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

Starting: 1st September 2023

Ending: 31st August 2024

Section A – Charity Reference and administration details

Charity Name:	English Chamber Choir
Charity Registration Number:	1153396 (England and Wales)
Company Registration Number:	8198937 (England and Wales)
Registered Office:	Flat 103 The Library Building 2A St Luke's Avenue London England SW4 7EB
Trustees	Hannah Ainsworth Marianne Aston Francois Boucard (Treasurer) Martin Douglas Helen Gironi Timothy Johns Hugh Joslin Mark Roper (Chair) Katrina Woollorton
Charity Registration Date:	14 August 2013
Bankers:	NatWest Tower Bridge Branch PO Box 9765 201 Tooley Street London SE1 2ZH
Independent Examiner:	Karen Bloomfield, FCA 63 Motspur Park New Malden, Surrey England KT3 6PT
Website:	www.englishchamberchoir.co.uk
Contact email:	manager@englishchamberchoir.co.uk

7 Trustees held office for the whole period from 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024:

Hannah Ainsworth
Marianne Aston
Francois Boucard
Martin Douglas
Helen Gironi
Hugh Joslin
Mark Roper

2 Trustees retired during the period.

Anne Johnson served from 1st September 2023 to 20th January 2024
Simon Archer served from 1st September 2023 to 9th March 2024

2 Trustees were appointed during the period:

Timothy Johns served from 12th March 2024 to 31st August 2024
Katrina Wooltorton served from 12th March 2024 to 31st August 2024

Section B – Structure, governance and management

English Chamber Choir (the Charity, also the ECC) is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, incorporated on 03 September 2012 in England and Wales with company number 8198937, which was granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396.

The Charity started its activities on 01 September 2013 when a Transfer of Undertaking Deed transferred all assets and liabilities to the Charity from the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales, which was registered on 13 May 1975 and formally ceased to exist on 28 January 2014. This change of legal structure did not change the nature of the activity of the ECC, which is to run a London-based chamber choir of about 50 singers called the English Chamber Choir which has been in existence since 1972.

The governing document for the Charity is the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 03 September 2012.

The organisation is governed by elected Trustees who are also directors of English Chamber Choir for the purpose of company law. The Trustees are elected by the choir's membership at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees' roles include Chair, Treasurer and officers without defined portfolio. The Trustees for the period are listed in section A.

The Board of Trustees holds meetings at least on a quarterly basis. The Trustees are volunteers and do not get any remuneration for their role.

The Charity has no employees. It uses the services of professional experts who work on a freelance basis, including:

- Rufus Frowde, Artistic Director
- Guy Protheroe, Conductor Emeritus
- Richard Hills, Accompanist

The period to 31st August 2024 was a year of change for ECC's management. The ECC appointed Rufus Frowde as its new Artistic Director with full effect from 1st January 2024 after a few months of transition. He succeeded Guy Protheroe who held the same role for the previous 50 years. Guy was appointed as Conductor Emeritus and is therefore expected to continue to be involved with the ECC on a project basis. Ann Manly (Guy's wife) also retired on 1st January 2024 from her role as ECC Manager which she had held for the previous 50 years.

The Trustees developed and implemented the following policies for the Charity:

1. Social Media Policy
2. Safeguarding Policy Statement
3. Equal Opportunities Policy
4. Data Protection Policy
5. Health and Safety Policy
6. Whistleblowing Policy
7. Conflict of Interest Policy
8. Complaints Policy
9. Privacy Policy (protection of personal information)

Section C – Objectives and activities

Aim and objectives

As per the objects stated in the Articles of Association, English Chamber Choir aims to educate the public in the sciences and arts and in particular the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities, primarily by the English Chamber Choir.

The Charity's main goals include:

- welcoming a diverse choir membership and providing the singers with the environment and support to achieve musical excellence;
- performing a wide range of music styles to diverse audiences;
- promoting English music and rarely performed material;
- supporting living composers by performing their music and commissioning new works.

Membership

The ECC is proud of its diverse SATB membership, which includes about 50 singers with all sorts of professional backgrounds and a wide range of ages, from students to pensioners. Our members are selected through auditions purely on musical criteria and we can provide further musical education by arranging or sponsoring individual singing lessons.

It is an ECC policy that no singer who demonstrates the required high standard of ability and commitment should be excluded on financial grounds. In consequence the choir provides financial assistance to those in hardship or not in full-time employment by way of subsidising

travel expenses for out of London engagements, or subsidising singing lessons, or providing discretionary concessions on the annual £276 membership fee.

Since 2017 the ECC has been running a scholarship scheme designed for the recruitment of junior singers, essentially graduates who have just finished university. Under this scheme the new members don't have to pay any membership fee and are offered complimentary singing lessons in their initial year, and exceptionally for subsequent periods at the Trustees' discretion.

Musical activities – Rehearsals

The ECC holds its weekly rehearsals on Tuesdays in the City of London in Holy Sepulchre, the National Musicians Church, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2DQ.

Musical activities – Own productions

The ECC promoted 5 concerts in London or further afield in England.

**1) 23 November 2023 – Royal Chapel of the Savoy, London WC2R 0DA
Songs of Mary. Conductors: Guy Protheroe & Rufus Frowde**

Programme including:

- Bruckner: *Virga Jesse*
- Frowde: *Adam lay ybounden*
- Moody: *Evangelismos*
- Bach/Gounod: *Ave Maria*
- Gorecki: *Totus tuus*
- Stanford: *Magnificat for double choir, Op 164*
- Tavener: *Mother of God, here I stand*
- Britten: *Hymn to the Virgin*
- Traditional Provencal: *Ave Maris Stella*
- Sheppard: *Verbum caro*

**2) 29 March 2024 – Holy Trinity Sloane Square, London SW1X 9BZ
The Crucifixion. Conductor: Rufus Frowde.**

Programme including:

- Bach/Frowde: *O Vos Omnes*
- Stainer: *The Crucifixion*

**3) 18 June 2024 – Greek Cathedral of St Sophia, Bayswater, London W2 4LQ
In Memoriam Ivan Moody. Conductors: Guy Protheroe & Rufus Frowde**

A tribute to Ivan Moody who passed away in January 2024, with music written by him or by others who influenced him. Ivan was a patron of the ECC, with a musical association that lasted over several decades and that materialised as a number of commissions by the ECC.

Programme including:

- Moody: *Akathistos Hymn, Evangelismos, Isangeli, When Augustus Reigned, Te lucis ante terminum*
- Tavener: *O Thou Gentle Light, Song for Athene*
- Tallis: *Salvator Mundi*
- Frowde: *All praise to Thee (Tallis' Canon)*
- Elgar: *Lux aeterna*
- Tchaikovsky: *Dostoyno yest, Khvalitye*

**4) 21 June 2024 – Birmingham Cathedral, B3 2QB
Light Eternal. Conductor: Rufus Frowde.**

Programme including:

- Esenvalds: *Rivers of Light, Stars*
- Whitacre: *Lux Aurumque, Sleep*
- Elgar/Cameron: *Lux Aeterna ('Nimrod')*
- Tchaikovsky: *Dostoyno yest*
- Moody: *Te Lucis Ante Terminum*
- Frowde: *All praise to Thee (Tallis' Canon)*
- Tchaikovsky: *Khvalitye Gospoda*
- Vaughan Williams: *The Cloud-Capped Towers*
- Dove: *Seek Him that maketh the seven stars*

**5) 26 July 2024 – Hitchin Festival 2024, St Mary Hitchin, SG5 1HP
Love Divine. Conductor: Rufus Frowde.**

Works for choir, organ (Ian Farrington) and saxophone (Jonathan Radford).

Programme including:

- Esenvalds: *Rivers of Light, Stars*
- Poston: *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*
- Bach/Frowde: *O Vos Omnes*
- Frowde: *Love Divine*
- Farrington: *Paganini Patterns*
- Whitacre: *Lux Aurumque*
- Sisson: *The Arundel Mass / Pied Beauty*

Musical activities – Hired productions

In addition to the ECC's own promotions detailed in the previous section (5 concerts), the choir was hired to perform a wide range of music styles in various venues (another 17 performances) in the year to 31 August 2024.

Those performances included:

- 1) Royal Albert Hall: the ECC was engaged in 3 performances of live music during film screenings (Harry Potter, on 03 & 04 Nov 2023).
- 2) 2 performances of A Dickensian Christmas (Raymond Gubbay Productions) in Cadogan Hall (22 Dec 2023) and in Bexhill (23 Dec 2023).

- 3) Hampton Court Royal Chapel – Evensong on 02 March 2024.
- 4) Church services: the ECC provided music for 8 Sunday services at St James Garlickhythe (24 Sep 2023, 29 Oct 2023, 26 Nov 2023, 28 Jan 2024, 25 Feb 2024, 28 Apr 2024, 26 May 2024, 30 Jun 2024)
- 5) Carol singing for the Prince's Trust at Garrison Chapel Chelsea (30 Nov 2023) and at the King's Gallery (06 Dec 2023 and 11 Dec 2023).

Section D – Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

At each Board meeting the Trustees review the outcome of past activities and plan future projects with a view to deliver on the ECC's stated charitable aims.

The Trustees are confident that the activities listed in section C for the period are in line with our charitable objectives, so there will be no material change in the nature of our activities in the next period.

Our own promotions are very much in line with our charitable aims of performing a wider and more unusual repertoire for the public but they are more challenging than commercial productions for attracting large audiences. Our experience is that nowadays it is extremely difficult to raise funds and donations with the aim of performing live choral music, so the way we found to successfully fund loss-making activities is to also do more commercial and profitable activities. In consequence, the Trustees are very keen to maintain our association with organisations like Royal Albert Hall Productions.

Section E – Financial Review

Financial position

The balance sheet of English Chamber Choir at 31 August 2024 shows total net assets of £19,436. The Trustees believe that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

The statement of financial activities shows that during the period the Charity had a total income of £45,130 and a total expenditure of £42,759 hence a total net profit of £2,371.

Reserves policy

The Trustees note that the fixed costs of running the choir (including weekly rehearsal costs and annual administration costs) did not match the annual recurrent income (including the subscriptions by the choir members and the associated Gift Aid).

In the year to 31 August 2024 the recurrent annual income was £10,643 and the annual fixed costs were £15,519 resulting in a shortfall of £4,876.

This year the shortfall was covered by the net profit generated by commercial engagements. However the Trustees are aware of the risk of relying on this commercial income and have identified the following risk factors:

- The income from hired performances could be delayed (including because of dispute or litigation or bankruptcy).
- The profitable commercial relationships could well dry up or disappear.

The 2 years of pandemic evidenced that the risk that performance income could disappear is not theoretical as the ECC experienced it further to the closure of all performance venues.

The Trustees adopted the policy that the Charity should maintain financial reserves that should exceed the net costs of running the choir for at least one year. To this end the level of reserves is targeted at £10,000.

The Trustees are also satisfied that the actual reserves are held in a physically segregated account (the NatWest Business Reserve account). Those reserves are in effect considered as non-available cash for normal charitable activities. The Trustees keep that in mind when assessing the affordability of any new project, especially for projects that have high upfront costs like studio recordings.

Sources of funding

This year the sources of funding were performance fees from hired productions (54%), membership fees, donations and associated Gift Aid (31%), ticket sales from own productions (12%) and ancillary income (3%).

Investment Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the board of Trustees of the Charity has the power to make investments however it sees fit in line with the furtherance of its objectives. Given the small size of available cash, the Trustees have not considered investments this year.

Section F – Declaration

The Trustees of English Chamber Choir declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above on 18 February 2025 and they have mandated the Treasurer to sign on their behalf:



Francois Boucard, Treasurer

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Limited by Guarantee

Company Registration Number: 8198937 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Report of the Directors and Unaudited Financial Statements

Period of accounts

Start date: 1st September 2023

End date: 31st August 2024

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Contents of the Financial Statements - Period Ended 31st August 2024

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Statement of Financial Activities	page 7
Balance Sheet	page 8
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ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Information - Period Ended 31st August 2024

Company Registration Number: 8198937 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Registered Office: Flat 103 The Library Building
2A St Luke's Avenue
London
England
SW4 7EB

Directors Hannah Ainsworth
Marianne Aston
Francois Boucard
Martin Douglas
Helen Gironi
Timothy Johns
Hugh Joslin
Mark Roper
Katrina Wooltorton

Date of Incorporation 3rd September 2012

Bankers: NatWest
Tower Bridge Branch
PO Box 9765
201 Tooley Street
London
SE1 2ZH

Independent Examiner: Karen Bloomfield, FCA
63 Motspur Park
New Malden, Surrey
England
KT3 6PT

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Report of the Directors - Period Ended 31st August 2024

The directors present their report and the unaudited financial statements of English Chamber Choir (the "Company" or the "ECC") for the period ended 31st August 2024.

Directors

7 directors held office for the whole period from 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024:

Hannah Ainsworth

Marianne Aston

Francois Boucard

Martin Douglas

Helen Gironi

Hugh Joslin

Mark Roper

2 directors retired during the period:

Anne Johnson served from 1st September 2023 to 20th January 2024

Simon Archer served from 1st September 2023 to 9th March 2024

2 directors were appointed during the period:

Timothy Johns served from 12th March 2024 to 31st August 2024

Katrina Woollorton served from 12th March 2024 to 31st August 2024

Principal activity and review of the business

The Company is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The Company has no employees.

The Company was incorporated on 03 September 2012 in order to run a chamber choir called the English Chamber Choir in replacement of the Society which had been running it since 1972 and was called the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales. The transfer of operations between the two entities was delayed until after the Company registered 8198937 was also granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396. The Company started actual business further to the Transfer of Undertaking Deed signed between the English Chamber Choir Society and the Company on 01 September 2013.

The Company continued to operate its bank accounts with NatWest during the period, there was no opening and no closing of any account during the period.

As per the objects specified in its Articles of Association, the Company's principal activity is to educate the public in the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities primarily by the English Chamber Choir. The activities of the Company in the period were similar to those in the previous period and the Directors do not anticipate any change in the nature of these activities going forward.

During the period the Company appointed Rufus Frowde as its new Artistic Director with full effect from 1st January 2024 after a few months of transition. He succeeded Guy Protheroe who held the same role for the previous 50 years. Guy was appointed as Conductor Emeritus and is therefore expected to continue to be involved with the ECC on a project basis. Ann Manly (Guy's wife) also retired on 1st January 2024 from her role as ECC Manager which she had held for the previous 50 years.

Results and financial position

The results for the year are shown in the statement of financial activities on page 7. The net profit for the period was £2,371.

The balance sheet as detailed on page 8 shows surplus carried forward of £19,436. The Directors believe that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

Responsibilities of the directors in respect of the Financial Statements

The Directors (who are also the trustees of English Chamber Choir for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

Independent examiner

The Directors (also Trustees for the purposes of charity law) have not required the Company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. They also consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination was needed.

The Trustees appointed Karen Bloomfield, FCA, to perform this independent examination. A separate Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts was prepared for filing with the Charity Commission.

Karen Bloomfield, FCA
63 Motspur Park, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 6PT

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 18 February 2025 and signed on behalf of the Board by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Boucard', with a horizontal line underneath.

Francois Boucard
Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Statement of Financial Activities - Period Ended 31st August 2024.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Income						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	14,165	0	0	14,165	15,529
Charitable activities	4	29,569	0	0	29,569	36,618
Other trading activities	5	422	0	0	422	331
Investments	6	274	0	0	274	105
Other	7	700	0	0	700	36
Total Income		45,130	0	0	45,130	52,619
Expenditure						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	8	(38,251)	0	0	(38,251)	(41,705)
Other	9	(4,508)	0	0	(4,508)	(3,091)
Total Expenditure		(42,759)	0	0	(42,759)	(44,796)
Net Income/(Expenditure)		2,371	0	0	2,371	7,823
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward		17,065	0	0	17,065	9,242
Total funds Carried Forward		19,436	0	0	19,436	17,065

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Balance Sheet – As at 31st August 2024.

	Notes	At 31 August 2024		At 31 August 2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets			0		0
Current Assets					
Stocks		0		0	
Debtors	11	0		0	
Cash at bank and in hand	13	19,886		17,065	
		<u>19,886</u>		<u>17,065</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due Within One Year	12	(450)		0	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>19,436</u>		<u>17,065</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>19,436</u>		<u>17,065</u>
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>19,436</u>		<u>17,065</u>
Funds					
Endowment funds		0		0	
Restricted income funds		0		0	
Unrestricted income funds		19,436		17,065	
Total Funds			<u>19,436</u>		<u>17,065</u>

The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

The directors are satisfied that the Company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477(2) and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476(1) of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (i) ensuring that the Company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirement of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act with respect to financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 18 February 2025 and signed on behalf of the Board by:



Francois Boucard
Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Notes to the Financial Statements - Period Ended 31st August 2023.

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006 and The Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Report) Regulations 2008
- the Charities Act 2011
- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

(b) Cash Flow Statement

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

(c) Fund Accounting

- **Endowment funds** are those funds which the charity must hold and retain and not spend as income. The income arising is used for charitable purposes and capital gains are retained within the fund.
- **Restricted funds** are those funds which must be spent as income on the particular purposes specified by the donor or specifically identified in appeal literature.
- **Unrestricted funds** are those funds that can be spent at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

(d) Income

Recognition of income	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Offsetting	There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income or expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met.
Legacies	Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
Contractual income and performance related grants	This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.
Income from membership subscriptions	Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which give a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

(e) Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.
Governance and support costs	Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.
Creditors	The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.
Provisions for liabilities	A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.
Basic Financial Instruments	The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 10.7 FRS 102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19 FRS 102 SORP.

(f) Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	All fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset over the useful economic life of that asset, which in all cases is estimated at 3 years.
Stocks and work in progress	Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Goods and services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock. Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.
Debtors	Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, the liability of members is limited to £1.

3. Income – Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Donations	3,521	0	0	3,521	3,450
Grants	0	0	0	0	0
Legacies	0	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid	1,655	0	0	1,655	2,833
Membership subscriptions	8,989	0	0	8,989	9,246
	14,165	0	0	14,165	15,529

4. Income - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Performance fees	24,200	0	0	24,200	24,600
Ticket sales	5,369	0	0	5,369	12,018
Advertising sales	0	0	0	0	0
	29,569	0	0	29,569	36,618

A material component of performance fees comprises the contracts with the Royal Albert Hall (£15,750 in year 2024; £19,700 in year 2023).

5. Income – Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restrict ed Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Merchandising income	20	0	0	20	0
Rental of music scores	402	0	0	402	331
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0	0
	422	0	0	422	331

6. Income - Investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Bank interest income	274	0	0	274	105
	274	0	0	274	105

7. Income - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Other income	700	0	0	700	36
	700	0	0	700	36

8. Expenditure - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Hire of halls	8,672	0	0	8,672	11,278
Professional fees - rehearsals	7,685	0	0	7,685	6,115
Professional fees - concerts	17,273	0	0	17,273	20,189
Professional fees - support	2,665	0	0	2,665	2,418
Music hire / purchase	868	0	0	868	394
Marketing and publicity	1,088	0	0	1,088	1,311
	38,251	0	0	38,251	41,705

9. Expenditure - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2024 £	Total Funds Year 2023 £
Premises costs	1,265	0	0	1,265	0
Independent examiner's fees	0	0	0	0	0
Accountancy fees	0	0	0	0	0
Tax advisory fees	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0
Bank charges	92	0	0	92	83
Technology	1,154	0	0	1,154	719
Miscellaneous purchases	1,997	0	0	1,997	2,289
	4,508	0	0	4,508	3,091

The premises costs represent the hire of a self-storage box to host the ECC library for a few months in wait for a permanent arrangement.

10. Staff Costs and Emoluments, Directors' Remuneration

10.1 – Staff costs

The Company had no employees during the financial year (2023: nil).
All professionals involved in the charitable activities and supporting activities supplied their services on a freelance basis.

10.2 – Directors' remuneration and benefits

No Director received any remuneration during the year (2023: nil) and no Director had any personal interest in any contract entered into by the Company during the year (2023: nil).

10.3 – Transactions with Directors

Expenses paid on behalf of the Company were reimbursed to the following directors:

Name	Position	Amount Year 2024 (£)	Amount Year 2023 (£)	Nature of transactions
Martin Douglas	Director	1,356	255	Music hire/purchase, postage, self-storage box
Mark Roper	Director	361	144	Technology, printing
Simon Archer	Director	33	0	Refreshments

10.4 – Transactions with other related parties

Related parties in addition to the Company Directors are defined in SORP FRS 102 as:

- An individual with authority and responsibility for planning, directing or controlling the activities of the entity, either directly or indirectly (the key management personnel).
- An officer, agent or employee of the charity who has authority and responsibility for the charity as key management personnel. This includes senior staff members who make decisions, or budget holders who have power to spend significant amounts of the charity's resources.

The Directors concluded that Ann Manly is a related party of ECC in her capacity as contractor for management and administrative services. Those services are contracted through the unincorporated partnership GC & AS Protheroe over which she has significant control, hence the following disclosure of all transactions with that entity.

It is noted that Ann Manly stopped being contracted for management services on 1st January 2024, therefore no disclosure in relation to her will be necessary from the next financial statements.

Name	Position	Amount Year 2024 (£)	Amount Year 2023 (£)	Nature of transactions
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	8,828	22,393	Fixing contracts for professional musicians
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	3,600	7,180	Professional fees: musical director
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	2,665	2,419	Professional fees: administrator
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	568	1,115	Expense reimbursements for printing, refreshments, travel costs

11. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 August 2024 £	At 31 August 2023 £
Tax receivable	0	0
Performance debtors	0	0
Membership debtors	0	0
Other debtors	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	0	0
	0	0

12. Creditors and accruals

	At 31 August 2024 £	At 31 August 2023 £
Professional fees creditors	0	0
Other creditors	450	0
Accruals and deferred income	0	0
	450	0

13. Cash at bank and in hand

	At 31 August 2024 £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	19,886	17,065
Short term deposits	0	0
Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	0	0
	19,886	17,065

14. Basic Financial Instruments

Basic Financial Instruments including debtors, creditors and cash, were entered at fair value at inception and there has been no impairment since.

15. Taxation

As a charity the Company is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 466 to 493 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Company.

The Company is not registered for VAT because its VAT taxable turnover is below the threshold set by HMRC.

16. Going concern

The financial statements are prepared with the assumption that the Company is a going concern. The Company will continue for the foreseeable future and it is not the intention to, nor is there the need to, liquidate the company or cease its activities.

The Company has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 AUGUST 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1153396

Set out on pages

1- 16

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:



Date: 18 February 2025

Name: Karen Bloomfield

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

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

Address: 63 Motspur Park

New Malden

Surrey KT3 6PT

Section B

Disclosure

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

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

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1153396

Accounts

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

Starting: 1st September 2022

Ending: 31st August 2023

Section A – Charity Reference and administration details

Charity Name:	English Chamber Choir
Charity Registration Number:	1153396 (England and Wales)
Company Registration Number:	8198937 (England and Wales)
Registered Office:	Flat 103 The Library Building 2A St Luke's Avenue London England SW4 7EB
Trustees	Hannah Ainsworth Simon Archer Marianne Aston Francois Boucard (Treasurer) Martin Douglas Helen Gironi Anne Johnson Hugh Joslin Mark Roper (Chair)
Charity Registration Date:	14 August 2013
Bankers:	NatWest Tower Bridge Branch PO Box 9765 201 Tooley Street London SE1 2ZH
Independent Examiner:	Karen Bloomfield, FCA 63 Motspur Park New Malden, Surrey England KT3 6PT
Website:	www.englishchamberchoir.co.uk
Contact email:	manager@englishchamberchoir.co.uk

9 Trustees held office for the whole period from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023:

Hannah Ainsworth

Simon Archer

Marianne Aston

Francois Boucard

Martin Douglas

Helen Gironi

Anne Johnson

Hugh Joslin

Mark Roper

No Trustee retired and no Trustee was appointed during the period.

Between the end of the period and the date of approval of this report, 1 Trustee retired (Anne Johnson, with effect on 20th January 2024).

Section B – Structure, governance and management

English Chamber Choir (the Charity, also the ECC) is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, incorporated on 03 September 2012 in England and Wales with company number 8198937, which was granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396.

The Charity started its activities on 01 September 2013 when a Transfer of Undertaking Deed transferred all assets and liabilities to the Charity from the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales, which was registered on 13 May 1975 and formally ceased to exist on 28 January 2014. This change of legal structure did not change the nature of the activity of the ECC, which is to run a London-based chamber choir of about 50 singers called the English Chamber Choir which has been in existence since 1972.

The governing document for the Charity is the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 03 September 2012.

The organisation is governed by elected Trustees who are also directors of English Chamber Choir for the purpose of company law. The Trustees are elected by the choir's membership at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees' roles include Chair, Treasurer and officers without defined portfolio. The Trustees for the period are listed in section A.

The Board of Trustees holds meetings at least on a quarterly basis. The Trustees are volunteers and do not get any remuneration for their role.

The Charity has no employees. It uses the services of professional experts who work on a freelance basis, including:

- Guy Protheroe, artistic director and principal conductor
- Rebecca Taylor, associate conductor
- Ann Manly, manager

The period to 31st August 2023 was a year of celebration for the 50th Anniversary of the ECC. Guy Protheroe had been the artistic director for almost the entirety of those 50 years. By the end of the period the Trustees were in the process of recruiting his successor.

The Trustees developed and implemented the following policies for the Charity:

1. Social Media Policy
2. Safeguarding Policy Statement
3. Equal Opportunities Policy
4. Data Protection Policy
5. Health and Safety Policy
6. Whistleblowing Policy
7. Conflict of Interest Policy
8. Complaints Policy
9. Privacy Policy (protection of personal information)

Section C – Objectives and activities

Aim and objectives

As per the objects stated in the Articles of Association, English Chamber Choir aims to educate the public in the sciences and arts and in particular the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities, primarily by the English Chamber Choir.

The Charity's main goals include:

- welcoming a diverse choir membership and providing the singers with the environment and support to achieve musical excellence;
- performing a wide range of music styles to diverse audiences;
- promoting English music and rarely performed material;
- supporting living composers by performing their music and commissioning new works.

Membership

The ECC is proud of its diverse SATB membership, which includes about 50 singers with all sorts of professional backgrounds and a wide range of ages, from students to pensioners. Our members are selected through auditions purely on musical criteria and we can provide further musical education by arranging individual singing lessons with a talented vocal coach who has a long association with the choir.

It is an ECC policy that no singer who demonstrates the required high standard of ability and commitment should be excluded on financial grounds. In consequence the choir provides financial assistance to those in hardship or not in full-time employment by way of subsidising travel expenses for out of London engagements, or subsidising singing lessons, or providing discretionary concessions on the annual £276 membership fee.

Since 2017 the ECC has been running a scholarship scheme designed for the recruitment of junior singers, essentially graduates who have just finished university. Under this scheme the new members don't have to pay any membership fee and are offered complimentary singing lessons in their initial year, and exceptionally for subsequent periods at the Trustees' discretion.

Musical activities – Rehearsals

After the Covid-19 pandemic the ECC could not return to its former home in St Andrew's by the Wardrobe in the City of London as it was not suitable for social distancing and was also being refurbished and changed ownership, so a temporary new home was found in St Philip's Church, Earl's Court Road, Kensington, W8 6QH. After a year of Covid recovery, it was deemed too far away from the main railway terminals, so the ECC relocated its weekly rehearsals again from September 2022 back to the City of London in Holy Sepulchre, the National Musicians Church, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2DQ.

Musical activities – Own productions

This year was the 50th Anniversary of the choir. The ECC promoted 3 concerts in London to celebrate and showcase the diversity of the repertoire performed over the years, with each concert highlighting a particular strand of its repertoire.

1) 24 October 2022 – Cadogan Hall, London SW1X 9DQ 50th Anniversary – Baroque Treasures. Conductor: Guy Protheroe.

Featuring two of the best-loved works of Bach and Handel, performed together with the English Players on period instruments, with soloists Julia Doyle (soprano), Eleanor Minney (mezzo-soprano), Graham Neal (tenor), Philip Tebb (bass).

- Handel: *Dixit Dominus*
- Bach: *Magnificat*

2) 25 April 2023 – Cadogan Hall, London SW1X 9DQ Glories of the Eastern Church. Conductor: Guy Protheroe.

Programme including:

- Rachmaninov: *Vespers (All-Night Vigil)*
- Steinberg: *Passion Week*
- Leontovych: *The Lord's Prayer, Cherubic Hymn*
- Moody: *Evangelismos* (which was commissioned by the ECC on the occasion of its 50th anniversary)

3) 17 June 2023 – St Mary Twickenham, TW1 3NJ Music for a Summer Evening. Conductor: Guy Protheroe.

An early evening sequence of music from anthems and arias to barbershop and Broadway. Before the cabaret section, the programme included:

- Bruckner: *Locus iste, Ave Maria*
- Rachmaninov: *Bogoroditse Dievo*
- MacMillan: *The Gallant Weaver*
- Bach: *Lobet den Herrn*
- Harris: *Faire is the Heaven*
- Tavener: *Mother of God here I stand*
- Leontovych: *The Lord's Prayer, Cherubic Hymn*
- Stanford: *Iustorum animae, Coelos ascendit hodie, Beati quorum via*

Musical activities – Hired productions

In addition to the ECC's own promotions detailed in the previous section (3 concerts), the choir was hired to perform a wide range of music styles in various venues (another 25 performances) in the year to 31 August 2023.

Those performances included:

- 1) Concert at St Martin in the Fields with the Belmont Ensemble: Faure Requiem (09 Sep 2022).
- 2) Concerts in the Freemasons' Hall in London's West End, also in association with the Belmont Ensemble: Christmas carols (2 concerts on 18 Dec 2022).
- 3) Royal Albert Hall: the ECC was engaged in 4 performances of live music during film screenings (Harry Potter, on 07, 08, 09 Oct 2022).
- 4) Manchester Opera House (27 Nov 2022) and Nottingham Theatre Royal (19 Dec 2022): live music during the film screening of Home Alone.
- 5) London Palladium: Rick Wakeman, Return of the Caped Crusader (on 22 and 23 Feb 2023)
- 6) Church services: the ECC provided music for 7 Sunday services at St James Garlickhythe (25 Sep 2022, 27 Nov 2022, 29 Jan 2023, 26 Feb 2023, 26 Mar 2023, 30 Apr 2023, 25 Jun 2023), 3 services at St Philip Kensington (11 Dec 2022, 07 Apr 2023, Stainer's Crucifixion, 16 Jul 2023).
- 7) Carol singing for the Prince's Trust at Garrison Chapel Chelsea (01 Dec 2022), at Cripps Law Firm (06 Dec 2022), at the Royal Collection (07 Dec 2022) and at the Greek Orthodox cathedral in Golders Green (13 Dec 2022).

Section D – Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

At each Board meeting the Trustees review the outcome of past activities and plan future projects with a view to deliver on the ECC's stated charitable aims.

The Trustees are confident that the activities listed in section C for the period are in line with our charitable objectives, so there will be no material change in the nature of our activities in the next period.

Our own promotions are very much in line with our charitable aims of performing a wider and more unusual repertoire for the public but they are more challenging than commercial productions for attracting large audiences. Our experience is that nowadays it is extremely difficult to raise funds and donations with the aim of performing live choral music, so the way we found to successfully fund loss-making activities is to also do more commercial and profitable activities. In consequence, the Trustees are very keen to maintain our association with organisations like the Belmont Ensemble and Royal Albert Hall Productions.

Section E – Financial Review

Financial position

The balance sheet of English Chamber Choir at 31 August 2023 shows total net assets of £17,065. The Trustees believe that the Charity has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

The statement of financial activities shows that during the period the Charity had a total income of £52,619 and a total expenditure of £44,796 hence a total net profit of £7,823.

Reserves policy

The Trustees note that the fixed costs of running the choir (including weekly rehearsal costs and annual administration costs) did not match the annual recurrent income (including the subscriptions by the choir members and the associated Gift Aid).

In the year to 31 August 2023 the recurrent annual income was £11,317 and the annual fixed costs were £12,919 resulting in a shortfall of £1,603.

In the few years prior to the pandemic this shortfall was well covered by the net profit generated by the more commercial engagements. However the Trustees are aware of the risk of relying on this commercial income and have identified the following risk factors:

- The income from hired performances could be delayed (including because of dispute or litigation or bankruptcy).
- The profitable commercial relationships could well dry up or disappear.

The 2 years of pandemic evidenced that the risk that performance income could disappear is not theoretical as the ECC experienced it further to the closure of all performance venues.

The Trustees adopted the policy that the Charity should maintain financial reserves that should exceed the net costs of running the choir for at least one year. To this end the level of reserves is targeted at £10,000.

The Trustees are also satisfied that the actual reserves are held in a physically segregated account (the NatWest Business Reserve account). Those reserves are in effect considered as non-available cash for normal charitable activities. The Trustees keep that in mind when assessing the affordability of any new project, especially for projects that have high upfront costs like studio recordings.

Donation appeal – 50th Anniversary

The English Chamber Choir was founded in 1972 and the ECC intended to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the choir in year 2022 with a number of events including a spectacular 50th Anniversary concert in Cadogan Hall in London on 24th October 2022 with professional orchestra and soloist singers.

The state of finances after 3 years of consecutive losses, essentially because of Covid lockdowns and the very slow recovery of audiences after the restrictions were lifted, did not allow to plan such celebrations without securing some funding first.

To this end the ECC launched an appeal for donations in Spring of 2022 specifically to support the 50th Anniversary celebrations. This funding was accounted under Restricted Funds because the spending could only be on 50th Anniversary events in accordance with the appeal literature. In aggregate for the 2 periods to 31 August 2022 and to 31 August 2023, the appeal raised a total of £13,363 including £11,250 direct donations plus £2,113 associated Gift Aid claimed from HMRC. The 23 donors were essentially current or former members of the choir, who decided to contribute financially to memorable events rather than the sad prospect of no special event being staged for this 50th Anniversary.

Sources of funding

This year the sources of funding were performance fees from hired productions (47%), membership fees, donations and associated Gift Aid (29%), ticket sales from own productions (23%) and ancillary income (1%).

Investment Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the board of Trustees of the Charity has the power to make investments however it sees fit in line with the furtherance of its objectives. Given the small size of available cash, the Trustees have not considered investments this year.

Section F – Declaration

The Trustees of English Chamber Choir declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above on 27 February 2024 and they have mandated the Treasurer to sign on their behalf:



Francois Boucard, Treasurer

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Limited by Guarantee

Company Registration Number: 8198937 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Report of the Directors and Unaudited Financial Statements

Period of accounts

Start date: 1st September 2022

End date: 31st August 2023

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

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ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Information - Period Ended 31st August 2023

Company Registration Number: 8198937 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Registered Office: Flat 103 The Library Building
2A St Luke's Avenue
London
England
SW4 7EB

Directors Hannah Ainsworth
Simon Archer
Marianne Aston
Francois Boucard
Martin Douglas
Helen Gironi
Anne Johnson
Hugh Joslin
Mark Roper

Date of Incorporation 3rd September 2012

Bankers: NatWest
Tower Bridge Branch
PO Box 9765
201 Tooley Street
London
SE1 2ZH

Independent Examiner: Karen Bloomfield, FCA
63 Motspur Park
New Malden, Surrey
England
KT3 6PT

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Report of the Directors - Period Ended 31st August 2023

The directors present their report and the unaudited financial statements of English Chamber Choir (the Company) for the period ended 31st August 2023.

Directors

9 directors held office for the whole period from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023:

Hannah Ainsworth

Simon Archer

Marianne Aston

Francois Boucard

Martin Douglas

Helen Gironi

Anne Johnson

Hugh Joslin

Mark Roper

No director retired and no director was appointed during the period.

Between the end of the period and the date of approval of this report, 1 director retired (Anne Johnson, with effect on 20th January 2024).

Principal activity and review of the business

The Company is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The Company has no employees.

The Company was incorporated on 03 September 2012 in order to run a chamber choir called the English Chamber Choir in replacement of the Society which had been running it since 1972 and was called the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales. The transfer of operations between the two entities was delayed until after the Company registered 8198937 was also granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396. The Company started actual business further to the Transfer of Undertaking Deed signed between the English Chamber Choir Society and the Company on 01 September 2013.

The Company continued to operate its bank accounts with NatWest during the period, there was no opening and no closing of any account during the period.

As per the objects specified in its Articles of Association, the Company's principal activity is to educate the public in the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities primarily by the English Chamber Choir. The activities of the Company in the period were similar to those in the previous period and the Directors do not anticipate any change in the nature of these activities going forward.

Results and financial position

The results for the year are shown in the statement of financial activities on page 7. The net profit for the period was £7,823.

The balance sheet as detailed on page 8 shows surplus carried forward of £17,065. The Directors believe that the Company has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

Responsibilities of the directors in respect of the Financial Statements

The Directors (who are also the trustees of English Chamber Choir for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

Independent examiner

The Directors (also Trustees for the purposes of charity law) have not required the Company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. They also consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination was needed.

The Trustees appointed Karen Bloomfield, FCA, to perform this independent examination. A separate Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts was prepared for filing with the Charity Commission.

Karen Bloomfield, FCA
63 Motspur Park, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 6PT

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 27 February 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board by:



Francois Boucard
Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Statement of Financial Activities - Period Ended 31st August 2023.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Income						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	12,417	3,112	0	15,529	19,694
Charitable activities	4	36,618	0	0	36,618	14,630
Other trading activities	5	331	0	0	331	287
Investments	6	105	0	0	105	6
Other	7	36	0	0	36	606
Total Income		49,507	3,112	0	52,619	35,223
Expenditure						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	8	(38,593)	(3,112)	0	(41,705)	(39,348)
Other	9	(3,091)	0	0	(3,091)	(2,916)
Total Expenditure		(41,684)	(3,112)	0	(44,796)	(42,264)
Net Income/(Expenditure)		7,823	0	0	7,823	(7,041)
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward		9,242	0	0	9,242	16,283
Total funds Carried Forward		17,065	0	0	17,065	9,242

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Balance Sheet – As at 31st August 2023.

	Notes	At 31 August 2023		At 31 August 2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets			0		0
Current Assets					
Stocks		0		0	
Debtors	11	0		670	
Cash at bank and in hand	13	17,065		18,496	
		<u>17,065</u>		<u>19,166</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due Within One Year	12	0		(9,924)	
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>17,065</u>		<u>9,242</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>17,065</u>		<u>9,242</u>
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>17,065</u>		<u>9,242</u>
Funds					
Endowment funds		0		0	
Restricted income funds		0		0	
Unrestricted income funds		17,065		9,242	
Total Funds			<u>17,065</u>		<u>9,242</u>

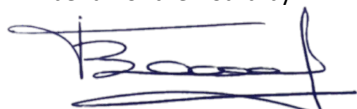
The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

The directors are satisfied that the Company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477(2) and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476(1) of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (i) ensuring that the Company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirement of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act with respect to financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 27 February 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board by:



Francois Boucard
Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Notes to the Financial Statements - Period Ended 31st August 2023.

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006 and The Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Report) Regulations 2008
- the Charities Act 2011
- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

(b) Cash Flow Statement

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

(c) Fund Accounting

- **Endowment funds** are those funds which the charity must hold and retain and not spend as income. The income arising is used for charitable purposes and capital gains are retained within the fund.
- **Restricted funds** are those funds which must be spent as income on the particular purposes specified by the donor or specifically identified in appeal literature.
- **Unrestricted funds** are those funds that can be spent at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

(d) Income

Recognition of income	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Offsetting	There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income or expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met.
Legacies	Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
Contractual income and performance related grants	This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.
Income from membership subscriptions	Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which give a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

(e) Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.
Governance and support costs	Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.
Creditors	The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.
Provisions for liabilities	A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.
Basic Financial Instruments	The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 10.7 FRS 102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19 FRS 102 SORP.

(f) Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	All fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset over the useful economic life of that asset, which in all cases is estimated at 3 years.
Stocks and work in progress	Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Goods and services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock. Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.
Debtors	Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, the liability of members is limited to £1.

3. Income – Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Donations	1,100	2,350	0	3,450	9,001
Grants	0	0	0	0	0
Legacies	0	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid	2,071	762	0	2,833	2,933
Membership subscriptions	9,246	0	0	9,246	7,760
	12,417	3,112	0	15,529	19,694

The English Chamber Choir was founded in 1972 and the Company celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the choir in year 2022 with a number of events including a spectacular 50th Anniversary concert in Cadogan Hall in London on 24th October 2022 with professional orchestra and soloist singers. In order to fund those expensive events the Company launched an appeal for donations in Spring 2022. Most donations in the context of that appeal took place in the year to 31st August 2022, but some were also received in the early part of this financial cycle. The donations in relation to the 50th Anniversary appeal as well as the associated Gift Aid claimed on them are accounted under Restricted Funds because they can be spent only on 50th Anniversary events.

4. Income - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Performance fees	24,600	0	0	24,600	13,069
Ticket sales	12,018	0	0	12,018	1,561
Advertising sales	0	0	0	0	0
	36,618	0	0	36,618	14,630

A material component of performance fees comprises the contracts with the Royal Albert Hall (£19,700 in year 2023; £5,096 in year 2022).

5. Income – Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restrict ed Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Merchandising income	0	0	0	0	0
Rental of music scores	331	0	0	331	287
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0	0
	331	0	0	331	287

6. Income - Investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Bank interest income	105	0	0	105	6
	105	0	0	105	6

7. Income - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Other income	36	0	0	36	606
	36	0	0	36	606

8. Expenditure - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Hire of halls	8,166	3,112	0	11,278	11,163
Professional fees - rehearsals	6,115	0	0	6,115	7,865
Professional fees - concerts	20,189	0	0	20,189	17,603
Professional fees - support	2,418	0	0	2,418	1,815
Music hire / purchase	394	0	0	394	619
Marketing and publicity	1,311	0	0	1,311	283
	38,593	3,112	0	41,705	39,348

The expenses reported under Restricted Funds are in relation to the 50th Anniversary appeal (see note 3). They include the hire of Cadogan Hall on 25th April 2023 for the final concert in the 50th Anniversary series.

9. Expenditure - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2023 £	Total Funds Year 2022 £
Premises costs	0	0	0	0	0
Independent examiner's fees	0	0	0	0	0
Accountancy fees	0	0	0	0	0
Tax advisory fees	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0
Bank charges	83	0	0	83	82
Technology	719	0	0	719	788
Miscellaneous purchases	2,289	0	0	2,289	2,046
	3,091	0	0	3,091	2,916

10. Staff Costs and Emoluments, Directors' Remuneration

10.1 – Staff costs

The Company had no employees during the financial year (2022: nil).

All professionals involved in the charitable activities and supporting activities supplied their services on a freelance basis.

10.2 – Directors' remuneration and benefits

No Director received any remuneration during the year (2022: nil) and no Director had any personal interest in any contract entered into by the Company during the year (2022: nil).

10.3 – Transactions with Directors

Expenses paid on behalf of the Company were reimbursed to the following directors:

Name	Position	Amount Year 2023 (£)	Amount Year 2022 (£)	Nature of transactions
Martin Douglas	Director	255	223	Music hire/purchase, postage
Mark Roper	Director	144	536	Technology, library storage boxes

10.4 – Transactions with other related parties

Related parties in addition to the Company Directors are defined in SORP FRS 102 as:

- An individual with authority and responsibility for planning, directing or controlling the activities of the entity, either directly or indirectly (the key management personnel).
- An officer, agent or employee of the charity who has authority and responsibility for the charity as key management personnel. This includes senior staff members who

make decisions, or budget holders who have power to spend significant amounts of the charity's resources.

The Directors concluded that Ann Manly is a related party of ECC in her capacity as contractor for management and administrative services. Those services are contracted through the unincorporated partnership GC & AS Protheroe over which she has significant control, hence the following disclosure of all transactions with that entity:

Name	Position	Amount Year 2023 (£)	Amount Year 2022 (£)	Nature of transactions
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	22,393	2,821	Fixing contracts for professional musicians
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	7,180	7,458	Professional fees: musical director
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	2,419	1,815	Professional fees: administrator
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	1,115	552	Expense reimbursements for printing, refreshments, travel costs

11. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 August 2023 £	At 31 August 2022 £
Tax receivable	0	0
Performance debtors	0	670
Membership debtors	0	0
Other debtors	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	0	0
	0	670

12. Creditors and accruals

	At 31 August 2023 £	At 31 August 2022 £
Professional fees creditors	0	0
Other creditors	0	0
Accruals and deferred income	0	9,924
	0	9,924

The accruals in year 2022 are in relation to contracts entered into for the 50th Anniversary concert on 24th October 2022 (see note 3) for the hire of Cadogan Hall and the hire of an orchestra and soloist singers, with settlement expected shortly after the concert.

13. Cash at bank and in hand

	At 31 August 2023 £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	17,065	18,496
Short term deposits	0	0
Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	0	0
	17,065	18,496

14. Basic Financial Instruments

Basic Financial Instruments including debtors, creditors and cash, were entered at fair value at inception and there has been no impairment since.

15. Taxation

As a charity, the Company is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 466 to 493 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Company.

16. Going concern

The financial statements are prepared with the assumption that the Company is a going concern. The Company will continue for the foreseeable future and it is not the intention to, nor is there the need to, liquidate the company or cease its activities.

The Company has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 AUGUST 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1153396

Set out on pages

1-16

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:**Date:** 24 February 2024**Name:**

Karen Bloomfield

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

FCA

Address:

63 Motspur Park

New Malden

Surrey KT3 6PT

Section B**Disclosure**

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

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

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 1153396

Accounts

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

Starting: 1st September 2021

Ending: 31st August 2022

Section A – Charity Reference and administration details

Charity Name:	English Chamber Choir
Charity Registration Number:	1153396 (England and Wales)
Company Registration Number:	8198937 (England and Wales)
Registered Office:	Flat 103 The Library Building 2A St Luke's Avenue London England SW4 7EB
Trustees	Hannah Ainsworth Simon Archer Marianne Aston Francois Boucard (Treasurer) Martin Douglas Helen Gironi Anne Johnson Hugh Joslin Mark Roper (Chair)
Charity Registration Date:	14 August 2013
Bankers:	NatWest Tower Bridge Branch PO Box 9765 201 Tooley Street London SE1 2ZH
Independent Examiner:	Karen Bloomfield, FCA 63 Motspur Park New Malden, Surrey England KT3 6PT
Website:	www.englishchamberchoir.co.uk
Contact email:	manager@englishchamberchoir.co.uk

7 Trustees held office for the whole period from 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022:

Simon Archer
Marianne Aston
Francois Boucard
Martin Douglas
Anne Johnson
Hugh Joslin
Mark Roper

2 Trustees held office from 1st September 2021 until retirement on 10th March 2022:

Timothy Johns
Robert Moffat

2 Trustees held office from appointment on 10th March 2022 until 31st August 2022:

Hannah Ainsworth
Helen Gironi

Section B – Structure, governance and management

English Chamber Choir (the Charity, also the ECC) is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, incorporated on 03 September 2012 in England and Wales with company number 8198937, which was granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396.

The Charity started its activities on 01 September 2013 when a Transfer of Undertaking Deed transferred all assets and liabilities to the Charity from the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales, which was registered on 13 May 1975 and formally ceased to exist on 28 January 2014. This change of legal structure did not change the nature of the activity of the ECC, which is to run a London-based chamber choir of about 50 singers called the English Chamber Choir which has been in existence since 1972.

The governing document for the Charity is the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 03 September 2012.

The organisation is governed by elected Trustees who are also directors of English Chamber Choir for the purpose of company law. The Trustees are elected by the choir's membership at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees' roles include Chair, Treasurer and officers without defined portfolio. The Trustees for the period are listed in section A.

The Board of Trustees holds meetings at least on a quarterly basis. The Trustees are volunteers and do not get any remuneration for their role.

The Charity has no employees. It uses the services of professional experts who work on a freelance basis, including:

- Guy Protheroe, artistic director and principal conductor
- Rebecca Taylor, associate conductor
- Ann Manly, manager

The Trustees developed and implemented the following policies for the Charity:

1. Social Media Policy
2. Safeguarding Policy Statement
3. Equal Opportunities Policy
4. Data Protection Policy
5. Health and Safety Policy
6. Whistleblowing Policy
7. Conflict of Interest Policy
8. Complaints Policy
9. Privacy Policy (protection of personal information)

Section C – Objectives and activities

Aim and objectives

As per the objects stated in the Articles of Association, English Chamber Choir aims to educate the public in the sciences and arts and in particular the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities, primarily by the English Chamber Choir.

The Charity's main goals include:

- welcoming a diverse choir membership and providing the singers with the environment and support to achieve musical excellence;
- performing a wide range of music styles to diverse audiences;
- promoting English music and rarely performed material;
- supporting living composers by performing their music and commissioning new works.

Membership

The ECC is proud of its diverse SATB membership, which includes about 50 singers with all sorts of professional backgrounds and a wide range of ages, from students to pensioners. Our members are selected through auditions purely on musical criteria and we can provide further musical education by arranging individual singing lessons with a talented vocal coach who has a long association with the choir.

It is an ECC policy that no singer who demonstrates the required high standard of ability and commitment should be excluded on financial grounds. In consequence the choir provides financial assistance to those in hardship or not in full-time employment by way of subsidising travel expenses for out of London engagements, or subsidising singing lessons, or providing discretionary concessions on the annual £264 membership fee.

Since 2017 the ECC has been running a scholarship scheme designed for the recruitment of junior singers, essentially graduates who have just finished university. Under this scheme the new members don't have to pay any membership fee and are offered complimentary singing

lessons in their initial year, and exceptionally for subsequent periods at the Trustees' discretion.

Musical activities – Rehearsals

This year the ECC started to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. After more than a year with no on-site rehearsals in compliance with the UK government's regulation and guidance, we took advantage of the relaxation of the regulation to start hosting on-site rehearsals again in September 2021, although with a limited number of singers and special measures in line with the updated guidance (reduced duration, social distancing, wearing of masks when not singing). To accommodate the need for spacing out, the ECC had to find a new home in St Philip's Church, Earl's Court Road, Kensington, W8 6QH away from our previous home in St Andrew's by the Wardrobe in the City of London.

It is only in March 2022 that the government lifted all Covid restrictions, so in theory the rehearsals could resume like in pre-pandemic times. However, the return to normal was only gradual as some members were still very cautious about social mixing and also the new rehearsal venue in Earl's Court was deemed too far away from the main railway terminals and required longer journeys for some members.

Musical activities – Own productions

The ECC promoted 3 concerts in London this year as well as a tour in Italy. Those productions were an essential part of our charitable missions of supporting British music and living composers as well as promoting material rarely performed in London.

1) 10 November 2021 – St James Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL
From London to Leipzig. Conductor: Guy Protheroe.

Music by three celebrated composers of the baroque era, including:

- Purcell: *Rejoice in the Lord always, Jehovah quam multi sunt hostes mei*
- Handel: *Chandos Anthem As pants the hart for cooling streams*
- Bach: *Jesu meine Freude, Lobet den Herrn alle Heiden*

2) 02 April 2022 – St Philip Kensington, London W8 6QH
Passiontide. Conductor: Rebecca Taylor.

Easter-themed programme, including:

Bruckner: *Christus factus est*

Tallis: *Salvator mundi*

Lotti: *Crucifixus*

Sanders: *Reproaches*

Durufle: *Ubi Caritas*

Gibbons: *Drop, drop slow tears*

Walton: *Litany*

Poulenc: *Four penitential motets*

Allegri: *Miserere mei*

3) 16 July 2022 – St Mary Twickenham, TW1 3NJ
Al Fresco. Conductor: Guy Protheroe.

The programme included:

Taverner (*Dum transisset*), Tallis (*O nata lux*), MacMillan (*O Radiant Dawn*), Bach (*Lobet den Herrn*), Britten (*Prayer 1*), Stanford (*Beati quorum via*), Elgar (*Give unto the Lord*), Tavener (*Mother of God, here I stand*), Moody (*Sub tuum praesidium*), Rachmaninov (*Bogoroditse Dievo*), Tchaikovsky (*Cherubic Hymn, Khvalitye*), Rossini (*O salutaris hostia*), Verdi (*Pater noster, Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves*), Mascagni (*Easter Hymn*).

4) August 2022 – Tour in Tuscany, Italy.
Conductor: Guy Protheroe.

Initially planned for August 2020, then rescheduled to August 2021 because of the pandemic, the tour to Italy was rescheduled again and finally happened in August 2022. It included concerts in churches in 3 different villages or towns and the music essentially comprised the religious items from the Twickenham concert in July:

- 02 August 2022 – church of San Simeone, Monterchi
- 04 August 2022 – church of Sant’Agostino, Anghiari
- 05 August 2022 – cathedral, Sansepolcro

Musical activities – Hired productions

In addition to the ECC’s own promotions detailed in the previous section (6 concerts), the choir was hired to perform a wide range of music styles in various venues (another 28 performances) in the year to 31 August 2022.

Those performances included:

- 1) Concerts at St Martin in the Fields in association with the Belmont Ensemble: Faure Requiem (10 Sep 2021), Mozart Requiem (13 Nov 2021), Handel Messiah (26 Nov 2021), Brahms Requiem (25 Feb 2022).
- 2) Concerts in the Freemasons’ Hall in London’s West End, also in association with the Belmont Ensemble: Handel Messiah (04 Dec 2021) and Christmas carols (2 concerts on 18 Dec 2021).
- 3) Royal Albert Hall: the ECC was engaged in 2 performances of live music during film screenings (Muppets, on 10 Dec and 11 Dec 2021).
- 4) Norwich Cathedral – Evensong on 30 Apr 2022.
- 5) Church services: the ECC provided music for 9 Sunday services at St James Garlickhythe (26 Sep 2021, 31 Oct 2021, 28 Nov 2021, 30 Jan 2022, 27 Feb 2022, 27 Mar 2022, 29 May 2022, 26 Jun 2022, 24 Jul 2022), 6 services at St Philip Kensington (03 Oct 2021, 31 Oct 2021, 14 Nov 2021, 28 Nov 2021, 12 Dec 2021, 15 Apr 2022)

Stainer's Cruxifixion) and 2 services at St Andrew by the Wardrobe (30 Nov 2021, 14 Dec 2021) and 1 service at St Martin within Ludgate (25 Aug 2022, for the Apothecaries livery company).

Section D – Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

At each Board meeting the Trustees review the outcome of past activities and plan future projects with a view to deliver on the ECC's stated charitable aims.

The Trustees are confident that the activities listed in section C for the period are in line with our charitable objectives, so there will be no material change in the nature of our activities in the next period.

Our own promotions are very much in line with our charitable aims of performing a wider and more unusual repertoire for the public but they are more challenging than commercial productions for attracting large audiences. Our experience is that nowadays it is extremely difficult to raise funds and donations with the aim of performing live choral music, so the way we found to successfully fund loss-making activities is to also do more commercial and profitable activities. In consequence, the Trustees are very keen to maintain our association with organisations like the Belmont Ensemble and Royal Albert Hall Productions.

Section E – Financial Review

Financial position

The balance sheet of English Chamber Choir at 31 August 2022 shows total net assets of £9,242. The Trustees believe that the Charity has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

The statement of financial activities shows that during the period the Charity had a total income of £35,223 and a total expenditure of £42,264 hence a total net loss of £7,041.

Reserves policy

The Trustees note that the fixed costs of running the choir (including weekly rehearsal costs and annual administration costs) did not match the annual recurrent income (including the subscriptions by the choir members and the associated Gift Aid).

In the year to 31 August 2022 the recurrent annual income was £9,343 and the annual fixed costs were £13,923 resulting in a shortfall of £4,580.

In the few years prior to the pandemic this shortfall was well covered by the net profit generated by the more commercial engagements. However the Trustees are aware of the risk of relying on this commercial income and have identified the following risk factors:

- The income from hired performances could be delayed (including because of dispute or litigation or bankruptcy).
- The profitable commercial relationships could well dry up or disappear.

The 2 years of pandemic evidenced that the risk that performance income could disappear is not theoretical as the ECC experienced it further to the closure of all performance venues.

The Trustees adopted the policy that the Charity should maintain financial reserves that should exceed the net costs of running the choir for at least one year. To this end the level of reserves is targeted at £10,000.

The Trustees are satisfied that the level of reserves is comfortably above this year's net running costs (£4,580 as detailed above). But they also note that the actual reserves are currently below the full target because 3 consecutive years of losses have reduced the net assets to £9,242 only.

The Trustees are also satisfied that the actual reserves are held in a physically segregated account (the NatWest Business Reserve account). Those reserves are in effect considered as non-available cash for normal charitable activities. The Trustees keep that in mind when assessing the affordability of any new project, especially for projects that have high upfront costs like studio recordings.

Donation appeal – 50th Anniversary

The English Chamber Choir was founded in 1972 and the ECC intended to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the choir in year 2022 with a number of events including a spectacular 50th Anniversary concert in Cadogan Hall in London on 24th October 2022 with professional orchestra and soloist singers.

The state of finances after 3 years of consecutive losses, essentially because of Covid lockdowns and the very slow recovery of audiences after the restrictions were lifted, did not allow to plan such celebrations without securing some funding first.

To this end the ECC launched an appeal for donations in Spring of 2022 specifically to support the 50th Anniversary celebrations. This funding was accounted under Restricted Funds because the spending can only be on 50th Anniversary events in accordance with the appeal literature. As at 31 August 2022 the appeal raised a total of £10,250 including £8,900 direct donations plus £1,350 associated Gift Aid claimed from HMRC. The 15 donors were essentially current members of the choir as well as former members, who thought that they would rather contribute financially to memorable events rather than the sad prospect of no special event being staged for this 50th Anniversary.

Sources of funding

This year the sources of funding were performance fees from hired productions (37%), membership fees, donations and associated Gift Aid (56%), ticket sales from own productions (4%) and ancillary income (3%).

Investment Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the board of Trustees of the Charity has the power to make investments however it sees fit in line with the furtherance of its objectives. Given the small size of available cash, the Trustees have not considered investments this year.

Section F – Declaration

The Trustees of English Chamber Choir declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above on 06 February 2023 and they have mandated the Treasurer to sign on their behalf:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Boucard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Francois Boucard, Treasurer

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Limited by Guarantee

Company Registration Number: 8198937 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number: 1153396 (England and Wales)

Report of the Directors and Unaudited Financial Statements

Period of accounts

Start date: 1st September 2021

End date: 31st August 2022

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Contents of the Financial Statements - Period Ended 31st August 2022

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ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Company Information - Period Ended 31st August 2022

Company Registration Number:	8198937 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration Number:	1153396 (England and Wales)
Registered Office:	Flat 103 The Library Building 2A St Luke's Avenue London England SW4 7EB
Directors	Hannah Ainsworth Simon Archer Marianne Aston Francois Boucard Martin Douglas Helen Gironi Anne Johnson Hugh Joslin Mark Roper
Date of Incorporation	3 rd September 2012
Bankers:	NatWest Tower Bridge Branch PO Box 9765 201 Tooley Street London SE1 2ZH
Independent Examiner:	Karen Bloomfield, FCA 63 Motspur Park New Malden, Surrey England KT3 6PT

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Report of the Directors - Period Ended 31st August 2022

The directors present their report and the unaudited financial statements of English Chamber Choir (the Company) for the period ended 31st August 2022.

Directors

7 directors held office for the whole period from 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022:

Simon Archer

Marianne Aston

Francois Boucard

Martin Douglas

Anne Johnson

Hugh Joslin

Mark Roper

2 directors held office from 1st September 2021 until retirement on 10th March 2022:

Timothy Johns

Robert Moffat

2 directors held office from appointment on 10th March 2022 until 31st August 2022:

Hannah Ainsworth

Helen Gironi

Principal activity and review of the business

The Company is a private company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The Company has no employees.

The Company was incorporated on 03 September 2012 in order to run a chamber choir called the English Chamber Choir in replacement of the Society which had been running it since 1972 and was called the English Chamber Choir Society, charity number 269245 in England and Wales. The transfer of operations between the two entities was delayed until after the Company registered 8198937 was also granted charity status on 14 August 2013 by the Charity Commission of England and Wales with charity number 1153396. The Company started actual business further to the Transfer of Undertaking Deed signed between the English Chamber Choir Society and the Company on 01 September 2013.

The Company continued to operate its bank accounts with NatWest during the period, there was no opening and no closing of any account during the period.

As per the objects specified in its Articles of Association, the Company's principal activity is to educate the public in the art and science of music by the presentation of recitals and concerts and other activities primarily by the English Chamber Choir. The activities of the Company in the period were similar to those in the previous period and the Directors do not anticipate any change in the nature of these activities going forward.

Results and financial position

The results for the year are shown in the statement of financial activities on page 7. The net loss for the period was £7,041.

The balance sheet as detailed on page 8 shows surplus carried forward of £9,242. The Directors believe that the Company has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future.

Responsibilities of the directors in respect of the Financial Statements

The Directors (who are also the trustees of English Chamber Choir for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

Independent examiner

The Directors (also Trustees for the purposes of charity law) have not required the Company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. They also consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination was needed.

The Trustees appointed Karen Bloomfield, FCA, to perform this independent examination. A separate Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts was prepared for filing with the Charity Commission.

Karen Bloomfield, FCA
63 Motspur Park, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 6PT

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 06 February 2023 and signed on behalf of the Board by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Boucard', with a horizontal line underneath.

Francois Boucard
Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Statement of Financial Activities - Period Ended 31st August 2022.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Income						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	9,444	10,250	0	19,694	7,569
Charitable activities	4	14,630	0	0	14,630	1,825
Other trading activities	5	287	0	0	287	0
Investments	6	6	0	0	6	2
Other	7	606	0	0	606	0
Total Income		24,973	10,250	0	35,223	9,396
Expenditure						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	8	(29,098)	(10,250)	0	(39,348)	(11,413)
Other	9	(2,916)	0	0	(2,916)	(1,932)
Total Expenditure		(32,014)	(10,250)	0	(42,264)	(13,345)
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(7,041)	0	0	(7,041)	(3,949)
Reconciliation of Funds						
Total funds brought forward		16,283	0	0	16,283	20,232
Total funds Carried Forward		9,242	0	0	9,242	16,283

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Balance Sheet – As at 31st August 2022.

	Notes	At 31 August 2022		At 31 August 2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets			0		0
Current Assets					
Stocks		0		0	
Debtors	11	670		125	
Cash at bank and in hand	13	18,496		17,165	
		<u>19,166</u>		<u>17,290</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due Within One Year	12	(9,924)		(1,007)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)			9,242		16,283
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			9,242		16,283
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			9,242		16,283
Funds					
Endowment funds		0		0	
Restricted income funds		0		0	
Unrestricted income funds		9,242		16,283	
Total Funds			9,242		16,283

The notes in the next pages form part of these financial statements.

The directors are satisfied that the Company is entitled to exemption from the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) relating to the audit of the financial statements for the year by virtue of section 477(2) and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 476(1) of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (i) ensuring that the Company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirement of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act with respect to financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 06 February 2023 and signed on behalf of the Board by:


 Francois Boucard
 Director

ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

Notes to the Financial Statements - Period Ended 31st August 2022.

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Companies Act 2006 and The Small Companies and Groups (Accounts and Directors' Report) Regulations 2008
- the Charities Act 2011
- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

(b) Cash Flow Statement

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (revised) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

(c) Fund Accounting

- **Endowment funds** are those funds which the charity must hold and retain and not spend as income. The income arising is used for charitable purposes and capital gains are retained within the fund.
- **Restricted funds** are those funds which must be spent as income on the particular purposes specified by the donor or specifically identified in appeal literature.
- **Unrestricted funds** are those funds that can be spent at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

(d) Income

Recognition of income	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when: - the charity becomes entitled to the resources; - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Offsetting	There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income or expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance related grants, income must only be recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met.
Legacies	Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
Contractual income and performance related grants	This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services or met the performance related conditions
Income from interest, royalties and dividends	This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.
Income from membership subscriptions	Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in Donations and Legacies. Membership subscriptions which give a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

(e) Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.
Governance and support costs	Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.
Creditors	The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.
Provisions for liabilities	A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.
Basic Financial Instruments	The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 10.7 FRS 102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19 FRS 102 SORP.

(f) Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	All fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset over the useful economic life of that asset, which in all cases is estimated at 3 years.
Stocks and work in progress	Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Goods and services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock. Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.
Debtors	Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, the liability of members is limited to £1.

3. Income – Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Donations	101	8,900	0	9,001	0
Grants	0	0	0	0	0
Legacies	0	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid	1,583	1,350	0	2,933	1,239
Membership subscriptions	7,760	0	0	7,760	6,330
	9,444	10,250	0	19,694	7,569

The English Chamber Choir was founded in 1972 and the Company intended to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the choir in year 2022 with a number of events including a spectacular 50th Anniversary concert in Cadogan Hall in London on 24th October 2022 with professional orchestra and soloist singers. In order to fund those expensive events the Company launched an appeal for donations in Spring 2022. The donations in relation to the 50th Anniversary appeal as well as the associated Gift Aid claimed on them are accounted under Restricted Funds because they can be spent only on 50th Anniversary events.

Amounts pledged in the appeal but not received by the Company as at 31st August 2022 are not reflected in the accounts because there was no guarantee that they would materialize.

4. Income - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Performance fees	13,069	0	0	13,069	1,825
Ticket sales	1,561	0	0	1,561	0
Advertising sales	0	0	0	0	0
	14,630	0	0	14,630	1,825

5. Income – Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Merchandising income	0	0	0	0	0
Rental of music scores	287	0	0	287	0
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0	0
	287	0	0	287	0

6. Income - Investments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Bank interest income	6	0	0	6	2
	6	0	0	6	2

7. Income - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Other income	606	0	0	606	0
	606	0	0	606	0

8. Expenditure - Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Hire of halls	5,655	5,508	0	11,163	200
Professional fees - rehearsals	7,865	0	0	7,865	8,705
Professional fees - concerts	12,861	4,742	0	17,603	245
Professional fees - support	1,815	0	0	1,815	1,272
Music hire / purchase	619	0	0	619	991
Marketing and publicity	283	0	0	283	0
	29,098	10,250	0	39,348	11,413

The expenses reported under Restricted Funds are in relation to the 50th Anniversary appeal (see note 3). They include the hire of Cadogan Hall on 24th October 2022 and the cost of professional artists (orchestra and soloist singers) contracted to perform on that day.

9. Expenditure - Other

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds Year 2022 £	Total Funds Year 2021 £
Premises costs	0	0	0	0	0
Independent examiner's fees	0	0	0	0	0
Accountancy fees	0	0	0	0	0
Tax advisory fees	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0
Bank charges	82	0	0	82	42
Technology	788	0	0	788	1,168
Miscellaneous purchases	2,046	0	0	2,046	722
	2,916	0	0	2,916	1,932

10. Staff Costs and Emoluments, Directors' Remuneration

10.1 – Staff costs

The Company had no employees during the financial year (2021: nil).
All professionals involved in the charitable activities and supporting activities supplied their services on a freelance basis.

10.2 – Directors' remuneration and benefits

No Director received any remuneration during the year (2021: nil) and no Director had any personal interest in any contract entered into by the Company during the year (2021: nil).

10.3 – Transactions with Directors

Expenses paid on behalf of the Company were reimbursed to the following directors:

Name	Position	Amount Year 2022 (£)	Amount Year 2021 (£)	Nature of transactions
Martin Douglas	Director	223	0	Music hire/purchase, postage
Mark Roper	Director	536	144	Technology, library storage boxes

10.4 – Transactions with other related parties

Related parties in addition to the Company Directors are defined in SORP FRS 102 as:

- An individual with authority and responsibility for planning, directing or controlling the activities of the entity, either directly or indirectly (the key management personnel).
- An officer, agent or employee of the charity who has authority and responsibility for the charity as key management personnel. This includes senior staff members who

make decisions, or budget holders who have power to spend significant amounts of the charity's resources.

The Directors concluded that Ann Manly is a related party of ECC in her capacity as contractor for management and administrative services. Those services are contracted through the unincorporated partnership GC & AS Protheroe over which she has significant control, hence the following disclosure of all transactions with that entity:

Name	Position	Amount Year 2022 (£)	Amount Year 2021 (£)	Nature of transactions
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	2,821	0	Fixing contracts for professional musicians
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	7,458	4,875	Professional fees: musical director
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	1,815	1,273	Professional fees: administrator
GC & AS Protheroe	Contractor	552	0	Expense reimbursements for printing and refreshments

11. Debtors and prepayments

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Tax receivable	0	0
Performance debtors	670	125
Membership debtors	0	0
Other debtors	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	0	0
	670	125

12. Creditors and accruals

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Professional fees creditors	0	220
Other creditors	0	787
Accruals and deferred income	9,924	0
	9,924	1,007

The accruals are in relation to contracts entered into for the 50th Anniversary concert on 24th October 2022 (see notes 3 and 8) for the hire of Cadogan Hall and the hire of an orchestra and soloist singers, with settlement expected shortly after the concert.

13. Cash at bank and in hand

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	18,496	17,165
Short term deposits	0	0
Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	0	0
	18,496	17,165

14. Basic Financial Instruments

Basic Financial Instruments including debtors, creditors and cash, were entered at fair value at inception and there has been no impairment since.

15. Taxation

As a charity, the Company is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 466 to 493 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Company.

16. Going concern

The financial statements are prepared with the assumption that the Company is a going concern. The Company will continue for the foreseeable future and it is not the intention to, nor is there the need to, liquidate the company or cease its activities.

The Company has the adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future

Independent examiner's report on the accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
ENGLISH CHAMBER CHOIR

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 AUGUST 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1153396

Set out on pages

1 and 2

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. ~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [named body]].~~ Delete [] if not applicable.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below*)~~ which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:**Date:**

26 January 2023

Name:

Karen Bloomfield

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

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

Address:

63 Motspur Park

New Malden

KT3 6PT

Section B**Disclosure**

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