

THE STONDON SINGERS

England & Wales · Charity number 1154435

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2013-11-01

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

Contact

Address 6 Humber Road
Chelmsford
CM1 7PE

Phone 01992 522300

Email stondonsingers@gmail.com

Website <http://www.stondonsingers.org.uk>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE TO PROMOTE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE APPRECIATION OF THE ART AND SCIENCE OF CHORAL MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CHORAL CONCERTS AND BY SUCH OTHER WAYS AS THE MEMBERS, THROUGH THE TRUSTEES, SHALL DETERMINE FROM TIME TO TIME.

Activities: The Stondon Singers present usually four public choral concerts per annum. These may be unaccompanied, with organ or small instrumental ensemble. Our members are drawn from a wide area of Essex and Suffolk and rehearse weekly with a professional conductor. From time to time we undertake other performances and activities such as cathedral visits, concerts in aid of other charities and workshops.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£11,313	£10,953	-	-
2024-12-31	£10,890	£11,992	-	-
2023-12-31	£7,777	£9,184	-	-
2022-12-31	£5,662	£7,845	-	-
2021-12-31	£5,169	£4,962	-	-
2020-12-31	£6,388	£5,217	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Nicholas Kenneth Alston	Chair	2025-04-29
Alastair Francis Merry		2025-09-01
Annabel Susan Malton		2023-04-25
Hannah Louise Bowring		2026-04-28
Katharine Emma Adams		2025-04-29
Mark Frederick Ellis		2025-04-29
Michelle Mary Arthur		2023-04-25
Phil Holmes		2014-09-09

THE STONDON SINGERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1154435

Accounts



CIO 1154435

Trustees' Report

1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies and comply with the charity's constitution and applicable law.

Administration details

The principal address of the charity is currently 6 Humber Road, Chelmsford, CM1 7PE.

The Trustees – Elected at AGM/EGM

Nick Alston	Chairman and Concert Manager
Katharine Adams	Secretary
Phil Holmes	Treasurer, Website and Ticket Sales
Annabel Malton	Librarian
Julia Dimon	Trustee
Michelle Arthur	Safeguarding
Mark Ellis	Website

The management committee

The Trustees and Hilary Punnett (Music Director to July 2025) and Alastair Merry (Music Director from 1st September 2025)

Accounts Adviser

Barbara Rose

Structure, governance and management

The Stondon Singers is a chamber choir, registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 November 2013 and governed by a constitution adopted with amendments on 9 September 2014 and further amended and accepted on 23 March 2021. Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting to serve until the close of the following Annual General Meeting at which they are eligible for re-election.

Objectives

The objectives of The Stondon Singers are to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in the appreciation of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and by such other ways as members, through the Trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Activities

The Stondon Singers is a mixed chamber choir, currently resident at the Church of the Ascension with All Saints, in Maltese Road, Chelmsford. The choir enjoys considerable critical acclaim and performs several concerts a year. Initially formed to sing the music of William Byrd, the choir of about 26 singers now performs a wide-ranging repertoire, whilst remaining committed to choral music of the Renaissance. The requirements for prospective new members are: good sight-reading skills, sufficient confidence to hold a line with only a small number of singers and the opportunity to work on the music at home. There is an informal audition for all new members and voice reviews may be conducted from time to time for the whole choir. Weekly rehearsals currently take place in the Church of the Ascension with All Saints, in Maltese Road, Chelmsford, CM1 2PB on Tuesday evenings, 7.45-10.00 p.m.

The success of The Stondon Singers is underpinned by a committed membership with a range of musical expertise, a professional Director of Music, the work of the committee and other members and the support of Patrons and Friends. The choir is accordingly able to undertake exciting and ambitious choral programmes.

Achievements and Performance

For the period covered by this report The Stondon Singers rehearsed for and performed four concerts. The conductor and committee aimed to devise interesting programmes blending familiar works with those which are less well known.

Concerts

22 March 2025, 7.30 pm, 'Bach and Beyond', Church of St Mary and St Lawrence, Great Waltham.

1 July 2025, 8.00 pm, William Byrd Anniversary Concert 'Discourse', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

11 November 2025, 8.00 pm, 'Wild Echoes', Church of the Ascension with All Saints, Chelmsford.

16 December 2025, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

Public benefits

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance in deciding on the activities the choir undertakes. Activities for the public benefit can be demonstrated by:

- maintenance of a website
- the provision of detailed programme notes for each concert and / or an explanation of the works by the conductor

- discounted subscriptions for under 25s and tickets at reduced prices for children
- lending of music to other choirs
- participating in events organised by Brentwood Arts Council
- providing a choir for weddings and funerals as requested
- commissioning and performing the work of contemporary composers

Financial review

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the choir. Finances are discussed at all meetings. This enables the Trustees to ascertain the financial position of the choir and to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities legislation. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The choir finances itself by membership contributions, payable on a termly or annual basis and agreed at an annual general meeting, and concert proceeds from sales of tickets and programmes.

Other sources of income include:

- Gift aid from donations and from members' contributions
- Contributions from patrons
- One-off donations from individuals to sponsor a particular event or commission a work for the choir.
- Any surplus from workshops run by the choir
- Revenue from hiring out music to other choirs
- Revenue from weddings

The choir's direct income funds the full cost of running the choir and makes a contribution towards covering the net cost of concerts in the event of a loss.

Income for the period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 totalled £11,313.48
Expenditure amounted to £10,952.57

Surplus for the year was £360.91

On 31 December 2025

The Stondon Singers had a cash balance of £20,075.62 held in the Co-operative Bank Charity and Community account

The previous account held with NatWest was closed in February 2025

A summary of the accounts is shown in Appendix 1.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are held to help fund major concerts and to acquire and maintain assets.

Risk management

The Trustees have a responsibility to identify, assess and manage risks. They keep abreast of legislation which might affect charities through the Charities Commission website and through the “Making Music” organisation to which the choir is affiliated. They ensure that the choir complies with copyright and performing rights laws. The choir’s insurance is arranged through “Making Music”.

Policies

The choir has policies regarding: Vetting, Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Data Protection. Policies are reviewed annually and current policies may be viewed on the choir’s website: www.stondonsingers.org.uk.

Future plans

22 March 2026, 7.30 pm, ‘From Darkness to Light a Journey through Easter, Church of St Mary and St Lawrence, Great Waltham.

1 July 2026, 8.00 pm, ‘William Byrd Anniversary Concert’, Church of SS Peter & Paul, Stondon Massey.

11 November 2026, 8.00 pm, (The Road Home) Church of the Ascension with All Saints, Chelmsford.

16 December 2026, 8.00 pm, ‘Christmas at Blackmore’, The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

6th March 2027 concert

6th July 2027 Byrd concert

9th November 2027

14th December 2027

Approved by the Trustees 26.02.26

Stondon Singers - Summary of Accounts 1/1/2025 - 31/12/2025

CIO 1154435/


<u>Income</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Members' contributions	4,620.00	4,545.00	Conductor	5,235.00	5,297.60
Patrons' donations	420.00	420.00	Venue	2,021.25	2,050.00
Gift Aid	1,204.40	810.29	Office expenses	-	23.94
Music Hire	215.64	176.14	Other	845.27	553.18
Ticket sales	4,409.44	4,778.92	Musicians	1,535.00	2,245.34
Donations	280.00	33.50	Interval Drinks	197.51	178.49
Interval Drinks	107.00	125.70	Music	669.09	1,122.67
Programme sales	57.00		Printing	449.45	510.75
			Advertising		10.00
<u>Totals</u>	<u>11,313.48</u>	<u>10,889.55</u>		<u>10,952.57</u>	<u>11,991.97</u>

Surplus/Deficit **360.91** **-1,102.42**


Funds Held **31/12/25** **31/12/24**

NatWest		1,994.68
Co-op	20075.62	17,720.03
<u>Total</u>	<u>20,075.62</u>	<u>19,714.71</u>

Signed P Holmes - Treasurer


16/2/26

Signed B Rose - Examiner


16/2/26

THE STONDON SINGERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1154435

Accounts

The Stondon Singers

CIO 1154435

Trustees' Report

1.1.24 – 31.12.24

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies and comply with the charity's constitution and applicable law.

Administration details

The principal address of the charity is currently 6 Humber Road, Chelmsford, CM1 7PE.

The Trustees – Elected at AGM/EGM

Katharine Adams	Chairman
Marjolein Hillman	Secretary
Phil Holmes	Treasurer, Website and Ticket Sales
Nick Alston	Concert Manager
Annabel Malton	Librarian
Julia Dimon	Trustee
Michelle Arthur	Trustee
Neill Wiltshire	Trustee
Matthew Butt	Trustee

The management committee

The Trustees and Hilary Punnett.

Accounts Adviser

Barbara Rose

Structure, governance and management

The Stondon Singers were registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 November 2013 and is governed by a constitution adopted with amendments on 9 September 2014. Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting to serve until the close of the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

Objectives

The objectives of The Stondon Singers are to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in the appreciation of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and by such other ways as members, through the Trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Activities

The Stondon Singers is a mixed chamber choir, currently resident at the Church of the Ascension with All Saints, in Maltese Road, Chelmsford. The choir enjoys considerable critical acclaim and performs several concerts a year. Although initially formed to sing the music of William Byrd, the choir of about 25 singers now performs a wide-ranging repertoire, whilst remaining committed to choral music of the Renaissance. The requirements for prospective new members are: good sight-reading skills, sufficient confidence to hold a line with only a small number of singers and the opportunity to work on the music at home. There is an informal audition for all new members and voice reviews may be conducted from time to time for the whole choir. Weekly rehearsals take place in the Church of the Ascension with All Saints, in Maltese Road, Chelmsford, CM1 2PB on Tuesday evenings, 7.45-10.00 p.m.

The success of The Stondon Singers is underpinned by a committed membership with a range of musical expertise, a professional Director of Music and the support of Patrons and Friends. The choir is accordingly able to undertake exciting and ambitious choral programmes.

Achievements and Performance

For the period covered by this report The Stondon Singers had planned to perform four concerts. The conductor and committee aimed to devise interesting programmes blending familiar works with those which are less well known.

Concerts

9 March 2024, 7.30 pm, 'Lifting the veil', Church of St Mary and St Lawrence, Great Waltham.

2 July 2024, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd Anniversary Concert', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

12 November 2024, 8.00 pm, 'The Glory of Castile and Aragon', Church of the Ascension with All Saints, Chelmsford.

17 December 2024, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

Public benefits

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance in deciding on the activities the choir undertakes. Activities for the public benefit can be demonstrated by:

maintenance of a website

the provision of detailed programme notes for each concert and / or an explanation of the works by the conductor

discounted subscriptions for under 25s and tickets at reduced prices for children

lending of music to other choirs

participating in events organised by Brentwood Arts Council

providing a choir for weddings and funerals as requested

commissioning and performing the work of contemporary composers

Financial review

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the choir. Finances are discussed at all meetings. This enables the Trustees to ascertain the financial position of the choir and to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities legislation. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The choir finances itself by membership contributions, payable on a termly or annual basis and agreed at an annual general meeting, and concert proceeds from sales of tickets and programmes.

Other sources of income include:

Gift aid from donations and from members' contributions

Contributions from patrons

One-off donations from individuals to sponsor a particular event or commission a work for the choir.

Any surplus from workshops run by the choir

Revenue from hiring out music to other choirs

Revenue from weddings

The choir's direct income funds the full cost of running the choir and makes a contribution towards covering the net cost of concerts in the event of a loss.

Income for the period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 totalled £10,889.55
Expenditure amounted to £11,991.97

Deficit for the year was £1,102.42

On 31 December 2024

The Stondon Singers had a cash balance of £19,714.71

Held in the following accounts:

National Westminster Bank £1,994.68

The Co-operative Bank £17,720.03

A summary of the accounts is shown in Appendix 1.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are held to help fund major concerts and to acquire and maintain assets.

Risk management

The Trustees have a responsibility to identify, assess and manage risks. They keep abreast of legislation which might affect charities through the Charities Commission website and through the "Making Music" organisation to which the choir is affiliated. They ensure that the choir complies with copyright and performing rights laws. The choir's insurance is arranged through "Making Music".

Policies

The choir has policies regarding: Vetting, Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Data Protection. Policies are reviewed annually and current policies may be viewed on the choir's website: www.stondonsingers.org.uk.

Future plans

22 March 2025, 7.30 pm, 'Bach and Beyond', Church of St Mary and St Lawrence, Great Waltham.

1 July 2025, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd Anniversary Concert', Church of SS Peter & Paul, Stondon Massey.

11 November 2025, 8.00 pm, 'Rhyme and Rhythm', Church of the Ascension with All Saints, Chelmsford.


16 December 2025, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.


Approved by the Trustees

Stondon Singers - Summary of Accounts 1/1/2024 - 31/12/2024

CIO 1154435

<u>Income</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Members' contributions	4,545.00	2,795.00	Conductor	5,297.60	5,700.00
Patrons' donations	420.00	420.00	Venue	2,050.00	1,877.50
Gift Aid	810.29	1,357.67	Office expenses	23.94	-
Music Hire	176.14	202.95	Other	553.18	575.86
Ticket sales	4,778.92	2,875.00	Musicians	2,245.34	275.00
Donations	33.50	40.98	Interval Drinks	178.49	213.10
Interval Drinks	125.70	44.00	Music	1,122.67	332.25
Bank interest	-	41.02	Printing	510.75	187.46
			Advertising	10.00	23.00
<u>Totals</u>	<u>10,889.55</u>	<u>7,776.62</u>		<u>11,991.97</u>	<u>9,184.17</u>
<u>Surplus/Deficit</u>	<u>-1,102.42</u>	<u>-1,407.55</u>			
<u>Funds Held</u>	<u>31/12/24</u>	<u>31/12/23</u>			
NatWest	1,994.68	1,917.68			
Co-op	17,720.03	18,899.45			
<u>Total</u>	<u>19,714.71</u>	<u>20,817.13</u>			

Signed P Holmes - Treasurer 
Date 3/3/25

Signed B Rose - Examiner 
Date 3/2/25

THE STONDON SINGERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1154435

Accounts

The Stondon Singers

CIO 1154435

Trustees' Report

1.1.23 – 31.12.23

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies and comply with the charity's constitution and applicable law.

Administration details

The principal address of the charity is currently 16 Coombe Rise, Shenfield, Brentwood, CM15 8JJ.

The Trustees – Elected at AGM/EGM

Michelle Arthur	Chairman
Marjolein Hillman	Secretary
Phil Holmes	Treasurer, Website and Ticket Sales
Matthew Butt	Concert Manager
Annabel Malton	Librarian
Julia Dimon	Trustee

Chris Bradbury stood down as a Trustee in April 2023.

The management committee

The Trustees and Hilary Punnett.

Accounts Adviser

Barbara Rose

Structure, governance and management

The Stondon Singers were registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 November 2013 and is governed by a constitution adopted with amendments on 9 September 2014. Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting to serve until the close of the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

Objectives

The objectives of The Stondon Singers are to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in the appreciation of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and by such other ways as members, through the Trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Activities

The Stondon Singers is a mixed chamber choir, currently resident at the Church of the Ascension with All Saints, in Maltese Road, Chelmsford. The choir enjoys considerable critical acclaim and performs several concerts a year. Although initially formed to sing the music of William Byrd, the choir of about 25 singers now performs a wide-ranging repertoire, whilst remaining committed to choral music of the Renaissance. The requirements for prospective new members are: good sight-reading skills, sufficient confidence to hold a line with only a small number of singers and the opportunity to work on the music at home. There is an informal audition for all new members and voice reviews may be conducted from time to time for the whole choir. Weekly rehearsals take place in the Church of the Ascension with All Saints, in Maltese Road, Chelmsford, CM1 2PB on Tuesday evenings, 7.45-10.00 p.m.

The success of The Stondon Singers is underpinned by a committed membership with a range of musical expertise, a professional Director of Music and the support of Patrons and Friends. The choir is accordingly able to undertake exciting and ambitious choral programmes.

Achievements and Performance

For the period covered by this report The Stondon Singers had planned to perform five concerts and a joint Evensong and to host an open rehearsal. The conductor and committee aimed to devise interesting programmes blending familiar works with those which are less well known. Our first open rehearsal for prospective members was a success and resulted in several new members joining.

Concerts

18 March 2023, 7.30 pm, 'Songs of Farewell', Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

22 April 2023, 1.10 pm, Joint Lunch Concert with the Cathedral Consort, Lincoln Cathedral.

4 July 2023, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd 400th Anniversary Concert', Church of SS Peter & Paul, Stondon Massey.

7 November 2023, 8.00 pm, 'Wit and Wisdom', Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

19 December 2023, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

Events

22 April 2023, 5.30 pm, Joint Evensong with the Cathedral Consort, Lincoln Cathedral.

12 September 2023, 7.45 pm, Open Rehearsal, Church of the Ascension with All Saints, Chelmsford.

Public benefits

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance in deciding on the activities the choir undertakes. Activities for the public benefit can be demonstrated by:

maintenance of a website

the provision of detailed programme notes for each concert and / or an explanation of the works by the conductor

discounted subscriptions for under 25s and tickets at reduced prices for children

lending of music to other choirs

participating in events organised by Brentwood Arts Council

providing a choir for weddings and funerals as requested

commissioning and performing the work of contemporary composers

Financial review

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the choir. Finances are discussed at all meetings. This enables the Trustees to ascertain the financial position of the choir and to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities legislation. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The choir finances itself by membership contributions, payable on a termly or annual basis and agreed at an annual general meeting, and concert proceeds from sales of tickets and programmes.

Other sources of income include:

Gift aid from donations and from members' contributions

Contributions from patrons

One-off donations from individuals to sponsor a particular event or commission a work for the choir.

Any surplus from workshops run by the choir

Revenue from hiring out music to other choirs

Revenue from weddings

The choir's direct income funds the full cost of running the choir and makes a contribution towards covering the net cost of concerts in the event of a loss.

Income for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 totalled £7,776.62
Expenditure amounted to £9,184.17

Deficit for the year was £1,407.55

On 31 December 2023

The Stondon Singers had a cash balance of £20,817.13

Held in the following accounts:

National Westminster Bank £1,917.68

The Co-operative Bank £18,899.45

Both the COIF Account and the Virgin Charity Account were closed in 2023 and the balances were transferred to the NatWest account and the Co-operative account respectively.

A summary of the accounts is shown in Appendix 1.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are held to help fund major concerts and to acquire and maintain assets.

Risk management

The Trustees have a responsibility to identify, assess and manage risks. They keep abreast of legislation which might affect charities through the Charities Commission website and through the "Making Music" organisation to which the choir is affiliated. They ensure that the choir complies with copyright and performing rights laws. The choir's insurance is arranged through "Making Music".

Policies

The choir has policies regarding: Vetting, Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Data Protection. Policies are reviewed annually and current policies may be viewed on the choir's website: www.stondonsingers.org.uk.

Future plans

9 March 2024, 7.30 pm, 'Lifting the veil', Church of St Mary and St Lawrence, Great Waltham.

2 July 2024, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd Anniversary Concert', Church of SS Peter & Paul, Stondon Massey.

12 November 2024, 8.00 pm, 'Cardoso Requiem', Church of the Ascension with All Saints, Chelmsford.

17 December 2024, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

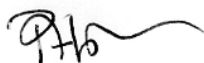
Approved by the Trustees

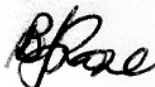
Stondon Singers - Summary of Accounts 1/1/2023 - 31/12/2023
CIO 1154435

<u>Income</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Members' contributions	2,795.00	3,252.52	Conductor	5,700.00	4,238.96
Patrons' donations	420.00	720.00	Venue	1,877.50	1,638.37
Gift Aid	1,357.67	-	Office expenses	-	22.40
Music Hire	202.95	105.49	Other	575.86	415.65
Ticket sales	2,875.00	1,350.00	Musicians	275.00	1,250.00
Donations	40.98	228.00	Interval Drinks	213.10	21.00
Interval Drinks	44.00	-	Music	332.25	258.98
Bank interest	41.02	5.78	Printing	187.46	-
			Advertising	23.00	-
<u>Totals</u>	<u>7,776.62</u>	<u>5,661.79</u>		<u>9,184.17</u>	<u>7,845.36</u>
<u>Surplus/Deficit</u>	<u>-1,407.55</u>	<u>-2,183.57</u>			
<u>Funds Held</u>	<u>31/12/23</u>	<u>31/12/22</u>			
NatWest	1,917.68	849.38			
Co-op	18,899.45	13,322.40			
Coif		599.41			
Virgin		7,453.49			
<u>Total</u>	<u>20,817.13</u>	<u>22,224.68</u>			

Signed P Holmes - Treasurer

Signed B Rose - Examiner





28/2/24

THE STONDON SINGERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1154435

Accounts

The Stondon Singers

CIO 1154435

Trustees' Report

1.1.22 – 31.12.22

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies and comply with the charity's constitution and applicable law.

Administration details

The principal address of the charity is currently The Vicarage, Wigley Bush Lane, South Weald, Brentwood CM14 5QP.

The Trustees – Elected at AGM/EGM

Chris Bradbury	Chairman
Marjolein Hillman	Secretary
Phil Holmes	Treasurer, Website and Ticket Sales
Matthew Butt	Concert Manager

Annabel Malton stood down from the committee, but continued as librarian. She was subsequently co-opted to the committee to enable her to attend the meetings.

A further two trustees were elected at an Extraordinary General Meeting in September:

Julia Dimon	Trustee
Michelle Arthur	Trustee

Josephine Gordon, our treasurer at the start of the year, died in office in March 2022. Trustee Phil Holmes acted as caretaker treasurer until the AGM, when he was re-elected and formally took on the task of treasurer.

The management committee

The Trustees and Christopher Tinker (Conductor), until his retirement in July 2022. He was succeeded by Hilary Punnett in September 2022.

Accounts Adviser

Barbara Rose

Structure, governance and management

The Stondon Singers were registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 November 2013 and is governed by a constitution adopted with amendments on 9 September 2014. Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting to serve until the close of the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

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Activities

The Stondon Singers is a mixed chamber choir, currently resident at the Priory Church of St. Laurence, Blackmore. The choir enjoys considerable critical acclaim and performs several concerts a year. Although initially formed to sing the music of William Byrd, the choir of about 25 singers now performs a wide-ranging repertoire, whilst remaining committed to choral music of the Renaissance.

The requirements for prospective new members are: good sight-reading skills, sufficient confidence to hold a line with only a small number of singers and the opportunity to work on the music at home. There is an informal audition for all new members and voice reviews may be conducted from time to time for the whole choir. Weekly rehearsals take place in the Priory Church of St. Laurence, Blackmore, Essex CM4 0RN on Tuesday evenings, 7.45-10.00 p.m.

The success of The Stondon Singers is underpinned by a committed membership with a range of musical expertise, a professional Director of Music and the support of Patrons and Friends. The choir is accordingly able to undertake exciting and ambitious choral programmes.

Achievements and Performance

For the period covered by this report The Stondon Singers had planned to perform four concerts. The conductor and committee aimed to devise interesting programmes blending familiar works with those which are less well known.

Concerts

19 March 2022, 7.30 pm, 'Soirée', Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

5 July 2022, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd Anniversary Concert', Church of SS Peter & Paul, Stondon Massey.

8 November 2022, 8.00 pm, 'O Taste and See', Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

13 December 2022, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

Public benefits

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance in deciding on the activities the choir undertakes. Activities for the public benefit can be demonstrated by:

maintenance of a website

the provision of detailed programme notes for each concert and / or an explanation of the works by the conductor

discounted subscriptions for under 25s and tickets at reduced prices for children

lending of music to other choirs

participating in events organised by Brentwood Arts Council

providing a choir for weddings as requested

commissioning and performing the work of contemporary composers

Financial review

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the choir. Finances are discussed at all meetings. This enables the Trustees to ascertain the financial position of the choir and to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities legislation. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The choir finances itself by membership contributions, payable on a termly or annual basis and agreed at an annual general meeting, and concert proceeds from sales of tickets and programmes.

Other sources of income include:

Gift aid from donations and from members' contributions

Contributions from patrons

One-off donations from individuals to sponsor a particular event or commission a work for the choir

Advertising revenue

Any surplus from workshops run by the choir

Revenue from hiring out music to other choirs
Revenue from weddings

The choir's direct income funds the full cost of running the choir and makes a contribution towards covering the net cost of concerts in the event of a loss.

Income for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 totalled £5,661.79
Expenditure amounted to £7,845.36
Deficit for the year was £2,183.57

On 31 December 2022

The Stondon Singers had a cash balance of £22,224.68

Held in the following accounts:

National Westminster Bank £849.38

The Co-operative Bank £13,322.40*

COIF Account £599.41

Virgin Charity Account £7,453.49

A summary of the accounts is shown in Appendix 1.

*In 2022 a new, online, account was opened with the Co-operative Bank, as the National Westminster Bank could not offer a similar account suitable for charities. Once all the funds have been transferred to the online account, the old account will be closed down.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are held to help fund major concerts and to acquire and maintain assets.

Risk management

The Trustees have a responsibility to identify, assess and manage risks. They keep abreast of legislation which might affect charities through the Charities Commission website and through the "Making Music" organisation to which the choir is affiliated. They ensure that the choir complies with copyright and performing rights laws. The choir's insurance is arranged through "Making Music".

Policies

The choir has policies regarding: Vetting, Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Data Protection. Policies are reviewed annually and current policies may be viewed on the choir's website: www.stondonsingers.org.uk.

Future plans

18 March 2022, 7.30 pm, 'Songs of Farewell', Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

22 April 2023, 1.10 pm, Joint Lunch Concert with the Cathedral Consort, Lincoln Cathedral.

22 April 2023, 5.00 pm, Joint Evensong with the Cathedral Consort, Lincoln Cathedral.

4 July 2023, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd 400th Anniversary Concert', Church of SS Peter & Paul, Stondon Massey.

7 November 2023, 8.00 pm, 'Wit and Wisdom', Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

19 December 2023, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

Approved by the Trustees

Stondon Singers - Summary of Accounts 1/1/2022 - 31/12/2022

CIO 1154435

<u>Weekly Income</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Weekly Expenditure</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Members' contributions	3,252.52 ✓	2,567.52	Conductor	3,130.96 ✓	2,580.00
Patrons' donations	720.00 ✓	630.00	Venue	1,215.87 ✓	200.00
Choir tea/coffee	-	-	Office expenses	22.40 ✓	17.53
Gift Aid	-	1,092.65	Subs/Fees/Ads	415.65 ✓	438.66
Donations	-	-			-
Music Hire	105.49 ✓	124.99			-
Subtotal	4,078.01 ✓	4,415.16		4,784.88 ✓	3,236.19

Weekly Surplus/Deficit **-706.87 ✓** **1,178.97**

Concert Income

Concert Expenditure

Ticket sales	1,350.00 ✓	647.00	Conductor	1,108.00 ✓	600.00
Programme Ads	-	-	Venue	422.50 ✓	245.00
Donations	228.00 ✓	96.50	Orch/Acc/Solo	1,250.00 ✓	650.00
Interval Drinks	-	-	Interval Drinks	21.00 ✓	-
Programmes	-	-	Programmes	-	-
			Music	258.98 ✓	230.57
			Ads	-	-
			Licences/Prs	-	-
Subtotal	1,578.00	743.50		3,060.48	1,725.57

Concert Surplus/Deficit **-1,482.48** **-982.07**

Savings Accounts Interest

Coif Account	5.78 ✓	0.11
Virgin Account		9.88

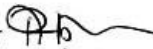
Total Income **5,661.79** **5,168.65** **Total Expenditure** **7,845.36** **4,961.76**

Total Surplus/Deficit **-2,183.57** **206.89**


Funds Held

	<u>31/12/22</u>	<u>31/12/21</u>
NatWest	849.38 ✓	16,361.13
Co-op	13,322.40 ✓	-
Coif	599.41 ✓	593.63
Virgin	7,453.49 ✓	7,453.49
Total	22,224.68	24,408.25

Signed P Holmes - Treasurer


29/3/22

Signed B Rose - Examiner


29/3/22

THE STONDON SINGERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1154435

Accounts

The Stondon Singers

CIO 1154435

Trustees' Report

1.1.21 – 31.12.21

Trustee's Report

The Trustees present the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies and comply with the charity's constitution and applicable law.

Administration details

The principal address of the charity is currently The Vicarage, Wigley Bush Lane, South Weald, Brentwood CM14 5QP.

The Trustees – Elected at AGM

Chris Bradbury	Chairman
Marjolein Hillman	Secretary
Josephine Gordon	Treasurer
Annabel Malton	Librarian
Phil Holmes	Website and Ticket Sales
Julie Weight	PR and Patron's Secretary

Nick Alston officially stood down because of work commitments, but was co-opted to the committee as an ex officio member for the rest of 2021. He also offered to continue as concert manager during that time.

The management committee

The Trustees and Christopher Tinker (Conductor)

Accounts Adviser

Richard Eason

Structure, governance and management

The Stondon Singers were registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 November 2013 and is governed by a constitution adopted with amendments on 9 September 2014. Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting to serve until the close of the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

Objectives

The objectives of The Stondon Singers are to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in the appreciation of the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and by such other ways as members, through the Trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Activities

The Stondon Singers is a mixed chamber choir, currently resident at the Priory Church of St. Laurence, Blackmore. The choir enjoys considerable critical acclaim and performs several concerts a year. Although initially formed to sing the music of William Byrd, the choir of about 25 singers now performs a wide-ranging repertoire, whilst remaining committed to choral music of the Renaissance. The requirements for prospective new members are: good sight skills, sufficient confidence to hold a line with only a small number of singers and the opportunity to work on the music at home. There is an informal audition for all new members and voice reviews may be conducted from time to time for the whole choir. Weekly rehearsals take place in the Priory Church of St. Laurence, Blackmore, Essex CM4 0RN on Tuesday evenings, 7.45-10.00 p.m.

The success of The Stondon Singers is underpinned by a committed membership with a range of musical expertise, a professional Director of Music and the support of Patrons and Friends. The choir is accordingly able to undertake exciting and ambitious choral programmes.

Achievements and Performance

For the period covered by this report The Stondon Singers had planned to perform four concerts. The conductor and committee aimed to devise interesting programmes blending familiar works with those which are less well known.

Concerts

All concerts originally planned for 2020 that had to be cancelled because of the Covid pandemic were rescheduled for 2021.

19 February 2021, 12.30 pm, 'Lunchtime concert', Chelmsford Cathedral (by invitation).

20 March 2021, 7.30 pm, 'Mozart and Haydn', St Thomas Church, Brentwood.

With soloists and orchestra.

6 July 2021, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd Anniversary Concert', Church of SS Peter & Paul, Stondon Massey.

9 November 2021, 8.00 pm, 'The Best Beloved - modern American music', Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood. With harpist Ruby Aspinall and organist Laurence Lyndon-Jones.

14 December 2021, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore. Organist Laurence Lyndon-Jones.

Chelmsford Cathedral cancelled its series of lunchtime concerts for the spring of 2021.

The March concert had to be cancelled again and it was agreed to postpone this programme indefinitely because of the uncertain situation surrounding the pandemic.

The William Byrd Concert took place outside, in the churchyard of St Laurence, Blackmore, with a small choir, in very wet conditions and in front of a very small audience. Nevertheless, it was good for the choir to have been able to work towards a performance again, after more than a year of cancellations and rehearsing online.

The remaining two concerts were presented indoors as one-hour recitals without interval, with socially distanced seating and a request for audience members to wear masks, in order to minimise risk of infection. Both concerts were very well received.

Public benefits

The Trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance in deciding on the activities the choir undertakes. Activities for the public benefit can be demonstrated by:

maintenance of a website

the provision of detailed programme notes for each concert and / or an explanation of the works by the conductor

discounted subscriptions for under 25s and tickets at reduced prices for children

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commissioning and performing the work of contemporary composers

Financial review

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enables the Trustees to ascertain the financial position of the choir and to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities legislation. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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Advertising revenue

Any surplus from workshops run by the choir

Revenue from hiring out music to other choirs

Revenue from weddings

The choir's direct income funds the full cost of running the choir and makes a contribution towards covering the net cost of concerts in the event of a loss.

Income for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 totalled £ 5,168.65

Expenditure amounted to £4,961.76

Adjustments (cheques not yet cashed, refunds made subsequent year) totalled £-716.08

Deficit for the year was £627.03

On 31 December 2021

The Stondon Singers had a cash balance of £24,408.25

Held in the following accounts:

National Westminster Bank £16,361.13

COIF Account £593.63

Virgin Charity Account £7,453.49

A summary of the accounts is shown in Appendix 1.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are held to help fund major concerts and to acquire and maintain assets.

Risk management

The Trustees have a responsibility to identify, assess and manage risks. They keep abreast of legislation which might affect charities through the Charities Commission website and through the "Making Music" organisation to which the choir is affiliated. They ensure that the choir complies with copyright and performing rights laws. The choir's insurance is arranged through "Making Music".

Policies

The choir has policies regarding: Vetting, Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Data Protection.

Policies are reviewed annually and current policies may be viewed on the choir's website:

www.stondonsingers.org.uk.

Future plans

19 March 2022, 7.30 pm, French Programme, Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

5 July 2022, 8.00 pm, 'William Byrd Anniversary Concert', Church of SS Peter & Paul,

Stondon Massey.

8 November 2022, 8.00 pm, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Church of St Michael and All Angels, Galleywood.

13 December 2022, 8.00 pm, 'Christmas at Blackmore', The Priory Church of St Laurence, Blackmore.

Approved by the Trustees

Stondon Singers - Summary of Accounts 1/1/2021 - 31/12/2021

CIO 1154435

<u>Weekly Income</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Weekly Expenditure</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Members' contributions	2,567.52	4,322.50	Conductor	2,580.00	2,975.00
Patrons' donations	630.00	630.00	Venue	200.00	500.00
Choir tea/coffee	-	90.61	Office expenses	17.53	49.93
Gift Aid	1,092.65	1,113.48	Subs/Fees/Ads/Other	438.66	369.78
Donations	-	10.00			
Music Hire	124.99	17.92			
Subtotal	<u>4,415.16</u>	<u>6,184.51</u>		<u>3,236.19</u>	<u>3,894.71</u>

Weekly Surplus/Deficit **1,178.97** 2,289.80

<u>Concert Income</u>			<u>Concert Expenditure</u>		
Ticket sales	647.00	-	Conductor	600.00	204.00
Programme Ads	-	150.00	Venue	245.00	-
Donations	96.50	15.00	Orch/Acc/Solo	650.00	750.00
Interval Drinks	-	-	Interval Drinks	-	68.40
Programmes	-	-	Programmes	-	135.00
			Music	230.57	68.00
			Ads	-	-
			Licences/Prs	-	96.60
Subtotal	<u>743.50</u>	<u>165.00</u>		<u>1,725.57</u>	<u>1,322.00</u>

Concert Surplus/Deficit **-982.07** -1,157.00

Savings Accounts Interest

Coif Account	0.11	1.56
Virgin Account	9.88	36.43

Total Income **5,168.65** 6,387.50 **Total Expenditure** **4,961.76** 5,216.71

Total Surplus/Deficit **206.89** 1,170.79

<u>Funds Held</u>	<u>31/12/21</u>	<u>31/12/20</u>
NatWest	16,361.13	16,164.23
Coif	593.63	593.52
Virgin	7,453.49	7,443.61
Total	<u>24,408.25</u>	<u>24,201.36</u>

Adjustments

Cheques cashed next year	775.00	
Refunds made next year	58.92	-
Cheques paid last year	0.00	243.40

Actual Surplus/Deficit **-627.03** 1,414.19

Signed P Holmes - Treasurer

P Holmes
12/14/22

Signed R Eason - Examiner

R Eason
12/14/22