

HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

England & Wales · Charity number 1157497

Details

Other names	HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD LADIES BARBERSHOP CLUB, HARMONY INSPIRES
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-06-17
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address 2 Hill View Lane
Wootton
Boars Hill
Oxford
OX1 5JT

Phone 07939211862

Email info@harmonyinspires.org

Website www.harmonyinspires.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:-1) TO ADVANCE EDUCATION OF MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE OF 4-PART HARMONY SINGING, THROUGH REHEARSALS, EDUCATIONAL COURSES, COMPETITION AND SHOWS2) TO FURTHER SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES (CHARITABLE UNDER ENGLISH LAW) AS THE TRUSTEES, FROM TIME TO TIME, THINK FIT.

Activities: The charity advances the Education of members and the public in the barbershop style of 4-part harmony singing, through 1) weekly rehearsals for members, with coaching 2) Holding educational courses and open days for members of the public3) Competing in choral competitions4) Performing for the general public and private groups 5) Putting on shows

Classification

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

Geography

- Oxfordshire
- West Berkshire
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-10-31	£17,736	£14,028	-	-
2024-10-31	£15,158	£13,692	-	-
2023-10-31	£13,332	£13,761	-	-
2022-10-31	£9,685	£16,800	-	-
2021-10-31	£8,747	£5,499	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Constance Louise Wallcraft	Chair	2023-01-23
Alison Rosemary Berry		2024-07-08
Caroline Green		2024-12-04
Fiona Louise Mcleod		2022-12-07
Jennifer Priscott		2025-12-10
Michele Poynter		2026-01-26

HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

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The club held weekly rehearsals throughout the year, where members received coaching and instruction from the Musical Director. The aim of this coaching, as always, is to improve singing technique and the preparation of songs for performance to a wider audience.

Performances

During the year the chorus performed in several locations in and around Oxford and Abingdon. Highlights were the *Lights of Love* performance in December 2024 - an annual remembrance service in Oxford for people who are gone but never forgotten and the *BBC Make a Difference Awards* which provide communities with the chance to thank and recognise those who improve lives. The chorus also performed at the *Big Marcham Weekend* in May 2025 and held a Summer Concert Abingdon in July 2025.

Competitions

At the end of October 2025 Harmony Inspires competed in the national LABBS Convention in Harrogate. The chorus performed two songs that were judged across three categories: singing, music and performance. Competing against other choruses is a very effective way of focussing on improving skills in performance and singing. Feedback from judges also supports the chorus on areas that require improvement.

During the event, members were able to learn more about the craft of barbershop singing through watching other choruses and quartets and taking part in fringe educational activities.



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st November 2024

To 31st October 2025

Charity name: HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

Charity registration number: 1157497

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>1) To advance education of members and the public in the barbershop style of 4-part harmony singing, through rehearsals, education courses, competition and shows 2) To further such charitable purposes (charitable under English law) as the Trustees, from time to time, think fit.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the chorus believes it impacts on people's lives in several ways. We involve people in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing members with the opportunity to develop friendships, vocal technique and musical repertoire. Our weekly Welcome Wednesday provides an open opportunity to come and join us singing unaccompanied 4-part harmony.</p> <p>For audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high-quality performances providing a pleasant and entertaining cultural experience, but also educating them by extending their musical knowledge, especially in the genre of Barbershop 4-part close harmony singing.</p> <p>There are no restrictions on membership of Harmony InSpire - anyone can become an Associate member, although Full Membership is restricted to women, who have passed a vocal assessment. In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audience members mentioned above, the Trustees are conscious that its activities must be affordable and financial support is offered in cases of hardship to those wishing to join the chorus in competitions.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>The trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.</p>

Additional information (optional)

Contribution made by volunteers	The club is run entirely by volunteers. without whose valuable contributions, the Club would not function. We are, in particular, indebted to our Musical Director who provided her services for free, not only running rehearsals, but spending many hours on preparation.
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Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	<p>The Club holds weekly rehearsals at which members receive coaching and instruction from the Musical Director.</p> <p>During the year the chorus also received instruction from several external vocal coaches. The aim, as always, is to improve singing technique and the preparation of songs for performance to a wider audience.</p> <p>Performances: This year the chorus performed in several locations in and around Oxford and Abingdon. Of note were two performances for the NHS, one in central Oxford and one in a local hospital. Both performances brought the craft and joy of barbershop 4-part harmony singing to local public sector workers not only providing entertainment but simultaneously showing our appreciation for our NHS workers. The Chorus also performed at the <i>Marcham Big Weekend</i>, the village where we rehearse in the community hall and at <i>Witney in Pink</i>, a community-based fundraiser for the Abingdon-based charity Against Breast Cancer's vital research. In addition, the Chorus held a joint fundraising concert for church in Abingdon and were privileged to be performing alongside two other local choirs at this event.</p> <p>Competitions: In October 2024, Harmony Inspires competed against 26 other choruses in the national LABBS Convention in Bournemouth, in which 2 songs were judged in the categories of singing, music and performance. This year the chorus were very happy to be recognised and awarded The Millennium Award for the Most Improved Chorus of 2024.</p> <p>During the event, members were able to learn more of the barbershop craft by watching other choruses and quartets and through attending fringe educational activities.</p> <p>Competing against other choruses is a very effective way of focussing on improving our singing skills and feedback from judges helps us focus and hone our skills in specific areas that require refinement.</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Club Funds as at 31 October 2025 amounted to £11,651, an increase of £1,391 over the previous financial year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	<p>The trustees consider that Harmony InSpires requires a reserve fund to enable the club to operate if there should be an unexpected drop in income or increase in expenditure. The main risks are considered to be:</p> <p>a) A drop in membership, causing a significant drop in subscription income</p> <p>b) An unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds The trustees propose to maintain the reserves at a level, which would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cover payment of outstanding hall hire bills and allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut back on expenditure • cover possible troughs in cash flow <p>As the club is funded largely by the members, the trustees also consider that there should be an upper limit to the reserves held.</p> <p>Current upper and lower limits are £20,000 and £5,000.</p>

Additional information (optional)

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	<p>The charity's principal source of funds were:</p> <p>Member subscriptions (less LABBS subscriptions) including gift aid.</p> <p>Donations are also received through Easyfundraising and the chorus receives donations for some performances.</p> <p>The majority of income is applied to the costs of running the club. The primary expenses are hire of rehearsal rooms, cost of music (arrangers fees, copyright, teach tracks), travel costs for our Musical Director, software licence fees, fees for guest instructors and costumes and other props for performances.</p>
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Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution date 11 th June 2014 (updated 8 th December 2021 and 15 th February 2024)
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Elected by members or appointed by Trustees

Additional information (optional)

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Harmony InSpires is a member of the national Ladies Association of Barbershop Singers (LABBS) which provides advice and guidance, educational opportunities for club members and directors and hosts competitions which lead to the promotion and improvement of singing in the Barbershop style. The charity is also a member of Making Music. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB
Other name the charity uses	HARMONY INSPIRES
Registered charity number	1157497
Charity's principal address	21 Robinson Road, Oxford, OX1 5LE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Constance Wallcraft	Chair		
2	Dawn Emmett	Vice Chair		
3	Fiona McLeod	Secretary		
4	Michele Steele	Chorus Manager		
5	Vanessa Chatterton	Membership Secretary		
6	Alison Berry	Treasurer		
7	Caroline Green	Public Relations Officer		
8				

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

**Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)**

Date

HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1157497

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st November 2023

To 31st October 2024

Charity name: HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

Charity registration number: 1157497

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>1) To advance education of members and the public in the barbershop style of 4-part harmony singing, through rehearsals, education courses, competition and shows 2) To further such charitable purposes (charitable under English law) as the Trustees, from time to time, think fit.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the chorus believes it impacts on people's lives in several ways. We involve people in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing members with the opportunity to develop friendships, vocal technique and musical repertoire. Our weekly Welcome Wednesday provides an open opportunity to come and join us singing unaccompanied 4-part harmony.</p> <p>For audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high-quality performances providing a pleasant and entertaining cultural experience, but also educating them by extending their musical knowledge, especially in the genre of Barbershop 4-part close harmony singing.</p> <p>There are no restrictions on membership of Harmony InSpires - anyone can become an Associate member, although Full Membership is restricted to women, who have passed a vocal assessment. In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audience members mentioned above, the Trustees are conscious that its activities must be affordable and financial support is offered in cases of hardship to those wishing to join the chorus in competitions.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>The trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.</p>

Additional information (optional)

<p>Contribution made by volunteers</p>	<p>The club is run entirely by volunteers. without whose valuable contributions, the Club would not function. We are, in particular, indebted to our Musical Director who provided her services for free, not only running rehearsals, but spending many hours on preparation.</p>
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Achievements and Performance

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>The Club holds weekly rehearsals at which members receive coaching and instruction from the Musical Director.</p> <p>During the year the chorus also received instruction from several external vocal coaches. The aim, as always, is to improve singing technique and the preparation of songs for performance to a wider audience.</p> <p>Performances: This year the chorus performed in several locations in and around Oxford and Abingdon. Of note were two performances for the NHS, one in central Oxford and one in a local hospital. Both performances brought the craft and joy of barbershop 4-part harmony singing to local public sector workers not only providing entertainment but simultaneously showing our appreciation for our NHS workers. The Chorus also performed at the <i>Marcham Big Weekend</i>, the village where we rehearse in the community hall and at <i>Witney in Pink</i>, a community-based fundraiser for the Abingdon-based charity Against Breast Cancer's vital research. In addition, the Chorus held a joint fundraising concert for church in Abingdon and were privileged to be performing alongside two other local choirs at this event.</p> <p>Competitions: In October 2024, Harmony Inspires competed against 26 other choruses in the national LABBS Convention in Bournemouth, in which 2 songs were judged in the categories of singing, music and performance. This year the chorus were very happy to be recognised and awarded The Millennium Award for the Most Improved Chorus of 2024.</p> <p>During the event, members were able to learn more of the barbershop craft by watching other choruses and quartets and through attending fringe educational activities.</p> <p>Competing against other choruses is a very effective way of focussing on improving our singing skills and feedback from judges helps us focus and hone our skills in specific areas that require refinement.</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Club Funds as at 31 October 2024 amounted to £10,260, an increase of £1,466 over the previous financial year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	<p>The trustees consider that Harmony InSpires requires a reserve fund to enable the club to operate if there should be an unexpected drop in income or increase in expenditure. The main risks are considered to be:</p> <p>a) A drop in membership, causing a significant drop in subscription income</p> <p>b) An unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds The trustees propose to maintain the reserves at a level, which would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cover payment of outstanding hall hire bills and allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut back on expenditure • cover possible troughs in cash flow <p>As the club is funded largely by the members, the trustees also consider that there should be an upper limit to the reserves held.</p> <p>Current upper and lower limits are £20,000 and £5,000.</p>

Additional information (optional)

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	<p>The charity's principal source of funds were: Member subscriptions (less LABBS subscriptions) including gift aid.</p> <p>Donations are also received through Easyfundraising and the chorus receives donations for some performances.</p> <p>The majority of income is applied to the costs of running the club. The primary expenses are hire of rehearsal rooms, cost of music (arrangers fees, copyright, teach tracks), travel costs for our Musical Director, software licence fees, fees for guest instructors and costumes and other props for performances.</p>
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Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution date 11 th June 2014 (updated 8 th December 2021 and 15 th February 2024)
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Elected by members or appointed by Trustees

Additional information (optional)

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	<p>Harmony InSpires is a member of the national Ladies Association of Barbershop Singers (LABBS) which provides advice and guidance, educational opportunities for club members and directors and hosts competitions which lead to the promotion and improvement of singing in the Barbershop style.</p> <p>The charity is also a member of Making Music.</p> <p>All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.</p>
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB
Other name the charity uses	HARMONY INSPIRES
Registered charity number	1157497
Charity's principal address	21 Robinson Road, Oxford, OX1 5LE



Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Constance Wallcraft	Chair	From 23 Jan 2023	
2	Deborah Brooks	Vice Chair	6 Dec 2023 to 30 Jul 2024	
3	Fiona McLeod	Secretary		
4	Michele Steele	Chorus Manager		
5	Vanessa Chatterton	Membership Secretary		
6	Caroline Simmonds	Treasurer		
7	Rachel Buglass	Public Relations Officer	To 8 Jul 2024	
8	Alison Berry	Trustee	From 8 Jul 2024	

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	CONSTANCE WALLCRAFT	CAROLINE SIMMONDS
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	TREASURER

Date 4 DEC 2024

Charity Name	No (if any)
Harmony InSpires	1157497

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Nov-23		31-Oct-24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Total funds (Unrestricted)	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts		
Subscriptions - members	11,620	10,395
Gift Aid reclaimed on member subscriptions 2020-2021	1,664	1,142
LABBS grants	100	100
Easy Fundraising	324	375
Raffle tickets & refreshment sales	901	794
Performances	580	525
Interest	69	-
Refunds and compensation	-	-
Donations	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	15,158	13,332
A2 Asset and investment sales		
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total receipts	15,158	13,332
A3 Payments		
Capitation fee to LABBS	2,619	2,328
Rehearsal room rental	2,725	2,743
Performance costs	151	88
Convention costs	782	510
Music fees and learning material	212	659
Coaching for members: fees and expenses	3,167	3,116
Website, Zoom fees, HI app	338	273
Gifts and Donations	44	134
Voicebox adverts	25	-
Purchase of costumes, badges and pitch pipes	2,184	1,692
First aid kit and accident book	20	-
Trustee award	21	-
Purchase of protective riser gloves	-	111
Recruitment costs	-	28
MD expenses	1,278	1,591
Events	126	108
Hardship fund	-	180
Sub total	13,692	13,761
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)		
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total payments	13,692	13,761
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,466	- 429
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	8,794	9,223
Cash funds this year end	10,260	8,794

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	TSB Treasurer's Account	5,147
	TSB Savings	5,069
	Cash and Cheques to be paid into bank	43
	Less unrepresented cheques	
	Total cash funds	10,260

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-

Categories	Details	Cost	Current value
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	6 sets Wenger Choral risers	10,159	-
	1 set Wenger Choral risers	1,796	223
	2 Wenger riser trollies	2,682	1,609
	1 set Wenger Choral risers	2,172	1,520
	CO2 monitor (Dep. 5 years)	189	76
	<i>Note: Riser depreciation over 10 years</i>		-

Categories	Details	Fund to which	Amount due	When due
B5 Liabilities			-	Paid
			-	Paid
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	C. WALLCRAFT	4/12/24
	C. SIMMONDS	

HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1157497

Accounts



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st November 2022

To 31st October 2023

Charity name: HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD LADIES BARBERSHOP CLUB

Charity registration number: 1157497

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>1) To advance education of members and the public in the barbershop style of 4-part harmony singing, through rehearsals, education courses, competition and shows 2) To further such charitable purposes (charitable under English law) as the Trustees, from time to time, think fit.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the chorus believes it impacts on people's lives in several ways. We involve people in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing members with the opportunity to develop friendships, vocal technique and musical repertoire. Open "Come and Sing" courses also give this opportunity to non-members. For audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high quality performances providing a pleasant and entertaining cultural experience, but also educating them by extending their musical knowledge, especially in the genre of Barbershop 4-part close harmony singing.</p> <p>There are no restrictions on membership of Harmony InSpires - anyone can become an Associate member, although Full Membership is restricted to women, who have passed a vocal assessment. In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audience members mentioned above, the Trustees are conscious that its activities must be affordable. The Trustees have the discretion to reduce membership subscription payments and financial support is offered in cases of hardship to those wishing to join the chorus in competitions.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>The trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.</p>

Additional information (optional)

<p>Contribution made by volunteers</p>	<p>The club is run entirely by volunteers. without whose valuable contributions, the Club would not function. We are, in particular, indebted to our Musical Director who provided her services for free, not only running rehearsals, but spending many hours on preparation.</p>
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Achievements and Performance

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>The Club holds weekly rehearsals at which members receive coaching and instruction from the Musical Director.</p> <p>The chorus also received instruction from several external vocal coaches. The aim, as always, is to improve singing technique and the preparation of songs for performance to a wider audience.</p> <p>Performances: We brought Christmas music to the ETSY Christmas market in Oxford and gave a Christmas Concert at St. Michaels and All Angels in Abingdon, raising funds for the church. We were delighted to sing at the wedding of a local couple in Marcham and joined with other choirs in shows in Oxford and Wantage, thus bringing our barbershop style to a wider audience.</p> <p>Competitions: Competing against other choruses is a very effective way of focussing on improvement.</p> <p>We sang at the Oxford Music Festival in Jan 2023, receiving Distinction in both the classes that we entered.</p> <p>In October, we competed against 24 other choruses in the national LABBS Convention in Harrogate, in which 2 songs were judged in the categories of singing, music and performance. The feedback from the judges helps us focus on areas for improvement in the next year. We were very happy that the work we have done this year was rewarded by a significant improvement in our score. During the event, members were able to learn more of the barbershop craft by watching other choruses and quartets.</p>
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Financial Review

<p>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</p>	<p>Club Funds as at 31 October 2023 amounted to £8,794, a decrease of £428 over the previous financial year. Member subscriptions were increased to £20 per month from 1 Jan 2023 to cover higher fixed costs for hall rental and MD expenses.</p>
<p>Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held</p>	<p>The trustees consider that Harmony InSpires requires a reserve fund to enable the club to operate if there should be an unexpected drop in income or increase in expenditure. The main risks are considered to be:</p> <p>a) A drop in membership, causing a significant drop in subscription income</p> <p>b) An unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds</p> <p>The trustees propose to maintain the reserves at a level, which would</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cover payment of outstanding hall hire bills and allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut back on expenditure • cover possible troughs in cash flow <p>As the club is funded largely by the members, the trustees also consider that there should be an upper limit to the reserves held.</p> <p>Current upper and lower limits are £20,000 and £5,000.</p>

Additional information (optional)

<p>The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)</p>	<p>The charity's principal source of funds were:</p> <p>Member subscriptions (less LABBS subscriptions) including gift aid.</p> <p>The majority of income is applied to the costs of running the club. The primary expenses are hire of rehearsal rooms, cost of music (arrangers fees, copyright, teach tracks), travel costs for our Musical Director, software licence fees, fees for guest instructors and costumes and other props for performances.</p>
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Structure, Governance and Management

<p>Type of governing document</p>	<p>Constitution date 11th June 2014 (updated 8th December 2021)</p>
<p>How is the charity constituted?</p>	<p>Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)</p>
<p>Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees</p>	<p>Elected by members or appointed by Trustees</p>

Additional information (optional)

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Harmony InSpires is a member of the national Ladies Association of Barbershop Singers (LABBS) which provides advice and guidance, educational opportunities for club members and directors and hosts competitions which lead to the promotion and improvement of singing in the Barbershop style. The charity is also a member of Making Music. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	HARMONY INSPIRES LADIES BARBERSHOP CLUB
Other name the charity uses	HARMONY INSPIRES
Registered charity number	1157497
Charity's principal address	21 Robinson Road, Oxford, OX1 5LE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Elizabeth Cookson	Chair		
2	Julie Thakker	Vice Chair		
3	Fiona McLeod	Secretary		
4	Michele Steele	Chorus Manager		
5	Vanessa Chatterton	Membership Secretary		
6	Caroline Simmonds	Treasurer		
7	Rachel Buglass	Public Relations Officer		
8	Constance Wallcraft		From 23 Jan 2023	

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Clare Cookson</i>	<i>C. Simmonds</i>
Full name(s)	ELIZABETH CLAIRE COOKSON	CAROLINE SIMMONDS
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	TREASURER
Date	6 DECEMBER 2023	

Charity Name Harmony InSpires	No (if any) 1157497
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Nov-22	To	Period end date 31-Oct-23
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Total funds (Unrestricted)	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts		
Subscriptions - members	10,395	7,935
Gift Aid reclaimed on member subscriptions 2020-2021	1,142	1,139
LABBS grants	100	200
Easy Fundraising	375	343
Raffle tickets & refreshment sales	794	-
Performances	525	-
Refunds and compensation	-	38
Donations	-	30
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	13,332	9,685
A2 Asset and investment sales		
	-	-
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total receipts	13,332	9,685
A3 Payments		
Capitation fee to LABBS	2,328	1,890
Rehearsal room rental	2,743	2,111
Performance costs	88	21
Convention costs	510	661
Music fees and learning material	659	591
Coaching for members: fees and expenses	3,116	2,746
Website, Zoom fees	273	272
Gifts and Donations	134	309
Purchase of costumes, badges and pitch pipes	1,892	4,425
Purchase of protective riser gloves	111	-
Recruitment costs	28	-
MD expenses	1,591	1,376
Events	108	39
Hardship fund	180	-
Sub total	13,761	14,440
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)		
1 set Wenger risers, CO2 monitor	-	2,361
	-	-
Sub total	-	2,361
Total payments	13,761	16,800
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 429	- 7,115
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	9,223	16,338
Cash funds this year end	8,794	9,223

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

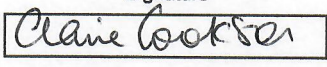
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	TSB Treasurer's Account	8,794
	Cash and Cheques to be paid into bank	
	Less unrepresented cheques	
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	8,794

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-

Categories	Details	Cost	Current value
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	6 sets Wenger Choral risers	10,159	-
	1 set Wenger Choral risers	1,796	403
	2 Wenger riser trollies	2,682	1,877
	1 set Wenger Choral risers	2,172	1,737
	CO2 monitor (Dep. 5 years)	189	113
<i>Note: Riser depreciation over 10 years</i>		-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which	Amount due	When due
B5 Liabilities			-	Paid
			-	Paid
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
 C. Simmonds	ELIZABETH CLAIRE COOKSON CAROLINE SIMMONDS	6/12/23 6/12/23

HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1157497

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st November 2021

To 31st October 2022

Charity name: HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD LADIES BARBERSHOP CLUB

Charity registration number: 1157497

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>1) To advance education of members and the public in the barbershop style of 4-part harmony singing, through rehearsals, education courses, competition and shows 2) To further such charitable purposes (charitable under English law) as the Trustees, from time to time, think fit.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the chorus believes it impacts on people's lives in several ways. We involve people in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing members with the opportunity to develop friendships, vocal technique and musical repertoire. Open "Learn to Sing" courses also give this opportunity to non-members. For audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high quality performances providing a pleasant and entertaining cultural experience, but also educating them by extending their musical knowledge, especially in the genre of Barbershop 4-part close harmony singing.</p> <p>There are no restrictions on membership of Harmony InSpires - anyone can become an Associate member, although Full Membership is restricted to those who sing with a female voice and have passed a vocal assessment. In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audience members mentioned above, the Trustees are conscious that its activities must be affordable. The Trustees have the discretion to reduce membership subscription payments and financial support is offered in cases of hardship to those wishing to join the chorus in competitions.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>The trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.</p>

Financial Review

<p>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</p>	<p>Club Funds as at 31 October 2022 amounted to £9,223, a decrease of £7,115 over the previous financial year. Reserves accumulated during the Covid pandemic because of being unable to meet in person were used to invest in a new set of risers, new performance costumes and additional chorus coaching. As costs are expected to increase over the course of the coming financial year it is proposed to increase members subscriptions from 1 January 2023.</p>
<p>Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held</p>	<p>The trustees consider that Harmony InSpires requires a reserve fund to enable the club to operate if there should be an unexpected drop in income or increase in expenditure. The main risks are considered to be:</p> <p>a) A drop in membership, causing a significant drop in subscription income</p> <p>b) An unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds The trustees propose to maintain the reserves at a level, which would</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cover payment of outstanding hall hire bills and allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut back on expenditure • cover possible troughs in cash flow <p>As the club is funded largely by the members, the trustees also consider that there should be an upper limit to the reserves held.</p> <p>Current upper and lower limits are £20,000 and £2,000.</p>

Additional information (optional)

<p>The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)</p>	<p>The charity's principal source of funds were: Member subscriptions (less LABBS subscriptions) including gift aid.</p> <p>The majority of income is applied to the costs of running the club. The primary expenses are hire of rehearsal rooms, cost of music (arrangers fees, copyright, teach tracks), travel costs for our Musical Director, software licence fees, fees for guest instructors and costumes and other props for performances.</p>
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Structure, Governance and Management

<p>Type of governing document</p>	<p>Constitution date 11th June 2014 (updated 8th December 2021)</p>
<p>How is the charity constituted?</p>	<p>Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)</p>
<p>Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees</p>	<p>Elected by members or appointed by Trustees</p>

Additional information (optional)

Contribution made by volunteers	The club is run entirely by volunteers. without whose valuable contributions, the Club would not function. We are, in particular, indebted to our Musical Director who provided her services for free, not only running rehearsals, but spending many hours on preparation.
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Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	<p>After 2 years, during which our activities were severely curtailed by Covid-19 restrictions, this year the Club has focussed on "a return to normality" and rebuilding singing skills. Precautions such as the wearing of masks and standing apart in a well-ventilated room were gradually removed, with the support of our members. We have returned to singing on risers, but continue to monitor the situation, with member well-being our foremost consideration.</p> <p>Members received coaching and instruction from the Musical Director and spent 3 weekends with an external vocal coach. The aim, as always, is to improve singing technique and the preparation of songs for performance to a wider audience.</p> <p>Performances: Performance opportunities have been fewer than before the pandemic, but we were delighted to sing at the wedding of one of our chorus members.</p> <p>Competitions: Competing against other choruses is a very effective way of focussing on improvement. We had entered the Oxford Music Festival in Jan 2022, but it was cancelled due to the spread of Omicron. However, we were able to sing at the Wantage Music Festival in June and the year culminated in our successful performance in October at the first LABBS Convention held since 2019.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Harmony InSpires is a member of the national Ladies Association of Barbershop Singers (LABBS) which provides advice and guidance, educational opportunities for club members and directors and hosts competitions which lead to the promotion and improvement of singing in the Barbershop style. The charity is also a member of Making Music. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	HARMONY INSPIRES LADIES BARBERSHOP CLUB
Other name the charity uses	HARMONY INSPIRES
Registered charity number	1157497
Charity's principal address	2 Elmfield Gardens, Speen Lane, Newbury RG14 1WA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Elizabeth Cookson	Chair		
2	Julie Thakker	Vice Chair		
3	Lesley Maitland	Secretary	To 1 Feb 2022	
4	Michele Steele	Secretary	From 11 Apr 2022	
5	Joanna Murray	Chorus Manager		
7	Rebecca Todd	Membership Secretary		
8	Rachel Buglass	Public Relations Officer		

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Elaine Cookson</i>	<i>C. Simmons</i>
Full name(s)	ELIZABETH CLAIRE COOKSON	CAROLINE REBECCA SIMMONS
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	Treasurer
Date	18 Jan 2023	

Charity Name Harmony InSpires	No (if any) 1157497
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01-Nov-21	To	Period end date 31-Oct-22
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Total funds (Unrestricted) to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts		
Subscriptions - members	7,935	7,245
Gift Aid reclaimed on member subscriptions 2020-2021	1,139	986
Performances	-	-
LABBS grants	200	235
Easy Fundraising	343	282
Member sales (Teas/monthly bazaar)	-	-
Refunds and compensation	38	-
Donations	30	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	9,685	8,747
A2 Asset and investment sales		
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total receipts	9,685	8,747
A3 Payments		
Capitation fee to LABBS	1,890	1,368
Rehearsal room rental	2,111	572
Performance costs	21	38
Convention costs	661	-
Music fees and learning material	591	532
Coaching for members: fees and expenses	2,746	1,013
Stamps, stationery, website, Zoom fees	272	435
Gifts and Donations	309	118
Purchase of costumes, badges and ptch pipes	4,425	716
Love to Sing course	-	141
MD expenses	1,376	394
Events	39	173
Hardship fund	-	-
Sub total	14,440	5,499
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)		
1 set Wenger risers, CO2 monitor	2,361	-
Sub total	2,361	-
Total payments	16,800	5,499
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 7,115	3,248
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	16,338	13,090
Cash funds this year end	9,223	16,338

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	TSB Treasurer's Account	9,223
	Cash and Cheques to be paid into bank	
	Less unrepresented cheques	
	Total cash funds	9,223

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

OK

Unrestricted funds to nearest £
-
-
-

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-

Categories	Details	Cost	Current value
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	6 sets Wenger Choral risers	10,159	1,016
	1 set Wenger Choral risers	1,796	583
	2 Wenger riser trollies	2,682	2,146
	1 set Wenger Choral risers	2,172	1,954
	CO2 monitor (Dep. 5 years)	189	151
	<i>Note: Riser depreciation over 10 years</i>		-

Categories	Details	Fund to which	Amount due	When due
B5 Liabilities			-	Paid
			-	Paid
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	ELIZABETH CLAIFF COOKSON	18/1/23
	CAROLINE REBECCA SIMMONS	18/1/23

HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD BARBERSHOP CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1157497

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st November 2020

To 31st October 2021

Charity name: **HARMONY INSPIRES OXFORD LADIES BARBERSHOP CLUB**

Charity registration number: **1157497**

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>1) To advance education of members and the public in the barbershop style of 4-part harmony singing, through rehearsals, education courses, competition and shows 2) To further such charitable purposes (charitable under English law) as the Trustees, from time to time, think fit.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the chorus believes it impacts on people's lives in several ways. We involve people in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing members with the opportunity to develop friendships, vocal technique and musical repertoire. Open "Learn to Sing" courses also give this opportunity to non-members. For audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high quality performances providing a pleasant and entertaining cultural experience, but also educating them by extending their musical knowledge, especially in the genre of Barbershop 4-part close harmony singing.</p> <p>There are no restrictions on membership of Harmony InSpire - anyone can become an Associate member, although Full Membership is restricted to those who sing with a female voice and have passed a vocal assessment. In addition to the public educational benefits to participants and audience members mentioned above, the Trustees are conscious that its activities must be affordable. The Trustees have the discretion to reduce membership subscription payments and financial support is offered in cases of hardship to those wishing to join the chorus in competitions.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>The trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.</p>

Additional information (optional)

<p>Contribution made by volunteers</p>	<p>The club is run entirely by volunteers. without whose valuable contributions, the Club would not function. We are, in particular, indebted to our Musical Director who provided her services for free, not only running rehearsals, but spending many hours on preparation.</p>
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Achievements and Performance

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>For a second year, Club activities have been impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions imposed by the government and concern for the safety of members.</p> <p>For the first part of the year, we continued to offer online rehearsals, having very high levels of engagement with our members. The social contact proved invaluable to the well-being of individuals at a time when many were facing social isolation. Face to face activities were gradually resumed as restrictions were lifted: first outdoors and then a return to our rehearsal venue, with precautions in place to minimise the risk of infection. We have continued to offer an online option for those who are unable to attend in person, due to infection concerns.</p> <p>Members received coaching and instruction from the Musical Director and external coaches, both online and in-person. The aim, as always, is to improve singing technique and the preparation of songs for performance to a wider audience. However, this year, we have also focussed on vocal health, as we have returned to singing together after months apart.</p> <p>In June, we ran a free online "Love to Sing" course, which was attended by over 30 women, with whom we were able to share the enjoyment of a Capella and barbershop singing and even teach some technique. We are delighted that 8 of them have since joined the club.</p> <p>Performances: Live performances have been severely restricted, during the pandemic. We produced another video of a new song, which we have been able to share online. We had planned a Christmas Concert in aid of funds for the community hall, which is our new home, but due to continuing Covid concerns, this has been deferred. We hosted a regional event for LABBS (our parent organisation) in November, which enabled members of many different choruses to share a day of coaching and singing. This gave us the opportunity to perform some songs to an audience.</p> <p>Competitions: Competing against other choruses is a very effective way of focussing on improvement. There have been no competitions this year, but we are preparing for the Oxford Music Festival in Jan 2021.</p>
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Club Funds as at 31 October 2021 amounted to £16,338, an increase of £3248 over the previous financial year. The increase has been due to a reduction in running costs, while we have been unable to meet in person.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	<p>The trustees consider that Harmony InSpires requires a reserve fund to enable the club to operate if there should be an unexpected drop in income or increase in expenditure. The main risks are considered to be:</p> <p>a) A drop in membership, causing a significant drop in subscription income</p> <p>b) An unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds The trustees propose to maintain the reserves at a level, which would</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cover payment of outstanding hall hire bills and allow time to develop new sources of income or to cut back on expenditure • cover possible troughs in cash flow <p>As the club is funded largely by the members, the trustees also consider that there should be an upper limit to the reserves held.</p> <p>Current upper and lower limits are £20,000 and £2,000.</p>

Additional information (optional)

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	<p>The charity's principal source of funds were: Member subscriptions (less LABBS subscriptions)</p> <p>The majority of income is applied to the costs of running the club. The primary expenses are hire of rehearsal rooms, cost of music (arrangers fees, copyright, teach tracks), travel costs for our Musical Director, software licence fees, fees for guest instructors and costumes and other props for performances.</p>
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Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution date 11 th June 2014 (updated 8 th December 2021)
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Elected by members or appointed by Trustees

Additional information (optional)

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Harmony InSpires is a member of the national Ladies Association of Barbershop Singers (LABBS) which provides advice and guidance, educational opportunities for club members and directors and hosts competitions which lead to the promotion and improvement of singing in the Barbershop style. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.
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Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	HARMONY INSPIRES LADIES BARBERSHOP CLUB
Other name the charity uses	HARMONY INSPIRES
Registered charity number	1157497
Charity's principal address	2 Elmfield Gardens, Speen Lane, Newbury RG14 1WA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Dominique Kleyn	Chair		
2	Julie Thakker	Vice Chair		
3	Lesley Maitland	Secretary		
4	Joanna Murray	Chorus Manager		
5	Jane Humphreys	Treasurer	To 9 Dec 2020	
6	Elizabeth Cookson	Treasurer	From 9 Dec 2020	
7	Rebecca Todd	Membership Secretary		
8	Meriel Lewis	Public Relations Officer		

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Clare Cookson</i>	<i>J Thakker</i>
Full name(s)	ELIZABETH CLAIRE COOKSON	JULIE THAKKER
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	Vice Chair
Date	19-1-2022	

Charity Name Harmony InSpires	HS (if any) 1157497
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Nov-20	To	31-Oct-21
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Total funds (Unrestricted) to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts		
Subscriptions - members	7,245	6,810
Gift Aid reclaimed on member subscriptions 2017-2018	986	1,088
Performances	-	200
LABBS grants	235	-
Easy Fundraising	282	267
Member sales (Teas/monthly bazaar)	-	40
Refunds and compensation	-	500
Donations	-	200
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	8,747	9,105
A2 Asset and investment sales		
	-	-
Sub total	-	-
Total receipts	8,747	9,105
A3 Payments		
Capitation fee to LABBS	1,368	1,911
Rehearsal room rental	572	1,100
Performance costs	38	50
Convention costs	-	-
Music fees and learning material	532	427
Coaching for members: fees and expenses	1,013	120
Stamps, stationery, website, Zoom fees	436	475
Gifts and Donations	118	43
Purchase of costumes and badges	716	556
Love to Sing course	141	-
MD expenses	394	877
Events	173	83
Hardship fund	-	100
Sub total	5,499	5,743
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)		
2 x Wenger Riser trolleys	-	2,682
Sub total	-	2,682
Total payments	5,499	8,425
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,248	680
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	13,090	12,410
Cash funds this year end	16,338	13,090

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	TSB Treasurer's Account	16,338
	Cash and Cheques to paid in to bank	
	Less unrepresented cheques	
	Total cash funds	16,338


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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-

Categories	Details	Cost	Current value
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	6 sets Wenger Choral risers	10,169	2,032
	1 set Wenger Choral risers	1,796	763
	2 Wenger riser trollies	2,682	2,414
	<i>Note: Riser depreciation over 10 years</i>	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which	Amount due	When due
B5 Liabilities			-	Paid
			-	Paid
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	JULIE THACKER	8/12/21

Celine Cookson CLARE COOKSON 8/12/21