

Registered Charity No: 1159861

BARNSLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
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YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

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BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

Full Name: **BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO**

Registered Charity Number: 1159861

Correspondence Address: 11 Bradshaw Close
Barnsley
S75 2JN

Artistic Director: Mathew Wright

Honorary Artistic Patrons: Dr. Michael Barrett
Laszlo Duranyik

Honorary Artistic Partners: Jake Runestad
Prof. Paul Mealor

Honorary Patrons: Dan Jarvis MP
Mel Dyke
Nick Bowen
Mathew Milburn
Edna Sutton
John Parkinson
Linda Parkinson
Sir Nicholas Hewitt
Andrew Harrod
Carl Firth
Kathy McCardle
Yiannis Koursis
Sally Steadman
Ann Wroe
Yvonne Worsley

Trustees: Ann Wroe (Chair)
Karen Davis
Louise Korobka
Charles Brammer (Appointed February 23)

Chair: Ann Wroe

Bankers: HSBC
5 Market Hill
Barnsley S70 2PY

Independent Examiner: Steph Tolson
Community Accountant
BCVS Services Limited
23 Queens Road
Barnsley S71 1AN

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

The Trustees present their annual report, together with the financial statements of Barnsley Youth Choir (the charity) for the year ended 31 January 2023. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and charity law.

Structure, governance and management

Barnsley Youth Choir CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with the Charity Commission and governed by its constitution, adopted 08 January 2015.

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the constitution.

Appointment of Trustees

In accordance with the terms of the constitution, there must be at least three charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustees can act only to call a meeting of the trustees or appoint a new trustee. There is no maximum number of trustees.

One third of the trustees will retire at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees each year but may be reappointed.

Each new trustee is given a copy of the constitution and the latest trustees' annual report and accounts, on or before appointment. The trustees who served during the year are shown on page 3 of this report.

Organisational structure and decision making

In October 2014, Mathew Wright, co-founder of the Barnsley Youth Choir with Keith Norton, was appointed Trustee and Musical Director (voluntary). Mat Wright resigned as trustee on 2 September 2018 and was appointed as Artistic Director for BYC.

The organisational structure of the choir is divided into four distinct sections:

1. Board of Trustees: those with legal accountability who are final decision makers
2. Leadership Team including Extended Leadership Team members by invitation: those who direct, shape and lead the operational work of the choir
3. Dedicated Music Team: plan and deliver all music activities and lead on the artistic work of the choir
4. Volunteer Team: those who contribute to the running of the choir

Related parties

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity.

Charitable aims and objectives

The objectives of Barnsley Youth Choir CIO are to advance education and training of young people living or educated in Barnsley and the surrounding areas in the subject of music and the performing arts, in particular choral music.

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The charity will achieve this by:

1. Providing a world-class choral training programme for young people
2. Promoting and supporting musical and choral education to young people regardless of their financial or social background
3. Delivering open-access workshops for young people, irrespective of their training or experience; and
4. Financially supporting talented young people to enable them to receive musical education of the highest standard and to achieve their potential

The Musical Directors are highly skilled, experienced and qualified musicians.

Activities undertaken for the public benefit

In shaping the objectives for the year, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Little Singers have now been incorporated into the BYC family. We continue to run three different classes: Babies, Toddlers and Infants on Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings at Emmanuel Church, Barnsley.

The Barnsley Youth Choir (BYC) now encompasses a family of seven choirs: Little Singers (Central), The Junior Choir, Children's Choir Central, Children's Choir East (The Dearne), Children's Choir West (Penistone), The Intermediate Choir and The Senior Choir, ranging in ages from 0 to 24 years.

All members, apart from Little Singers and the Junior Choir, have to attend an audition before being accepted, and many of them are now being re-auditioned in order to move up into the next choir, demonstrating one of the principal aims of BYC which is to give young people clear choral progression routes.

The Children's Choir East and Children's Choir West meet for weekly rehearsals on a Wednesday evening at their respective rehearsal spaces at Astrea Academy, Dearne and Penistone Grammar School ALC. The remaining four choirs; Junior Choir, Children's Central Choir, Intermediate Choir and the Senior Choir, meet on Thursday evenings for weekly rehearsals at the 6th Form College in Barnsley.

These rehearsals are led by top quality choral trainers, conductors and workshops leaders.

Each term, all six choirs, apart from Little Singers, take part in a number of concerts and prestigious events either in Barnsley or across the UK.

Achievements and performance

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Risk Assessment

The trustees have reviewed the activities of the choir and are aware of the following risks, and have taken the following steps to reduce these risks:

Child Protection

A Child Protection Policy is in place and we have a designated Safeguarding Lead who is also a member of the Leadership Team of the choir. Appropriately trained staff are allocated responsibility for child protection and all volunteers are given training in child protection.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Officers with appropriate safeguarding training are in place, together with robust safeguarding policies. All volunteers have enhanced DBS checks before undertaking activities, and all undergo 1-2-1 safeguarding training with our DSL. A significant number of volunteers are now fully accredited chaperones via Barnsley MBC and this training is being extended to new volunteers who join the organisation. A number of our volunteers are also Emergency First Aid trained, and this programme of training is constantly reviewed to ensure that the choir has appropriate coverage. Mental Health has become a significant issue due to the long-term impact of Covid and the challenges that isolation brought for many of our young people. We are planning a programme of training for volunteers and leaders to ensure that we are more able to meet the needs of our young people.

GDPR

BYC has a GDPR policy in place and leaders constantly review the choirs' processes to ensure that it remains compliant. A Data Protection Officer is in place and monitors this area carefully to ensure that we avoid breaches.

Financial Risk

The choir generates its own income through member subs, concert tickets and private sponsorships. Therefore, the financial risk is reduced as the Choir controls its own income.

Activities are planned in light of this and the choir does not undertake activities that would exceed projected income. Financial controls are in place and are regularly and rigorously reviewed by the trustees.

Operational

All freelance musicians and volunteers devote a great deal of energy and commitment to the choir. As the scale and reach of the choir grows, so does the amount of operational work that needs to be done. The choir tries to ensure that there is operational efficiency by allocating roles, responsibilities and tasks clearly. There is a clear volunteer structure organised and led by our Volunteer Manager, to ensure that all tasks are carried out and that the choir runs effectively.

Review of activities

A culture of relentless ambition and determination to provide the best for children in Barnsley has enabled the choir to flourish and grow further this year. BYC now has 560 children and young people registered aged 0-24 years old in seven separate sections. Despite the challenges of the pandemic the choirs' numbers have actually increased, which is a testament to the innovative and exciting work that the choir does, but also a huge amount of hard work across the organisation. The support that key partners such as schools, colleges and others provide also has a significant impact on our growth. As we emerged from the pandemic, we patiently and carefully reconnected in the 2021-22 season providing time for young people, volunteers and other leaders to reconnect with the choir at their own pace. The start of the 2022-23 season that began in September 2022 genuinely felt like the start of a new chapter and an opportunity to fully 'reboot' the choir. A new volunteer structure was developed with strong teams emerging, and a number of new volunteers joined the organisation, providing a fresh outlook to the work that we do. We are eternally grateful for all that the volunteer team continues to do for young people – without them, none of this would be possible. The Leadership Team works so hard to support and galvanise this team and volunteer meetings showcase the fabulous work that they are all involved in. Whilst all of our volunteers are DBS checked and receive safeguarding training, a number of them have also become fully qualified chaperones. We are also now able to offer opportunities to take part in fully accredited Mental Health First Aid Training in response to the challenges that many young people face. The choir is indebted to Chris Madden, a parent of 2 members of the choir, for his amazing support in providing this important training opportunity. Kirsty Harding was appointed in September 2022 as a Finance Administrator on a part-time basis and is making such a difference in her role to ensure that we are on top of our finances. She also provides invaluable additional support with more general administration. We have retained the 15 strong music team who are wonderfully skilled and our younger leaders continue to develop well. The choir has recruited thirteen talented members of our Senior Choir to act as mentors for the Junior Choir and our three Children's Choirs. They are all having a significant impact and it is pleasing to see them passing on their knowledge and skills to our younger members, and in doing so, also develop their own leadership skills.

We held our first Patrons' evening in February 2022, the first since the start of the pandemic. It was really good to welcome them to a rehearsal and recognise their invaluable support through challenging times. The choir is also indebted to sponsors and donors that have supported us during this year. As an independent charity, we rely on the support of the community to remain viable and this support is key. In particular, we'd like to thank the support of Barnsley College. The support of the college is critical to BYC and ensures that our subscription fees remain low for children. The college was our major corporate sponsor for 2022-23 and provided us with a stunning rehearsal venue for many of our central choirs. Our subscription fees have remained the same for the last 4 years, as we recognised the challenges that many of our families faced. We feel that the annual fee of £85 - £120 offers excellent value for money given the quality of provision that children and young people receive. The choir has also provided more bursaries this year than it ever has, and it is clear that many families face acute difficulties with the cost-of-living crisis. It is always a challenge to ensure that the choir remains viable and operates in such an inclusive way, but we remain steadfast in our determination to ensure that BYC is accessible to all children, particularly at this difficult time, keeping fees as low as possible whilst still providing world-class opportunities.

In March 2022, we held four Spring Concerts, featuring over 450 children and young people at Emmanuel Church in Barnsley. It was clear to see that the investment in recruiting younger members is having a gradual impact on the quality of singing, with performances of a high standard from all of the choirs. As members are graduating to the next choir, we are noticing a significant improvement in technical ability and skill of the older choirs. We hope

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that this investment will enable the choir to continue to become stronger in the years to come, as more children are exposed to high quality tuition and guidance at an earlier age. In May 2022, we held our Black-Tie Gala Dinner at the Holiday Inn Hotel, supported by Dan Jarvis MP. It was such a wonderful evening that featured performances from choirs, a 3-course dinner and a charity auction that raised vital funds for the choir. Beyond finance, it was an evening that galvanised support for the choir and all 300+ attendees had a fabulous evening and continue to be so generous in their support for the charity.

In July 2022, we saw the visit of the fantastic University of Pretoria (Tuks) Camerata and the choir's talismanic conductor, Dr. Michael Barrett. Eighty singers arrived in Barnsley as part of a tour that included performances with Voces8 in London and Edinburgh. We were also honoured to welcome Emmy Award Winning composer Jake Runestad who flew in from the USA to conduct the World Premiere of the eagerly anticipated, 'I Was Love', a piece that both BYC and Tuks commissioned during the pandemic. During its visit, the choir had a full civic reception in the Town Hall and were greeted by not only council delegates but also famous poet, Ian McMillan who had written a poem to welcome them to the town. As soon as the two choirs met, there was a special energy and bond, built on a relationship that began in 2017 at the European Choir Games in Latvia. The week involved lots of fantastic rehearsals and workshops together, including rehearsals with all of our younger choirs. Even the Little Singers (aged 0-4 years) had an opportunity to listen to the choir and they were truly mesmerised by the singing of our South African friends.

We ensured that they also had time to take in some other experiences, including a trip to York where they performed in York Minster and attended the Van Gogh Immersive Experience, and trips to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and the Experience Barnsley Museum. The concerts at Emmanuel Church were of the most sublime and exceptional quality. The Senior Choir and Tuks Camerata sang seven pieces together in total, two of which were conducted by the exceptional Jake Runestad (USA), two by Dr. Michael Barrett (RSA), one by Raine Pienaar (RSA) and two by Mat Wright. The visit finished with a formal dinner and party at the Holiday Inn – a fitting end to a truly joyous week together.

After two years of not being able to tour with our young people, we were thrilled to be able to offer the opportunity to around 165 children and young people to take part in the world-famous Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August 2022. This is the biggest and most important arts festival in the world and required a huge amount of meticulous planning by the BYC team. In all, three separate choirs travelled and took part in 13 concerts in total in the superb Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh. The choir also took part in a large number of informal performances on the streets and in other venues across Edinburgh. Our members spent a lot of time 'flyering' and talking to members of the public in the centre of the town, and went to see a great show. The choir stayed in a lovely school outside the centre of Edinburgh that offered excellent accommodation and superb food for us including full English cooked breakfasts every morning!

In total, we took 200 people and managed four coaches throughout a very busy and hectic ten days. There was a separate van with audio equipment, two technicians, four band members and a large team of fantastic volunteers. They worked around the clock to ensure that our children had everything that they needed to enjoy the experience and perform at the very highest level. Audiences grew throughout the tour, even surpassing audience figures in 2018 when we last visited the festival. The feedback was incredibly positive, with international guests overwhelming in their praise for our young people and the quality of their singing. There were many, many highlights including an impromptu performance at a stunning Catholic Church and street performances where hundreds of passers-by cheered and clapped. Perhaps the most moving experience was watching our Children's Choir members, many were only seven years old and some had never been away from home before, embrace the experience with such relish, enthusiasm and bravery. The Intermediate Choir performed at such a high level and it was so exciting to see such accomplished singing

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from a group of young people who will be our future Senior Choir. BYC's performances were met with standing ovations in all concerts, and in some concerts there were numerous. A final highlight was welcoming the world-renowned composer Prof. Paul Mealor who flew in from Washington DC in America to work with BYC and conduct a World Premiere of 'A Curving Flower of Gold', commissioned by BYC during the pandemic, as well as his world famous piece composed for the Royal Wedding, 'Ubi Caritas'. Prof. Mealor spent time rehearsing with the choir and getting to know our singers and he had a profound impact on the Senior Choir and our leaders. We hope to work with him again in the future. In September, we held auditions to join BYC and also provided an opportunity for children to audition to graduate up to the next choir. It was clear to see the development in technical skill of these members and many were successful in gaining a place in the next choir, and it was wonderful to see new recruits join all seven of our choirs. Recruitment was focused on younger singers, as we are recognising that young people who try to join our older choirs, even accomplished singers, often struggle with the pace of learning and pedagogical work. There are exceptions and those that join our older choirs are always welcome, but we are seeing the benefit in children joining the choir from a young age and coming through the BYC system, embracing the use of Kodaly and learning from our excellent leaders. Over 85% of our Senior Choir is now made up of young people who have been members of our younger choirs previously.

Our Christmas Concerts in December 2022 at Emmanuel Church were impressive and we were so proud of our singers. It was clear that BYC was no longer trying to regain the standards that it experienced pre-pandemic, both vocally and organisationally. The choirs sang at a very high standard in these concerts, perhaps the highest standard in their history, following the excellent work that took place in the summer with outstanding international partners. Four concerts at Emmanuel Church featured around 500 children and young people, and there was a sense that the next generation of singers had really stepped up to the mark, inspired by their experiences throughout the year.

A Charity 'Unplugged' Concert took place the following week in St. Mary's Church, raising money for the homeless and those facing serious hardship in our community. This concert didn't feature a band or any amplification and the Senior Choir were at their very best. It is perhaps the highest standard that the choir has ever sung at in its history with over 20 pieces, many a cappella, sung beautifully in a stunning setting with excellent acoustics. The repertoire was challenging too with excellent pieces by Paulus, Whitacre, Esenvalds, Mealor, Runestad and Britten, and required a precision and an attention to detail that was so impressive. This performance has set a benchmark for all future performances. On the same day, we held our first 'Family Christmas' earlier in the afternoon; an event for our younger singers aged 0-11 years old and their families. We recognised the challenges for this community at this time of year, as many were suffering due to the cost-of-living crisis. Data indicates that over 1 in 3 children now live in poverty in Barnsley, which is a very troubling statistic. This event provided entertainment including a nativity put on by the music team, singing, dancing and craft activities as well as a visit from Father Christmas with presents for all children. There was mulled wine and mince pies for parents, and hot chocolate and biscuits for children and all of this was provided free of charge for families. It was a relaxed and joyous event that over 300 people, many of whom arrived in fancy dress, thoroughly enjoyed, and young families really appreciated. This was a day that BYC really tried to give back, supporting families facing hardship, and raising money for the church and its ongoing work, to support some of the most vulnerable people in our town.

Future plans

We have already organised events in 2023 that seem to have become fixtures on our annual calendar including Auditions, fundraising events such as the Gala Dinner, Sponsors and Patrons Evenings and our annual Spring and Christmas Concerts for 2023. We have

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TRUSTEES' REPORT continued

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some exciting plans for 2023 including a tour of Dublin in February 2023 where we will be working closely with the excellent Dublin Youth Choir. Concerts are planned in venues such as 1 Windmill Lane, of U2 fame, and the iconic Trinity College Chapel, as well as rehearsals and workshops with Dublin Youth Choir. It is wonderful to be planning overseas tours again, and provide our members with a rich cultural experience and key focal point. We're grateful to Lynsey Callaghan and the team at NYC for hosting us, and providing us with so much support in the planning of the visit.

We have also organised visits to Barnsley from some significant choirs from overseas. Tygerberg Children's Choir from Cape Town, South Africa was crowned World Champion in 2018 and is seen by many to be the finest children's choir in the world. They will visit us in April 2023 for a series of workshops, rehearsals and concerts with BYC and local schools. It is so exciting to be welcoming such a fantastic young choir to Barnsley and we know that it will be such an inspiring opportunity for our members.

We are thrilled to be taking part in the first ever Interkultur event to be held in Great Britain in May 2023. Interkultur is the organising body of the World Choir Games and European Choir Games and is regarded as a gold standard in organising international events throughout the world. It is wonderful that they have decided to come to Great Britain and to the North of England to host a special event. BYC Artistic Director, Mat Wright will be taking a leading role in the event as co-Artistic Director, working alongside Interkultur Senior Artistic Director, Johan Rooze from South Korea. The competition has already attracted a lot of interest from choirs from across the world and choirs from Croatia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Greece, Lithuania, South Africa, USA and, of course, Great Britain have already registered. Our Intermediate and Senior Choirs will perform in a Gala Concert and the closing ceremony, as well as lead an 'open singing' workshop event with choirs from across the world. We are so thankful to be involved and take part in this exciting event.

We are hoping to welcome back our good friends the Aurin Choir, the exceptional choir from the Kodaly School in Hungary in June 2023 too. Laszlo and his choirs are woven into the fabric of BYC since their first visit in 2005 and it will be such a joy to welcome them back to Barnsley. We never underestimate the impact of this partnership on the development of BYC. They have provided a catalyst and pedagogical system that has enabled us to grow quickly. Their visits always provide a sharp focus on quality and technique and enable our young people and our leaders to reflect on the work we are doing and strive to improve further. The Aurin Choir will take part in workshops, rehearsals and concerts.

We have ambitious plans to be involved in the 2024 World Choir Games in Auckland, New Zealand but we also recognise that this provides significant challenges and will need careful consideration. We need to fully assess costs and the ability of our children and families to contribute towards this cost, in order to confirm whether this is a viable tour. This indicative budget will only be realised as costs become clearer later in 2023. We have a number of alternative overseas tours as possibilities if we feel that the costs are prohibitive.

We are incredibly excited to share news that we are in the process of trying to secure a new purpose-built home for Barnsley Youth Choir. We are working closely with Barnsley Council to convert an existing building in the town centre. The Northern Academy of Vocal Excellence (NAVE) will be a purpose-built development centre of excellence and will become the home for Barnsley Youth Choir, but will also engage with other organisations to provide a hub for singing regionally. Its position in the community and in the North of England is key, and it will provide exceptional training opportunities both locally and nationally. The building will provide excellent rehearsal and training spaces that have been designed specifically for this purpose. The choir needs a purpose-built space to realise its ambitious plans to develop Barnsley as a town with exceptional singing opportunities. This rehearsal and development venue will have a dramatic impact on the quality of provision we are able

to offer. It will provide opportunities to expand, grow and work in a much more dynamic way, fostering meaningful and pertinent relationships with outstanding practitioners. During the last four years, the choir and its leaders have carefully considered the opportunities and risks of owning and running a venue. We are now convinced that we have the capacity, vision and drive to make this a success. Early pre-design engagement with choir members, volunteers and other key stakeholders has already taken place. The NAVE will provide a world-class development centre for singing and we await the outcome of a Levelling Up bid that was submitted by Barnsley MBC following consultation. There has been a huge amount of work that has taken place behind the scenes to get to this point, but the project really needs investment now, so that it can be realised for the community and for the North of England. We are indebted to Barnsley MBC for its extraordinary support and hope that we receive some positive news in the coming months.

In August 2023, we will again participate in the Underneath the Stars Festival, overseen by local international folk star, Kate Rusby. We are excited to have been given an invitation to perform on the main stage at midday on Saturday 5th August 2023 offering this experience to our Children's Choirs, Children's Choir East, Central and West Choirs and we hope that Kate will once again join us on stage and sing with our children.

The Senior Choir will be supporting our close partners with a performance at The Barnsley College Awards at the Metrodome Arena, Barnsley and our choir based in the Dearne, BYC Children's Choir East, will take part in the Dearne Community Arts Festival. We have been asked to perform at the Proud of Barnsley Awards that will take place in November 2023, a prestigious evening that recognises the endeavours of key members of our community. The Intermediate and Senior Choirs will perform to over 500 VIPs at this event which is a wonderful showcase for the choir.

We are indebted to so many for the tireless and selfless work they do to run and support the organisation. Our ambitions for the town and its young people continue to drive the work that we do, and this sense of moral purpose in trying to provide an equity of opportunity to all children and high quality musical experiences in the area requires optimism, persistence and resilience. As always, we are reliant on the support of sponsors, patrons and supporters to try and realise these exciting plans, and hope that we are able to count on the support of the wider community to continue the important work that the choir does. We would like to finish by thanking members, parents, volunteers, members of the music team, sponsors, patrons, partners and supporters that contribute to make BYC such a special organisation. We are indebted to so many and never take this support for granted.

The Charity's policy on reserves

A formal reserves policy was approved by the trustees in July 2016. The trustees have decided that it is necessary to hold reserves for the following reasons:

- To meet contractual liabilities should the organisation have to close
- To meet unexpected costs
- To replace equipment as it wears out
- To ensure that the charity can continue to provide a stable and quality service to those who need them
- To provide working capital when funds are paid in arrears

Barnsley Youth Choir aims to have reserves in the band of 15% to 25% of current expenditure. If the charity were to close, the organisation would incur a number of winding up costs. These costs represent 10% of the current year's forecast expenditure.

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In the event of reserves dipping below the target Barnsley Youth Choir will aim to restore the reserves to at least 15% of expenditure over the next four years. This could be achieved by increased fund raising, increasing earned income or reducing expenditure.

If reserves exceed 25% of expenditure the trustees will consider the likely expenditure over the next two years and aim for reserves to be less than 25% of turnover by the end of two years. This could be achieved by reducing fund raising, reducing prices, or increasing "free" activities and so increasing expenditure.

At the year end the unrestricted reserve stands at £28,951 which is 18% of annual expenditure. The trustees have also designated a total of £140,000 to the following planned projects:

- Premises Fund (£50,000)
- Development of the Satellite Children's Choirs in Penistone and The Dearne (£5,000)
- Future performances and tours (£45,000)
- Little Singers (£5,000)

Trustees responsibilities for the financial statements

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity at any time and enable the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that comply with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements, the trustees should follow best practice and:

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

Financial Position

The financial statements are set out in pages 14 to 21. The Statement of Financial Activities shows a surplus for the year of £28,458 (2022: £31,292) with total funds at the year-end standing at £204,100 (2022: £210,435).

The total reserves of the charity at year end, represented by unrestricted funds, stand at £63,951 (2022 £40,725).

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed: Ann Wroe Date: 27 November 2023

Ann Wroe, Chair of the Trustees

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on pages 14 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year, under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 in this financial year. I am qualified to undertake the examination, being a qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts, under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records, in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met;

or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed _____



Date: 27 November 2023

Steph Tolson, ACMA
BCVS Services Limited
23 Queens Road, Barnsley, S71 1AN

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022/23 £	Total 2021/22 £
Income						
Subs		52,287	-	-	52,287	33,842
Patrons Membership Fees		11,028	-	-	11,028	12,414
Donations & Fundraising	2	113,545	-	-	113,545	15,486
Grants	3	-	-	22,902	22,902	56,000
Tour Income	2	52,624	-	-	52,624	24,727
Sponsorship		17,699	-	-	17,699	1,500
Concert Income		64,126	-	-	64,126	18,171
Merchandise & CD Sales		5,738	-	-	5,738	10
Uniform Income		13,795	-	-	13,795	10,680
Refunds - Flanders 2020		-	-	-	-	13,631
Other Income		345	-	-	345	1,366
Total Income		331,187	-	22,902	354,089	187,827
Expenditure						
Music Costs & Commissions		4,869	-	-	4,869	11,555
Accompanist Costs		7,794	-	1,700	9,494	7,061
Development Officer		4,625	-	-	4,625	3,300
Project Management		-	-	-	-	12,900
Staff costs	7	53,113	-	5,439	58,552	4,240
MD & Musical Assistants		20,824	9,000	2,550	32,374	29,559
Rehearsal Space		5,087	3,000	-	8,087	1,840
Concert Costs		22,667	5,000	-	27,667	23,138
Training		200	-	-	200	45
Merchandise Costs		2,011	-	-	2,011	314
Promotion, Publicity & Website		25,397	-	1,200	26,597	7,049
Performance, Tours & Events		49,974	18,000	2,000	69,974	6,235
BYC Primary School Partnership		-	-	-	-	4,753
Uniform Costs		42,727	-	-	42,727	14,263
Travel & Expenses		30,885	-	435	31,320	4,876
Printing & Admin Expenses		4,630	-	-	4,630	3,932
Fundraising & Events		6,932	-	-	6,932	460
Equipment & Storage		6,330	-	-	6,330	4,981
Accountancy & Payroll Fees	10	1,672	-	-	1,672	850
Legal & Professional		2,340	-	-	2,340	-
Insurance		761	-	-	761	830
Donations		6,557	-	-	6,557	-
Bank Charges		529	-	-	529	200
Depreciation		-	9,371	-	9,371	10,990
Other Expenses		2,805	-	-	2,805	3,164
Total expenditure		302,729	44,371	13,324	360,424	156,535
Surplus/(Deficit)		28,458	(44,371)	9,578	(6,335)	31,292
Transfers between funds	13	(5,232)	5,232	-	-	-
Balance brought forward		40,725	169,710	-	210,435	179,143
Total Funds Carried Forward	12	63,951	130,571	9,578	204,100	210,435

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

Prior year income includes restricted grants and donations of £56,000. All other prior year income is unrestricted. Prior year expenditure includes Depreciation of £10,990 from designated funds and the following amounts from restricted funds - £6,000 Music Costs, £105 Accompanist Costs, £4,000 Project Management, £19,990 MD & Musical Assistants, £14,224 Concert Costs, £4,589 Promotion Costs and £1,955 Equipment Costs. All other prior year expenditure is unrestricted.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	4		25,571		29,710
Current assets					
Debtors	5	32,820		17,561	
Cash at bank and In hand		<u>166,061</u>		<u>167,689</u>	
Total current assets		198,881		185,250	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	6	<u>(20,352)</u>		<u>(4,525)</u>	
Amounts falling due within one year					
Net current assets			178,529		180,725
Net assets			<u>204,100</u>		<u>210,435</u>
Funds of the charity	12				
Unrestricted funds			63,951		40,725
Designated funds (Fixed Assets)			25,571		29,710
Designated funds (Other)			105,000		140,000
Restricted funds			9,578		-
Total funds			<u>204,100</u>		<u>210,435</u>

The trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:


Ann Wroe, Chair of the Trustees

Date: 27 November 2023

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

1. Accounting policies

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

Barnsley Youth Choir CIO meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Income and expenditure has been analysed in the accounts using natural classification, in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.6, SORP 2019 (smaller charities). The charity also meets the requirements for exemption for preparing a statement of cash flows.

Going Concern note

After reviewing the charity's forecasts and projections and its reserves, the trustees have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. There is a healthy reserve and funds have been designated to cover future project spend. There are no material uncertainties in the twelve-month period following the signing of these accounts.

Incoming resources

All material incoming resources have been included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is entitled to the income, when any performance conditions attached are met, when it is probable that the income will be received and when the amount can be measured reliably.

Donated goods and services

Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts, at the amount the charity would pay in the open market for a service equivalent to that being donated, when the charity would otherwise have purchased them and the value can be measured reliably.

Donated goods for the charity's own use are recognised as income, at their fair value.

The contribution of general volunteers is not recognised as income in the charity accounts.

Resources Expended

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised as a liability is incurred. The charity is not registered for VAT, therefore all expenditure is accounted for gross of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, with a cost exceeding £1,000, are capitalised and depreciated over their expected useful lives. The following rates apply:

Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings -	15% on a straight line basis
Computer & IT Equipment -	33.33% on a straight line basis.

Taxation

Barnsley Youth Choir CIO is a registered charity and is exempt from UK corporation tax on income from its charitable activities.

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

Funds Structure

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes and may only be spent for the purposes for which they were given. Any balance remaining outstanding on a restricted fund at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund, unless permission has been given by the funder to remove the restriction on the balance outstanding.

Funds relating to capital expenditure are transferred to a designated fund against which depreciation is charged.

2. Donations, Tour Income and Fundraising

	2023	2022
	£	£
General Donations BYC Central	14,564	7,894
Donations Children's Choir West	-	1,008
Donations Junior Choir	-	4
Keith Norton Bursary Donations	-	510
Tour Income	52,624	4,757
Singathon	-	19,970
BYC 100 Club	19,500	6,070
Crowdfunding	48,460	-
Fundraising events	31,021	-
	<u>166,169</u>	<u>40,213</u>

3. Grants Received

	2023	2022
	£	£
Arts Council England	-	56,000
Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation	1,000	-
Arnold Clark Community Fund	1,000	-
Coalfield Regeneration Trust	9,782	-
West Riding Masonic Charities	2,000	-
Blackstone Edge Windfarm Community Benefits Programme	4,560	-
Park Spring Windfarm Community Benefits Programme	4,560	-
	<u>22,902</u>	<u>56,000</u>

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

4. Fixed Assets

	Computer & IT Equipment £	Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost			
Balance b/f - 01.02.2022	5,365	72,075	77,440
Additions in year	-	5,232	5,232
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance c/f at 31.01.2023	<u>5,365</u>	<u>77,307</u>	<u>82,672</u>
Depreciation			
Balance b/f - 01.02.2022	2,148	45,582	47,730
Disposals	-	-	-
Charge for the year	<u>1,380</u>	<u>7,991</u>	<u>9,371</u>
Balance c/f at 31.01.2023	<u>3,528</u>	<u>53,573</u>	<u>57,101</u>
Net Book Value at 31 January 2023	<u>1,837</u>	<u>23,734</u>	<u>25,571</u>
Net Book Value at 31 January 2022	<u>3,217</u>	<u>26,493</u>	<u>29,710</u>

5. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments (Tour expenditure)	32,820	761
Accrued Income (Arts Council England)	-	16,800
	<u>32,820</u>	<u>17,561</u>

6. Creditors

	2023 £	2022 £
PAYE Liability	2,383	1057
Accruals	1,750	3468
Creditors (Credit Card)	6,019	-
Deferred Tour Income	10,200	-
	<u>20,352</u>	<u>4,525</u>

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

7. Staff Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries	41,093	3110
Employee Expenses	884	74
PAYE & Pensions	16,575	1,056
	<u>58,552</u>	<u>4,240</u>

8. Trustee payments, benefits and expenses

No trustee claimed any remuneration, benefits or expenses, in connection with their duties as trustee, in this or the previous financial year.

9. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions, in this or the previous financial year.

10. Independent Examination of accounts

The cost of the independent examination for the year was £1,000 (2022: £850).

11. Analysis of assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<u>31.01.2023</u>				
Fixed Assets	-	25,571	-	25,571
Current Assets	84,303	105,000	9,578	198,881
Current Liabilities	(20,352)	-	-	(20,352)
Total Funds	<u>63,951</u>	<u>130,571</u>	<u>9,578</u>	<u>204,100</u>
<u>31.01.2022</u>				
Fixed Assets	-	29,710	-	29,710
Current Assets	45,250	140,000	-	185,250
Current Liabilities	(4,525)	-	-	(4,525)
Total Funds	<u>40,725</u>	<u>169,710</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>210,435</u>

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

12. Movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Incoming resources £	(Resources expended) £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	40,725	331,187	(302,729)	(5,232)	63,951
	40,725	331,187	(302,729)	(5,232)	63,951
Designated funds					
Fixed Assets	29,710	-	(9,371)	5,232	25,571
Satellite Children's Choirs	10,000	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Premises Fund	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Little Singers	10,000	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
TUKS, South Africa	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
Edinburgh Fringe	15,000	-	(15,000)	-	-
Future Performance & Tours	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
	169,710	-	(44,371)	5,232	130,571
Restricted funds					
Boris Karloff CF	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Arnold Clark Community Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Coalfield Regeneration Trust	-	9,782	(5,439)	-	4,343
West Riding Masonic Charities	-	2,000	(945)	-	1,055
Blackstone Edge Comm. Prog	-	4,560	(2,470)	-	2,090
Park Spring Comm. Prog	-	4,560	(2,470)	-	2,090
	-	22,902	(13,324)	-	9,578
TOTAL FUNDS	210,435	354,089	(360,424)	-	204,100

13. Fund transfers

The following amounts were transferred to the designated Fixed Assets fund, to cover the capital expenditure listed below, in accordance with the Fixed Asset policy.

- Clavia Nord Grand Piano £2,832 (from General Fund)
- Q-Bulld Stage £2,400 (from General Fund)

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

14. Designated funds

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

The trustees have designated funds to support the charity's operational needs, future commitments and statutory obligations. Designated funds at the year end include:

Satellite Children's Choirs – a fund to reach under-represented groups and ensure their participation through the development of the two Satellite Children's Choirs in Penistone and The Dearne.

Premises Fund – a provision for future premises costs.

Little Singers – funds to develop this new group.

Future Performances & Tours – a fund to support planned performances & tours.

15. Restricted funds

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes and may only be spent for the purposes for which they were given. The charity held the following restricted funds in this financial year:

Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation – A grant towards the July 2022 Tour to the Edinburgh Festival.

Arnold Clark Community Fund – A grant towards the July 2022 Tour to the Edinburgh Festival.

Coalfield Regeneration Trust – A grant from the Coalfields Recovery and Resilience Fund towards core administrator salary costs from September 2022 for 10 months.

West Riding Masonic Charlities Limited – A grant from the Freemasonry and Lieutenancies Partnership Fund towards Musical Director fees and travel for the Children's Choir West.

South Yorkshire Community Foundation – Grants from the Park Spring Windfarm Community Benefits Programme and Blackstone Edge Windfarm Community Benefits Programme towards Musical Director Fees, Accompanist Fees, travel and printing costs towards the Children's Choir East and Children's Choir West.

