

Registered Charity No: 1159861

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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
Charles Brammer
Louise Korobka (Resigned January 2024)
Nicola Ellet (Appointed September 2024)
Debbie Hobson (Appointed September 2024)
Neil Sexton (Appointed September 2024)

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 2024

The Trustees present their annual report, together with the financial statements of Barnsley Youth Choir (the charity) for the year ended 31 January 2024. 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.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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

BARNSLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

Review of activities

Barnsley Youth Choir (BYC) has continued to develop and evolve during the 2023-24 season through its ambitious approach and a relentless pursuit for excellence. The desire and sense of moral purpose to provide as many children and young people within our community with extraordinary, life-changing experiences is something that fuels our work. Young people learn about the joy of creating high quality music together and also the importance of discipline and rigour. Excellence and joy in everything we do is a mantra that we genuinely try to live by, and in doing so provide the young people we serve with exposure to the very best possible training and experiences, irrespective of their backgrounds.

The progression and expansion of the choir has only been possible due to the support it receives from key partners such as schools, colleges, the Leadership Team, the Music Team and the invaluable and incredibly dedicated Volunteer Team, which continues to expand year after year. We are indebted to the generosity of all volunteers, sponsors, patrons and other supports of BYC, be it with their time, services or finance.

Throughout the 2023-24 season BYC continued to provide the young people of our community with our core activity of world class choral training in a supportive environment and the opportunity to perform at the highest level in our annual concert programme. In addition to these core activities of the choir, there have been other highlights and exceptional opportunities for its members during the season.

Choirs and Musical Team

All 9 choirs have continued to develop and expand during the 2023-24 season with 670 children and young people registered in January 2024.

Our focus and investment in our younger choirs was always a long-term plan, but we are starting to see the fruits of this work due to the excellent work of teams in the 2 Junior and 3 Children's Choirs. Children are arriving at Intermediate and Senior Choir levels with improved technical skills fostered through the important work of the younger choir teams including embracing principles of the Kodaly system. Eleanor Wright has worked incredibly hard to develop provision at Little Singers (0-4), Junior Choir (4-7) and Children's Choir levels and the legacy of her outstanding work is seen and heard in our current Senior Choir.

BYC's Children's Choir West (Penistone) has grown considerably to 71 members. We established a new Junior Choir West in Penistone (4-7) which now has 56 members and 3 new Little Singers Groups (0-4), taking the number of choirs we now run to 9 (or 16 if you count the separate Little Singers Groups). The new Little Singers groups and Junior Choir West have been a real success and we're indebted to Penistone Town Council and St. John's Community Centre for their support in providing us with a great rehearsal venue for these new groups.

BYC Children's Choir East also had success during the year and took part in the Dearne Community Arts Festival in September. Whilst numbers fell to around 15 regular members in September 2023, the Trustees felt it was essential that these children continued to have this opportunity in this area. A strategy was formed and an alliance formed with the Astrea Academy Trust, and through workshops and meetings with schools and parents we are thrilled to now have 40 children on the register. This is a great achievement following a huge investment in this choir from Charlie Brammer and the volunteer team in Barnsley East, to ensure that it continues to serve the community in one of the most deprived areas of Barnsley.

BYC Senior Choir and Intermediate Choir continue to go from strength to strength with many incredible performance opportunities throughout the year and workshops with leading Choral Directors from around the world.

The Musical Directors Team has delivered around 45 workshops, free of charge, to schools across Barnsley in 2022-23, and will deliver an additional 56 workshops in 2023-24 to over 5000 children to support singing in schools.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

Eleanor Wright and Luke Mather were appointed as Singing Champions and have created excellent resources for schools as well as taking a lead in delivering this large volume of workshops. We've had wonderful feedback from these sessions and about the resources that we've provided to schools to support singing, and are grateful to have developed close relationships and trust with many schools across Barnsley.

We continue to expand the Musical Team with new young talent by developing singers such as Charlotte Bentley, Lucy Towers, Beth Pearce, Tom Masters, Rosie Masters, Gorgey Bennett, Livi Bloomer and Leah Saxton to take on important leadership roles. They are having such a positive impact and the future of the choir is in safe hands. We have new section leaders and mentors for the choirs, including section leaders for the Intermediate Choir as well as Senior Choir.

Choir performances and overseas tour

The 2023-24 season has been exceptionally busy with tours, performances, visiting choirs and workshops.

In February, we took 80 members of the Senior Choir for a tour to Dublin and worked with the wonderful Dublin Youth Choir (European Champions in 2018) with rehearsals, workshops and performances at 1 Windmill Lane (of U2 fame) and at the iconic Trinity College Chapel with the most fabulous acoustics.

In April we hosted the highest ranked Children's Choir in the world, the phenomenal Tygerberg Children's Choir from Cape Town, South Africa who took part in rehearsals, workshops and sell out concerts with us here in Barnsley.

We were also honoured to have played an important and exciting role in the inaugural *Interkultur Hull International Choir Competition* featuring over 1000 outstanding singers from around the world. 200 children from BYC performed in a Gala Concert, led a 2-hour workshop with around 800 singers and took part in a fantastic closing ceremony.

In July we welcomed the Aurin Choir from the world-famous Kodaly School in Hungary for a series of rehearsals, workshops and concerts which were of a very high standard. The Aurin Choir also delivered 2 fabulous workshops to around 700 primary school children which we offered free of charge at Emmanuel Church. We were overwhelmed with the response and schools really appreciated an opportunity for their children to be able to listen to and work with this stellar international group.

In August we took part in the Underneath the Stars Festival with Kate Rusby and showcased our wonderful Children's Choirs as well as some of our older leaders with a stunning performance in the main tent seen by over 2000 people. The feedback from social media and from organisers has been wonderful and quite moving to read.

In September, BYC Children's Choir East took part in the Dearne Community Arts Festival. There has been a huge investment in this choir to ensure that it continues to serve the community in one of the most deprived areas of Barnsley. Whilst numbers fell to around 15 regular members in September 2023, the Trustees felt it was essential that these children continued to have this opportunity in this area. A strategy was formed and an alliance with the Astrea Academy Trust and through workshops and meetings with schools and parents we are thrilled to now have 40 children now on the register.

In November, over 200 BYC Intermediate and Senior Choir members took part in the Proud of Barnsley Awards Ceremony, a really special and important event in the Metrodome Arena with around 600 VIPs in attendance, where people were recognised for their outstanding contribution to the community.

BARNSLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT continued
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There was a poignant moment when BYC Honorary Patron, Mel Dyke MBE, was remembered after passing away earlier in the year.

Our 2023 Christmas Concerts were a wonderful showcase for around 500 children and young people. We were thrilled to provide a warm welcome to sell out audiences for all 5 of our concerts, and an additional 'Family Christmas' event that provided an opportunity for a further 80+ Little Singers aged 0 – 4 years old to take part in some festive fun. It is symptomatic of the ethos at BYC that even our 4-year-olds in our Junior Choirs performed on stage with very high-quality sound equipment and engineering facilitated by Dr Al McNichol and were backed by a 9-piece professional band. They deserve the very best and the same quality of experience that our Senior Choir enjoys. As expected, they performed with skill and confidence and without hesitancy or drama to sell out audiences. A joy to behold!

The final 'Unplugged' Charity Concert that featured the Senior Choir raised important funds for St. Mary's Church and their work in the local community to support the most vulnerable. This concert began 4 years ago as a 'one-off' charity concert, but the feedback has been so positive that we have programmed this every year since. Indeed, we welcomed audience members from across England with some travelling considerable distances to attend.

Our year was completed with BYC being contacted in late December by Barnsley Council and asked to perform a carol that had been uncovered by the team at Barnsley Museums. 'Christmas Eve' was a piece written by local composer, Arthur Godfrey and the story of the piece had gained national attention following a recording that was made by Dr Tegwen Roberts, a member of the Museum team, being shared on Radio 4. The choir quickly assembled 32 singers at short notice and, with 24 hours to learn the piece, performed a live broadcast on BBC Radio 4 at 9.00am on Christmas Eve with excellent feedback from listeners.

The Northern Academy of Vocal Excellence (NAVE)

Barnsley Council was awarded central government funding via the Levelling Up Fund in January 2023, after they supported BYC with a bid to develop the Northern Academy of Vocal Excellence (NAVE) in Barnsley and a home for BYC. During the 2023-24 season we have been working closely with the Council and the team who will realise this exciting vision and have had an intense period working with architects and the design team to ensure that the building is realised by March 2025. We are indebted to so many in the council for sharing our level of ambition for young people in this region and for providing such wonderful support.

The vision for the NAVE is to develop a national and international profile for excellence as a training and development centre and engage with outstanding national and international partners. The NAVE will have an extraordinary impact on the choir and Barnsley and also regionally and nationally.

The NAVE collaboration is being led by trustee Charlie Brammer, who in addition to liaising and coordinating with Barnsley Council on the project is ensuring visibility and input from BYC members through the NAVE Ambassador scheme, where 30 young members have been selected with a remit to be a conduit for all 9 choirs at BYC, ensuring that young people remain at the heart of decision-making and consultation processes via regular meetings and workshops.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

Fundraising

We have raised vital funds throughout the season and the highlights include:

- the continued support of our major sponsor Barnsley College and a new corporate sponsor ASOS, who provide extraordinary support and invest so much into the work we do;
- our Gala Dinner, kindly sponsored by ASOS, hosted by Stephanie Hirst and Dan Jarvis MP, and included a Grand Raffle;
- a Singathon through the night involving Senior, Intermediate and Children's Choirs;
- the ongoing support of numerous individual donors, sponsor a child supporters and Patrons;
- the BYC 100 Club.

These are a few of the numerous fundraising activities which take place all year round. Thank you also to those who have been kind enough to support BYC in any way during the 2023-24 season. Whilst we ensure that the cost of our core service is covered by our membership subscriptions, the additional funds help support additional projects such as the choir's overseas tours and financial bursaries for children and families facing hardship.

BYC is also incredibly grateful to Penistone Grammar School and the Astrea Academy Trust who generously continue to offer use of their building to support our work in Barnsley.

Volunteer Team and Safeguarding

The 60 strong volunteer team continues to evolve and make seemingly impossible tasks possible under the impressive leadership of Debbie Hobson. The Trustees and the wider Leadership Team work really hard in the engine room to make things happen. 42 of our adult volunteers and musicians are now fully accredited Youth Mental Health First Aiders following an intense 2-day course delivered by the brilliant Chris Madden. We are so grateful for his wonderful support of BYC. We are also investing in more first aid courses and asking that as many volunteers as possible become fully qualified chaperones. Currently around half of our volunteers have this accreditation and all have full DBS checks, and have had 1 to 1 safeguarding training with our excellent Safeguarding Lead, Nicola Ellel. We are blessed to have such a fantastic team that work selflessly, unpaid, to provide opportunities for our children and ensure that they are safe. Our registrars have really developed in this last year, taking real ownership of their choirs and are working much more closely with Musical Directors to ensure that things run effectively.

Karen Davis was selected from a field of 5000 people to become a King's Coronation Champion because of the extraordinary work she does as a Trustee and General Secretary of the choir; a fitting recognition for her tireless work. The choir is large and relies on excellent systems and processes and Karen is at the heart of this work, ensuring that we are compliant and efficient in terms of communication and administration across the organisation. She, alongside the Trustee and Leadership Team members, devotes a huge amount of time to support the smooth running of BYC in a voluntary capacity. Beyond Karen we have the evergreen and ever industrious Ann Wroe at the helm in her role as President and Chair of Trustees. Her measured guidance and extraordinary support of the choir is relentless and we owe so much to her stewardship.

Future developments

Looking towards the 2024-25 season, BYC continues to have ambitious plans to provide the greatest musical opportunities for the young people of our community, including visiting experts from across the world and really interesting events and projects.

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In February 2024 we also welcome the outstanding Soprano Charlotte Mobbs from the Harry Christopher's legendary group 'The Sixteen' who will work with our Intermediate and Senior Choirs. We have also been fortunate to secure a full weekend working with world famous conductor, Harry Christophers and 8 members of 'The Sixteen' here in Barnsley for 50 of our most talented young singers.

In May 2024 we welcome Claire Herzog from the exceptional Missouri State University Chorale in the USA. Claire will coach and also work with our young people in a series of masterclasses. People will also be able to listen to this fantastic Soprano in an informal concert.

In July 2024, we hope to stage a large festival in Barnsley which will celebrate the last 15 years of BYC. Ambitious plans include a School's Festival at the Metrodome Arena featuring around 1500 Primary School Children and 3 large concerts. Whilst this festival will be dependent on us gaining funding, we are highly optimistic that it will take place and we're excited about the prospect of putting all of our singers together for the first time in many years.

In October 2024, BYC will take a team from the Senior Choir to South Africa for a 9-day tour which will include working with outstanding choirs in Durban, Drakensberg, Johannesburg and Pretoria and a cultural experience that will be truly life-changing for our young people.

Summary

We are enormously proud of BYC's continued development, the strength of the volunteer organisation that runs it and the breadth of activities provided throughout the year. BYC will always ensure that the interests of children and young people remain at the heart of every conversation and decision made.

Finally, we would like to thank the community for its support. As a volunteer led, non-publicly funded, not-for-profit charity, we rely on support from the community to make our work possible and are incredibly grateful for all that our sponsors, partners, patrons, volunteers and supporters provide.

Thank you.

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.

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.

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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 £68,598 which is 23% of annual expenditure. The trustees have also designated a total of £105,000 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 £15,176 (2023: deficit of £6,335) with total funds at the year-end standing at £219,276 (2023: £204,100).

The total reserves of the charity at year end, represented by unrestricted funds, stand at £68,598 (2023 £63,951).

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

Signed: Ann Wroe

Date: 25 November 2024

Ann Wroe, Chair of the Trustees

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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: 25 November 2024

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

BARNSELY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023/24 £	Total 2022/23 £
Income						
Subs		65,757	-	-	65,757	52,287
Patrons Membership Fees		15,286	-	-	15,286	11,028
Donations & Fundraising	2	80,837	-	-	80,837	113,545
Grants	3	-	-	30,750	30,750	22,902
Tour Income	2	32,428	-	-	32,428	52,624
Sponsorship		15,270	-	-	15,270	17,699
Concert Income		60,057	-	-	60,057	64,126
Merchandise & CD Sales		3,293	-	-	3,293	5,738
Uniform Income		8,935	-	-	8,935	13,795
Other Income		1,871	-	-	1,871	345
Total income		283,734	-	30,750	314,484	354,089
Expenditure						
Music Costs & Commissions		6,624	-	-	6,624	4,869
Accompanist Costs		10,330	-	1,900	12,230	9,494
Development Officer		-	-	-	-	4,625
Staff costs	7	56,888	-	9,343	66,231	58,552
MD & Musical Assistants		48,633	-	3,600	52,233	32,374
Rehearsal Space		6,155	-	-	6,155	8,087
Concert Costs		15,174	-	-	15,174	27,667
Training		2,912	-	-	2,912	200
Merchandise Costs		3,832	-	-	3,832	2,011
Promotion, Publicity & Website		6,929	-	-	6,929	26,597
Performance, Tours & Events		70,379	-	-	70,379	69,974
Uniform Costs		19,830	-	-	19,830	42,727
Travel & Expenses		1,622	-	485	2,107	31,320
Printing & Admin Expenses		3,132	-	-	3,132	4,630
Fundraising & Events		6,433	-	-	6,433	6,932
Equipment & Storage		6,380	-	-	6,380	6,330
Accountancy & Payroll Fees	10	1,848	-	-	1,848	1,672
Legal & Professional		-	-	-	-	2,340
Insurance		2,016	-	-	2,016	761
Donations		1,700	-	-	1,700	6,557
Bank Charges		576	-	-	576	529
Depreciation		-	9,150	-	9,150	9,371
Other Expenses		3,437	-	-	3,437	2,805
Total expenditure		274,830	9,150	15,328	299,308	360,424
Surplus/(Deficit)		8,904	(9,150)	15,422	15,176	(6,335)
Transfers between funds	13	(4,257)	4,257	-	-	-
Balance brought forward		63,951	130,571	9,578	204,100	210,435
Total Funds Carried Forward	12	68,598	125,678	25,000	219,276	204,100

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

Prior year income includes restricted grants and donations of £22,902. All other prior year income is unrestricted. Prior year expenditure includes Depreciation of £9,371 from designated funds and the following amounts from restricted funds - £3,000 Rehearsal Space, £18,000 Performance, Tours & Events, £9,000 MD & Musical Assistants and £5,000 Concert Costs. All other prior year expenditure is unrestricted.

BARNESLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024

	Note	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	4		20,678		25,571
Current assets					
Debtors	5	20,274		32,820	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>200,452</u>		<u>166,061</u>	
Total current assets		220,726		198,881	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	6	<u>(22,128)</u>		<u>(20,352)</u>	
Amounts falling due within one year					
Net current assets			198,598		178,529
Net assets			<u>219,276</u>		<u>204,100</u>
Funds of the charity	12				
Unrestricted funds			68,598		63,951
Designated funds (Fixed Assets)			20,678		25,571
Designated funds (Other)			105,000		105,000
Restricted funds			25,000		9,578
Total funds			<u>219,276</u>		<u>204,100</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: 25 November 2024

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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.

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
General Donations	24,063	14,564
Tour income	32,428	52,624
Singathon	14,230	-
BYC 100 Club	10,520	19,500
Crowdfunding	-	48,460
Fundraising events/concerts	32,024	31,021
	113,265	166,169

3. Grants Received

	2024	2023
	£	£
South Yorkshire Mayoral Capacity Fund	30,000	-
Shaw Lands Trust	750	-
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
	30,750	22,902

BARNESLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

4. Fixed Assets

	Computer & IT Equipment £	Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings £	Total £
Cost			
Balance b/f - 01.02.2023	5,365	77,307	82,672
Additions in year	-	4,257	4,257
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance c/f at 31.01.2024	<u>5,365</u>	<u>81,564</u>	<u>86,929</u>
Depreciation			
Balance b/f - 01.02.2023	3,528	53,573	57,101
Disposals	-	-	-
Charge for the year	612	8,538	9,150
Balance c/f at 31.01.2024	<u>4,140</u>	<u>62,111</u>	<u>66,251</u>
Net Book Value at 31 January 2024	<u>1,225</u>	<u>19,453</u>	<u>20,678</u>
Net Book Value at 31 January 2023	<u>1,837</u>	<u>23,734</u>	<u>25,571</u>

5. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments (Tour expenditure)	20,274	32,820
	<u>20,274</u>	<u>32,820</u>

6. Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
PAYE Liability	1,424	2,383
Accruals	3,353	1,750
Creditors (Credit Card)	321	6,019
Defferred Tour Income	17,030	10,200
	<u>22,128</u>	<u>20,352</u>

BARNSELEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

7. Staff Costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross Salaries	62,574	55,188
Employee Expenses	-	884
Employer NIC & Pensions	3,657	2,480
	66,231	58,552

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 £1,150 (2023: £1,000).

11. Analysis of assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<u>31.01.2024</u>				
Fixed Assets	-	20,678	-	20,678
Current Assets	90,726	105,000	25,000	220,726
Current Liabilities	(22,128)	-	-	(22,128)
Total Funds	68,598	125,678	25,000	219,276
<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	63,951	130,571	9,578	204,100

BARNESLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

12. Movement in funds

	Opening balance £	Incoming resources £	(Resources expended) £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	63,951	283,734	(274,830)	(4,257)	68,598
	63,951	283,734	(274,830)	(4,257)	68,598
Designated funds					
Fixed Assets	25,571	-	(9,150)	4,257	20,678
Satellite Children's Choirs	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Premises Fund	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Little Singers	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Future Performance & Tours	45,000	-	-	-	45,000
	130,571	-	(9,150)	4,257	125,678
Restricted funds					
South Yorkshire Mayoral Fund	-	30,000	(5,000)	-	25,000
Shaw Lands Trust	-	750	(750)	-	-
Coalfield Regeneration Trust	4,343	-	(4,343)	-	-
West Riding Masonic Charities	1,055	-	(1,055)	-	-
Blackstone Edge Comm. Prog	2,090	-	(2,090)	-	-
Park Spring Comm. Prog	2,090	-	(2,090)	-	-
	9,578	30,750	(15,328)	-	25,000
TOTAL FUNDS	204,100	314,484	(299,308)	-	219,276

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.

- Roland Digital Piano Live Performance Bundle £2,099 (from General Fund)
- 2 x Roland Premium Portable Piano £2,158 (from General Fund)

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.

BARNESLEY YOUTH CHOIR CIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued
YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

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:

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 Charities 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.

South Yorkshire Mayoral Capacity Fund A grant from the South Yorkshire Mayoral Capacity Fund towards Musical Director salary costs from December 2023 for 12 months.

Shaw Lands Trust A grant from the Shaw Lands Trust to support the Primary School Partnership in the Dearne area with four schools. The second half of the funding will be received in April 2024.