



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1.7.2020** Period start date To **31.6.2021**
Period end date

Charity name: **Ember Choral**

Charity registration number: **1162685**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The object of the charity is to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of choral music in all its aspects by the presentation of public choral concerts and for such other purposes as shall be exclusively charitable as the Committee may from time to time decide.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Provision of subsidised concerts of traditional choral music to the general public, usually, but not always, performed with a small professional orchestra and soloists.</p> <p>Provision of the opportunity to join a non-audition choir for anyone who wishes to come and enjoy choral singing, regardless of their ability.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have discussed, and understand, the principles of public benefit and how it applies to our charity.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	We have no paid staff so rely on volunteers to run our choir as Trustees and Committee members, and other members to perform important roles such as Librarian.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>COVID and lockdown made it exceptionally difficult for us to remain active as a choir. However, the choir was determined to continue so we rapidly converted to virtual rehearsals using Zoom. A detailed risk assessment was prepared and published.</p> <p>As COVID measure eased, we were able to combine a small rehearsal choir in our hall with Zoom for everyone else.</p> <p>Finally, in June 2021 we were able to perform the Faure Requiem and the Poulenc Gloria to a small, suitably masked, audience. This was an emotional event for the musicians and the audience who has missed the experience of live music.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

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Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The choir remains financially stable, aiming, and achieving, a breakeven budget every year in order to protect reserves.</p> <p>Because we were unable to put on performances involving an orchestra, and we were only able to deliver one concert, our expenses were relatively low.</p> <p>In addition, our Music Director decided not to take his fees. As a result, our reserves rose by £3,507.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Despite the recent rise in reserves due to COVID, our income remains a risk if choir numbers fall, or if audiences are below the numbers required. Once we return to performing with an orchestra we will have to carefully manage our reserves so that we can survive in the long term.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£20,091
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We have been a much bigger choir in the past, up to 90 members. As the numbers are reducing we are re-examining the financial model we operate with to ensure we can continue as a small choir with different uses of external musicians.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Not applicable
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Memorandum & Articles of Association
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	This is all set out in our Mem & Arts. New officials are elected by the members at each AGM.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Ember Choral Society
Other name the charity uses	Ember Choral
Registered charity number	1162685
Charity's principal address	35 Leigh Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 2LF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Linda Bridges	Chair		Members
2	Valerie Thompson	Treasurer		Members
3	Robert Cotterill			Members
4	Angela Springett			Members
5	Pauline Terry			Members
6	Pamela Goring-Thomas			Members
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Valerie Thompson</i>	
Full name(s)	Valerie Thompson	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	3.2.2022	

EMBER CHORAL SOCIETY
INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

2019/20

2020/21

£	INCOME	£
7,060	Membership subscriptions	6,025
1,638	Fundraising income	0
1,010	Donations	125
1,259	Recovery of Gift Aid	1,421
	Concert income	31
103	Interest (net of bank charges)	133
300	Music hire to choir	465
<u>11,370</u>		<u>8,200</u>
EXPENDITURE		
6,600	Honoraria	1,910
1,037	Rehearsal hall	324
466	Fundraising costs	100
	Concert Expenditure	1,125
243	MM, subs & insurance	183
609	Hire music costs	545
176	Administration and misc. exp	506
5,610		
<u>14,741</u>		<u>4,693</u>
<u>-3,371</u>	Surplus for year	<u>3,507</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

19,874	Accumulated Fund as at 1 July 2020	16,584
-3,371	Surplus/(Deficit) for year	3,507
80	Creditors paid in advance	0
0	Adjustment from previous year	0
<u>16,584</u>	Accumulated Fund as at 30 June 2021	<u>20,091</u>

Represented by:

1	Investment	1
0	Gift Aid Recoverable	0
250	Debtors & advance payments	250
12,976	Savings Account	13,109
3,357	Bank current account	6,731
<u>16,584</u>		<u>20,091</u>

Liabilities

0	Creditors & prepayments	0
<u>16,584</u>		<u>20,091</u>

STATEMENT A - CONCERTS 2020/21

	November £	March	June £	Totals £
INCOME				
Tickets	0	0	31	31
Advertising	0	0	0	0
Interval drinks	0	0	0	0
Sponsor/grant	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	31	31
EXPENDITURE				
Professional Fees	0	0	1,125	1,125
Premises, staging etc.	0	0	0	0
Hire of scores	0	0	0	0
Bar/catering	0	0	0	0
Printing & Publicity	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1,125	1,125
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)				
As stated in the Income and Expenditure Account	0	0	-1,094	-1,094

VALERIE THOMPSON

Hon Treasurer

04 July 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

In my opinion the foregoing Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account and the supporting information in Statement A give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Ember Choral Society at 30 June 2020 and of the income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

Terry Price

Hon Independent Examiner