



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1.7.2023** Period start date To: **31.6.2024** 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	<b>Not applicable</b>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<b>Not applicable</b>

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>We had a very successful Xmas concert where we sang the St Saens Oratorio and A Ceremony of Carols by Britten plus carols for the audience to join in. Tickets were kept to £15 and the losses covered by our reserves.</p> <p>We also invited members to donate to a local foodbank and this was very successful.</p> <p>For our Spring mid-week concert we had a mixed programme of Rutter pieces and part songs. This was well attended.</p> <p>Finally for our summer concert we performed the Faure Requiem and Franck's Mass in A Major. Our audience gave us some really positive feedback for the quality of the performance.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

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 and managed to make a small (£612) surplus despite subsidising the price of the concert tickets.</p> <p>Reserves remain at a good level and are monitored carefully by the Treasurer and Committee.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our policy is to hold a minimum of 6 months operating costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£17,743</b>
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	<p>Three major factors influence our going concern status.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The number of members and the annual fee they pay</li> <li>2. The financial cost of concerts determined by the amount of professional musicians involved, the size of the audience, and the ticket price.</li> <li>3. General increases in all our expenses</li> </ol> <p>This is all regularly reviewed and actions taken to mitigate any major risks.</p>

### 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	<p>Membership subscriptions</p> <p>Ticket sales</p> <p>Gift Aid</p>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	We hold most of our reserves in a 2 year interest earning (5%) account.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>Declining membership</p> <p>Declining audiences</p>

		Increasing costs of orchestra and soloists
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Not applicable
Type of governing document ( <a href="#">trust deed</a> , <a href="#">royal charter</a> )	Para 1.25	Memorandum & Articles of Association
How is the charity constituted? (e.g <a href="#">unincorporated association</a> , 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			
2	Valerie Thompson	Treasurer		
3	Robert Cotterill			
4	Angela Springett		From 14.2.22	
5	John Alpass	Chairman	From 7.9.22	
6	Pat Price	Secretary	From 14.2.22	
7	Lesley Mitchell		From 14.2.22	
8	Jackie Allen	Vice President		
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

## 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)

--

## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

## Other optional information

--

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Valerie Thompson

Full name(s)

Valerie Thompson

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Treasurer

Date

12.10.2024

# INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

2022/23		2023/24
£	INCOME	£
6,760	Membership subscriptions	8,450
777	Fundraising income	1,032
58	Donations	87
1,142	Recovery of Gift Aid	1,583
6,448	Concert Income	6,541
181	Interest (net of bank charges)	182
919	Music hire to choir	675
<u>16,286</u>		<u>18,550</u>

## EXPENDITURE

5,900	Honoraria	6,890
1,152	Rehearsal hall	1,152
0	Publicity	34
56	Fundraising costs	226
7,297	Concert expenditure	8,034
186	MM, subs & insurance	268
924	Hire music costs	688
673	Administration and misc. exp	646
<u>16,188</u>		<u>17,938</u>

<u>98</u>	Surplus for year	<u>612</u>
-----------	------------------	------------

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

17,033	Accumulated Fund as at 1 July 2023	17,131
98	Surplus/(Deficit) for year	612
	Creditors paid in advance	0
	Adjustment from previous year	0
<u>17,131</u>	Accumulated Fund as at 30 June 2024	<u>17,743</u>

## Represented by:

1	Investment	1
0	Gift Aid Recoverable	0
50	Debtors & advance payments	50
13,000	Savings Account	13,000
4,080	Bank current account	4,692
<u>17,131</u>		<u>17,743</u>

## Liabilities

0	Creditors & prepayments	0
<u>17,131</u>		<u>17,743</u>



**STATEMENT A - CONCERTS 2023/24**

	<b>December</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Totals</b>
	<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Tickets	2,100	1,056	2,070	<b>5,226</b>
Advertising	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Interval drinks	291	55	365	<b>711</b>
Sponsor/grant	500	0	0	<b>500</b>
Programmes	35	0	69	<b>104</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,926</b>	<b>1,111</b>	<b>2,504</b>	<b>6,541</b>
 <b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Professional Fees	3,575	250	2,705	<b>6,530</b>
Premises, staging etc.	430	120	480	<b>1,030</b>
Hire of scores	0	0	55	<b>55</b>
PRS	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Bar/catering	116	90	77	<b>283</b>
Printing & Publicity	89	0	47	<b>137</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,210</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>3,364</b>	<b>8,034</b>
 <b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-1,283</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>-860</b>	<b>-1,493</b>

**VALERIE THOMPSON**

Hon Treasurer

02 July 2024

**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 2024 and of the income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

Terry Price

Hon Independent Examiner