



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1.7.2024** Period start date To: **31.6.2025** 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 investments	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 at Holy Trinity, Claygate we performed the Vivaldi Gloria and a Christmas programme, involving the audience with favourite carols. Tickets were kept to £15 and, due to excellent attendance (190 tickets sold) the concert only required a £120 subsidy from 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 performed two pieces by English composers, Stanford and Vaughan-Williams. This was well attended, selling 94 tickets.</p> <p>Finally, for our summer concert we took on Mendelssohn's Elijah with an orchestra and professional soloists. 172 tickets were sold and feedback about the choir from the audience, and the orchestra, was really positive.</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>Despite a £4,000 subsidy to put on Elijah at an affordable price for the audience, we managed to contain overall losses to £770, well below the figure agreed in our budget.</p> <p>Reserves remain at a good level and are monitored carefully by the Treasurer and Committee. The choir remains financially stable.</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>£13,600</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 (4%) account.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>Static membership</p> <p>Increasing costs of orchestra and soloists</p>

Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Not applicable
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Memorandum & Articles of Association
How is the charity constituted?	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			
5	John Alpass	Chairman		
6	Pat Price	Secretary		
7	Lesley Mitchell			
8	Jackie Allen	Vice President		
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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)

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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)

*Valerie Thompson*

Full name(s)

Valerie Thompson

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Treasurer

Date

29 July 2025