

**The Ceramic City Choir**

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Charity Registration Number: 1169759**

**Company Registration Number: CE008297**

**The Ceramic City Choir**  
**Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

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# **The Ceramic City Choir**

**Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

## **Trustees and professional advisors**

Registered Charity number	1169759
Correspondence address	47 Sneyd Avenue Westlands Newcastle-under-Lyme Staffordshire ST5 2PZ
Trustees	Geoffrey Hall - Chairman Jillian Edwards - Librarian Pauline Scadden Kathleen Miller - Treasurer Nicola Urion Jennifer Hall - Secretary Susan Jones – Minutes Secretary Susan Ray – Registrar
Chorus Master	Anthony Rose
Chairman	Geoffrey Hall
President	Angela Tams
Independent Examiner	Mr A. Addis
Bank	NatWest 1 Upper Market Square Hanley Stoke-on-Trent ST1 1QA

## **The Ceramic City Choir**

**Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

### **Trustees' report**

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

#### **Governing instrument and constitution**

The charity is governed by its rules adopted on 18 October 2016 as registered with Companies House and the Charities Commission

#### **Objectives and activities for the Public Benefit**

The objectives of the charity are the study and practice of choral music as a non-profit organization in order to foster the public knowledge and appreciation of such music in Stoke on Trent by means of public performance.

#### **Public Benefit**

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

We believe that we meet the principles relating to charities and public benefit described in the Charity Commission guidance and that our report demonstrates the availability of all our services to the local community and in particular evidences our work to foster the appreciation of choral music locally.

#### **Financial review**

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 5. This shows a profit for the year of £1,277. The choir now pays market rates for its musical director which has resulted in increased costs. The musical director is not a trustee and works alongside the committee in his professional capacity.

The choir was able to perform three concerts in the season. An October concert featuring opera choruses along side the North Staffordshire Symphony Orchestra, a Christmas concert of seasonal music and in April a concert of Faure and Cezar Franc music. These concerts were held in King's Hall, Stoke and St Andrew's Church in Newcastle. The inclusion of NSSO enabled the use of the large public venue of the King's Hall as it attracted a more significant audience.

The trustees are satisfied with the results for the year and are of the opinion that providing high quality concerts, when possible, are an essential part of the charitable activities, within the constraints imposed by the level of reserves.

No trustee expenses were paid during the year.

## **The Ceramic City Choir**

**Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

### **Trustees' report continued**

The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis. Whilst the charity is not required to prepare accounts on an accruals basis, the trustees believe that this is a more appropriate method and gives a fairer representation of the results for any particular year enabling concert receipts to be matched with concert expenditure.

#### **Reserves Policy**

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, to continue to operate, should incoming resources fall, whilst replacement sources of income are found. The major expenditure of the charity is the payment of orchestras and artists. Such costs depend on the type of orchestra required for the individual concerts performed in a season and vary from concert to concert. The trustees monitor the charity's reserves carefully in the light of future concert programmes to ensure that adequate unrestricted funds are maintained to enable appropriate orchestras and artists to be obtained. The trustees feel that the unrestricted funds available at the year end are adequate to meet these needs.

#### **Officers' responsibilities**

The following statement, which should be read in conjunction with the independent examiner's statement of independent examiner's responsibilities in the independent examiner's report, is made with a view to distinguishing the respective responsibilities of trustees and of the independent examiner in relation to the financial statements.

Under the Charities Acts, the trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which properly present the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the excess of income over expenditure for the financial year. They are also responsible for preparing the financial statements on a consistent basis.

The trustees have responsibility for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that they comply with the governing document and the Charities Acts.

The trustees have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Trustees**

The trustees of the charity throughout the year are as detailed on page 1.

Approved by

G W Hall  
**Chairman & Trustee**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of**

### **The Ceramic City Choir**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, which are set out on pages 5 to 8

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Regulations made under the Charities Act 1993. My work will be undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters that I am required to state to them in my independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. In those circumstances, to the fullest extent permitted by law, I will not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work or this report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under Section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act) and to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, 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 Commissioners. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **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 41 of the Act
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A Addis

Date 25 September 2024

# The Ceramic City Choir

## Statement of financial activities For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
	funds	funds
	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives		
Ticket Sales	9,271	3,552
Programme sales and adverts	365	182
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,636	3,734
Subscriptions	8,130	8,919
Gift Aid	1,288	1,343
Donations	515	72
Legacy	450	-
Investment income received	195	108
Activities for generating funds	369	126
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<u>20,583</u>	<u>13,608</u>
<b>Direct charitable expenditure</b>		
Donations	-	-
Orchestra and artists	3,475	2,550
Hall hire, front of house etc	3,223	1,301
Programme printing/publicity	594	466
Performing rights	80	99
Hospitality	148	201
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,520	4,617
<b>Management and administration</b>		
Music	(161)	(100)
Rehearsal room hire	2,010	1,803
Making music subscription/insurance	259	239
Musical director & accompanist	9,450	8,870
Other expenses	229	399
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total outgoing resources</b>	<u>19,307</u>	<u>15,828</u>
Net profit/(loss) for the year	1,276	(2,220)
Fund balance brought forward	<u>12,567</u>	<u>14,787</u>
Fund balance carried forward	<u>13,843</u>	<u>12,567</u>

# The Ceramic City Choir

## Balance Sheet As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		13,239	14,250
Debtors	3	3,408	1,616
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		16,647	15,866
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	4	2,804	3,299
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net assets</b>		13,843	12,567
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	5	<u>13,843</u>	<u>12,567</u>

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These financial statements were approved by the trustees on  
and signed on their behalf by:

G W Hall  
Trustee



## **The Ceramic City Choir**

### **Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

#### **1. Accounting policies**

##### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities'.

The trustees adopted the accruals basis of preparation of the accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2005 for the original charity and have continued to adopt this policy for the CIO.

##### **Incoming resources**

Subscriptions received are taken into account in the year in which the monies are received. As there is no legal obligation for payment of subscriptions due, unpaid subscriptions are not included in the financial statements.

Concert income and expenditure is recognized at the time at which the concert occurs. Programme advertising income is taken into account in the year to which it relates.

Donations and fund raising income are taken into account in the year the monies are received.

Investment income is taken into account in the year to which it relates.

No income is designated as restricted funds.

##### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is charged as incurred inclusive of irrecoverable value added tax. Direct charitable expenditure comprises those costs directly incurred in the pursuance of the charity's charitable activities. All other costs are of an administrative nature and so are classed under the category of management and administration. Resources expended include attributable value added tax which generally cannot be recovered. Some advertising expenditure qualifies for exemption from VAT.

Liabilities are recognized when an obligation occurs.

#### **2. Trustee remuneration and expenses**

No trustee remuneration was paid in the year (2023 – £nil)

No trustee expenses were paid in the year (2023 - £nil)

#### **3 Debtors**

2024

2023

	£	£
Deposits held by third parties	100	-
Other debtors	3,308	1,616
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		3,408
1,616	<hr/>	<hr/>

## The Ceramic City Choir

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

<b>4</b>	<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
	Concert expenditure owed to third parties	-	-
	Other creditors	2,804	3,299
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		2,804	3,299
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>5</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		£	£
	Debtors	3,408	1,616
	Cash at bank and in hand	13,239	14,250
	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(2,804)	(3,299)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		13,843	12,567
		<hr/>	<hr/>

## 6 Controlling body

The charity is controlled by the trustees as detailed in the trustees' report.