



Rock 'n 'Soul Singers

Registered Charity Number 1173836

Annual Report and Financial Statement

1st August 2022 - 31st July 2023

Presented and approved for publication by the Rock 'n' Soul Trustees
in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Rock 'n' Soul Singers CIO
Annual Report and Financial Statement for Year Ending 31st July 2023

Objectives, aims and activities

Objectives

The Rock 'n' Soul Singers CIO was established as a registered charity (1173836) on 17th July 2017.

The objectives of the choir are:

- 1) To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees consider suitable, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.
- 2) To further such charitable purposes for the public benefit as are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales as the trustees may from time to time determine, in particular through the making of donations.

Aims

The choir's aims for the financial year 1st August 2022 – 31st July 2023 were as follows:

1. To promote good vocal health for members through warm ups with a focus on breathing and posture. This should lead to an overall improvement in the quality of singing attained by the choir as a whole.
2. To encourage consistent attendance in rehearsals by developing a new, enjoyable repertoire and ensuring that rehearsals are fun and lively.

Activities

In the run-up to Christmas 2022, the Rock 'n' Soul Singers took part in a number of events:

The Underwood Christmas Lights switch-on, Yorkshire Building Society Nottingham Christmas Event, Underwood Miners Welfare Christmas Carol Singing and two Christmas concerts:

On 7th December 2022, the choir sang at the Methodist Church Hall to a large audience including the Mayor of Ripley, and on 10th December 2022, the choir took part in their first Christmas Concert since 2019. Although the concert date clashed with an England World Cup match, the concert was well attended and went down really well. Choir members thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The choir sang to the Elderberries Group at Greasley Parish Hall in February 2023. It was a great concert, we were really pleased with the sound we made. Rachel the MD injected lots of energy and enthusiasm into the performance.

On 29th April 2023, the choir held a concert at St Michael's Church Underwood to raise money for Maggie's Centre and the re-ordering of the church. We sang to a packed house who were very enthusiastic and appreciative. This is the first time we have sung with a drummer - Oliver who along with Teresa our accompanist, added extra dynamics to the performance.

On 20th May 2023 the choir held a joint concert with four other choirs from the National Association of Choirs (East Midlands). The other choirs taking part were Alfreton Male Voice Choir, Bestwood Male Voice Choir, Rolls-Royce Ladies Choir and The Sonara Singers. The concert provided a varied programme and was enjoyed by a packed audience. The concert gave us great experience in singing alongside other choirs.

On 8th July 2023, the choir sang at the annual Underwood Festival, from the back of a lorry. The weather was very wet and Rachel our MD had to stand in the rain to conduct us. Although the weather conditions were poor, we still managed to sing well and got good feedback from some of the few people who braved the rain.

Achievements and performance

Vocal Health

Rachel our MD has been working hard with the choir this year to ensure that warm-up sessions are varied and are used to promote better vocal health. Choir members are fully engaged with the warm ups, which are challenging but always fun. Rachel spends time preparing and delivering the warm-up sessions, and has attended workshops on the subject to increase her knowledge of effective sessions.

Attendance

Choir rehearsals are generally very well attended, the number of choir members has been close to the limit of 50 that was set by the committee to ensure manageability. During the summer months and school holidays there are slightly reduced numbers but overall, rehearsals are well attended. The choir repertoire has been reviewed and several new songs have been introduced. Rachel the MD ensures that the rehearsals are well structured so that not all the time is taken by learning new songs, ensuring that the sessions are enjoyable.

Summary

During this period, choir members have been getting used to working with a new Musical Director, Rachel Cropley who previously had not had much experience leading adult choirs. Things have gone remarkably well, and there has been a great deal of positive feedback from choir members and the audience about how much the choir are enjoying singing with Rachel at the helm.

Structure, governance and management

The Rock 'n' Soul Singers choir was established as a CIO and registered charity (number 1173836) on 17th July 2017. The choir is governed by a Constitution which was adopted in February 2017 and amended in July 2017.

Trustees of Rock 'n' Soul Singers CIO (October 2022 – July 2023):

Anne Hicking	Chair
Georgina Allen	Secretary
Yvonne Footitt	Treasurer
Clare Cooper	Librarian
Rosemary Lynam	Events & Members secretary
Timothy Plant	Charity Compliance
Helen Asbury	Committee Member
Trudy Webster	Committee Member
Muriel Bell	Committee Member
Petra Turton	Committee Member

The trustees are responsible for the day-to-day running of the organisation, and make all the decisions required to do this. Decisions made outside the board of Trustees are group decisions voted on by the choir membership, and include choosing charity partners, changes to the constitution and other major decisions that affect the membership as a whole.

Trustees are nominated and voted into post by members of the choir, the appointment process taking place on an annual basis.

To the best of their knowledge, the Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance wherever relevant.

Reference and administrative details

Rock 'n' Soul Singers Principle Office address:

50 Alfreton Road
Underwood
Nottingham
NG16 5GB

Banking Services

TSB Bank plc
80/82 Nottingham Road
Eastwood
Nottingham
NG16 3NQ

National Association of Choirs

The Rock 'n' Soul Singers CIO is a member of the National Association of Choirs, which provides support in areas such as legal advice and best practice guidance.

Financial Summary

Income

The choir started the financial year with a healthy balance carried forward of £3438.27

Members' contributions

Members' contributions have stayed the same with the majority paying by BACS or cheque every 12 weeks. It was decided that from the beginning of March, 2022, members' contributions of £3 per week would be payable every 12 weeks (£36). If any members were unable to do this, there was an option to pay £4 per week, on a weekly basis. This has remained the same this year. Total voluntary contributions from members totalled £6464.50.

Other income

Income this year consists of a donation of £40, Gift Aid claims of £1501.75, ticket sales of £2147.66 and charity bucket collections of £744.51.

Expenditure

Rehearsal venue charges: £820, (£20 per week).

MD Rachel Cropley: £2570 - now up to £50 per week

Accompanist's expenses: Teresa's fees amounted to £1580 rising from £25 per week to £30 per week in March and now £40 per week.

Concert expenses: £358

Music purchases: £1184 (mostly downloaded digital copies).

Other expenses: £495 - including insurance £93, NAC membership - £53, PAT testing - £55, new stand-up banner £94, music folders £54.

Charity Donations: £3,400 to Maggie's Cancer Support Unit (Nottingham).

The end of year balance stands at **£3762**. This puts the choir in a good position for increased expenses in terms of church, MD and Accompanist costs, and future expenses, and is above the £1500 reserve set for this financial year. The reserve level will be reviewed upwards in the next financial period as this has remained the same for the last 3 years.

Assets

The choir holds assets of £7,100, consisting of £1500 estimated replacement costs of equipment and £5600 of purchased sheet music.

Financial Due Diligence

Because of the choir's relatively low turnover, with an income of less than £25,000, it is not necessary to submit a copy of an independent examiner's report.

Financial checks for the choir are undertaken by a Finance sub-group which comprises of three trustees, and regular checks take place to verify the accounts.

The Financial Statement for 2022-2023 is detailed in a separate document.

Document Approval

This document is approved on behalf of the Trustees board

Date: 8/5/24

Name: CLARE COOPER

Signature: Clare Cooper

Date: 8/5/24

Name: ROSEMARY LYNAM

Signature: R Lynam



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

01/08/2022

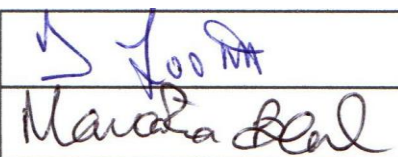
To

31/07/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Members Donations	6,465	-	-	6,465	-
Grants and Donations	40	-	-	40	-
Charitable activities	2,148	-	-	2,148	-
Gift Aid	1,502	-	-	1,502	-
Charity Collections	745	-	-	745	-
Receipts for Uniforms	60	-	-	60	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	10,958	-	-	10,958	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,958	-	-	10,958	-
A3 Payments					
Accompanist	1,580	-	-	1,580	-
Musical Director	2,570	-	-	2,570	-
Rehearsal Venue	820	-	-	820	-
Sheet Music	1,184	-	-	1,184	-
Uniforms	228	-	-	228	-
Donations to Charity	3,400	-	-	3,400	-
Concert Expenses	358	-	-	358	-
Other	495	-	-	495	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	10,635	-	-	10,635	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Sheet music, equipment & uniforms	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	10,635	-	-	10,635	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	324	-	-	324	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	3,438	-	-	3,438	-
Cash funds this year end	3,762	-	-	3,762	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank account + petty cash	3,762	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,762	-	-
	agree balances with receipts and payments	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets				
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
B5 Liabilities				
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			YVONNE FOOTITT MARIA-PIA BEAL	8.5.2024 8/5/2024