

OPUS 48

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST 2025**

Charity number 1179938

OPUS 48
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR 31st AUGUST 2025

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

TRUSTEES:

As of AGM 7th July 2025

Joanna Crown	stood down and re-elected
Richard Green	stood down and re-elected
Fiona Cuthbertson	
Sorrel Young	
Gemma Guest	
Katherine Roberts	
Benjamin Selby	
Neil Pratt	stood down
Brian Tibbels	
Derek Stone	

PRINCIPAL OFFICE ADDRESS:

57 Plater Drive
Oxford
OX2 6QU

CHARITY NUMBER:

1179938

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

Felicity McCallum ICAEW Chartered Accountant

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REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR 31st AUGUST 2025

INTRODUCTION

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in 2019. The legal and administrative information set out below forms part of this report.

OUR OBJECTIVES, VALUES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the charity are to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and the science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

Our core values include challenging our singers to improve and fulfil their potential, promoting team spirit and enjoyment, and achieving levels of communication between singers, conductor and instrumentalists to produce truly collaborative performances.

For income the charity relies principally on membership subscriptions, income from ticket sales and the support of 'Friends' to cover operating costs.

In pursuing our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees take account of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. With this in mind, we seek to foster good relationships with the local community and to engage many different groups of listeners, primarily through performances of a wide range of choral music in different venues in Oxford. Part of our remit is to give back to the local community through occasional open rehearsals and 'come and sing' events, and working with young people in education in inspirational ways. In pricing subscriptions and events, we give particular attention to creating affordable opportunities for young musicians under 30.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Opus 48 was registered as a charity (CIO) on 14th September 2018. The charity is governed in accordance with its constitution, and by the policies and decisions made from time to time by the trustees. The trustees take a collaborative approach, delegating tasks, where appropriate, to individual teams who report back on those tasks at trustee meetings.

Procedures for the appointment, retirement and removal of trustees are set out in our constitution. None of the trustees receive remuneration or other financial benefit from their work. In accordance with the requirements of our constitution, three trustees resigned at the last AGM. Two of them offered themselves up for re-election and were re-elected.

An AGM must be held every 15 months. The most recent AGM took place on 7th July 2025.

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ACHIEVEMENTS

As a medium-sized choral society for Oxfordshire and beyond, we strive to deliver high quality choral concerts while maintaining the financial security of the choir. In 2024-2025 the choir continued to build on its reputation for excellence with regular rehearsals and a full programme of concerts and workshops over the year. The membership of the choir remains steady, with 81 members as of the end of this reporting year. A continued intentional approach on member recruitment has maintained a healthy performing base of singers - with over 10 new members recruited during this season.

A member survey conducted in July 2025 highlighted the continued strength of Opus 48 and the value members place on both the musical and social aspects of the choir. More than 75 members rated their overall experience at an average of over 9.1 out of 10, reflecting exceptionally high levels of satisfaction. Members particularly valued Opus 48's commitment to excellence, the opportunity to be part of an engaged and ambitious group of singers, and the supportive, friendly atmosphere within the choir. Feedback also praised the high quality of performances, David Crown's strong musical leadership, and the sense of pride and community fostered through participation, demonstrating both the choir's ongoing commitment to its members and the appreciation audiences continue to show for its work.

September began with a regular workshop, previewing music scheduled for the November concert, including Bernstein's Chichester Psalms and Rutter's Requiem. The workshop was followed by a "Come and Sing" event in October, giving non-members an opportunity to sing with the choir informally. This remains an important means of recruiting new members. The November concert was followed by a Christmas concert, featuring music by Charpentier, Palestrina, Lassus and Praetorius.

The spring season began with a second workshop, at which the choir was introduced to Mendelssohn's Elijah, a piece they would be performing at the concert in March. Once again, the choir rose to the occasion, delivering the drama, colour and intensity that this piece requires in front of a captivated audience at Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre.

The summer season started with our third workshop, followed by rehearsals for a summer concert of operatic choruses, at St Andrew's Church in Summertown. As a lot of the music is well known, the July concert proved to be a great success, both musically and in attendance.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have continued a management approach which ensures that risks are raised and reviewed regularly at trustee meetings. The meeting structure requires that team members submit reports prior to the meeting highlighting any potential issues to be discussed.

Operational risks, to be managed during the season, relate mainly to ensuring that concert venues are booked in advance, music sourced, and workshops and rehearsals properly scheduled. In addition, the choir continues to audition potential new members throughout the year, to maintain numbers and to ensure the long-term vitality of the choir. New members are sourced through a range of advertising methods, including 'Come and Sing' events, word of mouth and social media.

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Financial risks stem from rising costs for venues, music, and musicians, as well as uncertainties about box office revenue. The trustees manage the financial uncertainty at the start of the year by putting in place a robust budget for the choir's activities for the year. The budget is based on conservative assumptions for ticket sales and costs, and potential downside risks such as cancellation costs due to the reimposition of Covid restrictions or other unforeseen events.

RESERVES

The trustees have a policy that incorporates a target level of reserves of £15,000 in normal operating conditions. The cash reserve on 31st August 2025 was £22,800. This is lower than the cash reserve of £29,289 on 31st August 2024, but still comfortably above the £15,000 target level. Net assets decreased from £27,069 to £21,804. The trustees expect cash reserves to remain above target levels in 2025/2026.

The trustees intend to continue to manage cash reserves in a way that is prudent, while making effective use of the available cash.

DECLARATIONS

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Crown". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Full name	Joanna Crown
Position	Chair of the trustees
Date	7 June 2026

Income and Expenditure Account

Opus 48

For the year ended 31 August 2025

	2025	2024
Turnover		
General income		
gift aid	3,761	4,404
bank interest	118	-
member subscriptions	20,216	19,799
friends scheme	1,762	2,611
fundraising	360	327
refreshment contributions/sales and costs (122)	422	246
music purchase/hire	1,198	4,284
Total General income	27,837	31,671
Event income		
ticket sales	20,815	25,563
Total Event income	20,815	25,563
Total Turnover	48,652	57,234
Cost of Sales		
General running costs		
conductor fees (rehearsal, audition etc)	8,286	8,394
accompanist - rehearsal fees (248)	2,850	2,703
venue hire - rehearsals and auditions	2,523	2,632
professional support and insurance (226)	756	731
IT (225)	555	512
purchase of assets	1,111	-
other	2,141	2,009
Total General running costs	18,222	16,980
Event costs		
conductor - concert/event fees (250)	3,180	2,460
concert/event musicians - orchestra/accompanists (247)	15,119	9,900
concert/event musicians - soloists (246)	4,325	2,100
PRS fees (227)	(449)	38
venue hire - concerts/workshop (243)	6,875	5,262
music hire/purchase	1,588	4,327
printing and publicity	2,728	2,015
ticketing agent commission (253)	2,328	2,595
Total Event costs	35,695	28,698
Total Cost of Sales	53,917	45,678
Surplus/Deficit	(5,265)	11,556

Balance Sheet

Opus 48

As at 31 August 2025

	31 AUG 2025	31 AUG 2024
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		
Lloyds 32 day notice	15,118	-
Lloyds current account	7,682	29,290
Total Cash at bank and in hand	22,800	29,290
Prepayments	2,876	-
Total Current Assets	25,676	29,290
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
accounts Payable	810	750
deferred revenue	2,185	96
Event costs not yet paid	876	1,375
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3,872	2,221
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	21,804	27,069
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	21,804	27,069
Net Assets	21,804	27,069
Capital and Reserves		
Current Year Earnings	(5,265)	11,556
retained Earnings	27,069	15,513
Total Capital and Reserves	21,804	27,069



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees

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On accounts for the year ended

31ST AUGUST 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1179938

Set out on pages

6-7

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/ 08 / 2025**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~


I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:



Date: 28/05/2026

Name: FELICITY CLARE MCCALLUM

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body (if
any):**

ACA (ICAEW)

Address:

313 WOODSTOCK ROAD

OXFORD OX2 7NY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern
(see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and
guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.