

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

England & Wales · Charity number 1188026

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-02-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 45 The Quantocks
Flitwick
Bedford
MK45 1TG

Phone 01525717951

Email admin@daneshorough.org.uk

Website www.daneshorough.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CIO IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES, AND IN PARTICULAR THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC, IN THE PRESENTATION OF CONCERTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

Activities: We are a community choral society. We rehearse choral works composed between 1600 and the present day, mainly of classical repertoire, and perform them to the general public in high quality concerts with professional soloists, instrumentalists and orchestras. We also undertake training sessions and fund-raising activities such as singing at weddings and carol singing.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bedford
- Buckinghamshire
- Central Bedfordshire
- Milton Keynes
- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£41,598	£41,505	-	-
2024-08-31	£40,201	£36,856	-	-
2023-08-31	£35,444	£37,715	-	-
2022-08-31	£10,371	£20,664	-	-
2021-08-31	£0	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Richard Roberts		2024-11-14
IAN GORDON SMITH		2020-02-18
Imogen Allen		2022-10-05
NICHOLAS WOOD		2023-10-11
PETER JOHN SNELLING		2020-02-18
Professor Emeritus Keith Attenborough		2024-10-09
Sarah Gammon		2024-10-09
Sian Marie Clare Rees		2020-02-18

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

England & Wales - Charity number 1188026

Accounts

Danesborough Chorus

Charity number 1188026

Trustees Report for year ended 31st August 2025

Activities during the year

The choir celebrated its 50th season with a range of concerts and social events. We have continued to perform to the high standards to which we have always strived. The Trustees have complied with Charity Commission guidance concerning the requirement for the choir as a charity to provide a public benefit.

Our first concert, which was our official anniversary event, was a performance of Handel's Messiah which was the work given at our inaugural concert in January 1976 and which we have only sung twice since. Due to circumstances beyond our control, we had to move from our usual Woburn venue, to Christ the Cornerstone in Milton Keynes where we had a sell-out audience. The performance was enhanced by a superb set of soloists - Carolyn Sampson, Anna Huntley, James Gilchrist and Ben Bevan.

A Christmas concert followed in Leighton Buzzard before we held our second Come and Sing event in March. Again we sold out the latter, this year for the Mozart Requiem, and finished the day with a full run through with guest soloists.

Our spring concert, back in Woburn Church, was a performance of the Brahms Ein Deutsches Requiem in the composer's own arrangement for piano accompaniment, with our current and a former accompanist at the keyboard. Our soprano soloist, Rebecca Bottone, also sang Berlioz Nuits d'Ete.

Finally our summer concert harked back to 1977 and we repeated the first time our musical director conducted a concert with us with an orchestra. The works were Mozart Solemn Vespers and Haydn Nelson Mass. We again contracted young soloists from the Royal Academy with financial support from the Josephine Baker Trust.

Other musical events included the annual Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue and Police Christingle in Woburn Church, carol singing in aid of Willen Hospice, and several weddings and funerals.

We are hugely indebted to our musical director, Ian Smith, who has been at the helm since 1977 and is without doubt the reason for our many years of success, and also to Tim Grant-Jones adding to a short list of hugely valuable accompanists over the past 50 years.

Our social events, increasingly important both for fund-raising and choir cohesion, included a celebration dinner at Cranfield University, an Indian meal at a local restaurant and a summer garden party generously hosted by our librarian.

Day to day running

We continue to be very fortunate to have many members who assist in our day-to-day operation and ensure that concerts run smoothly. However persuading others to step up

and take over from some who have been in post too long can be a challenge. We have carried out a skills audit to try and identify hidden talents. A particular challenge is getting sufficient publicity for our concerts and the lack of younger members with the necessary social media skills.

The Trustees have met five times this year, and also held an awayday in August to review the challenges ahead and steps we might take to deal with these. The outcomes will be further developed and implemented. Our programming sub-committee seeks to balance the need to challenge the choir with less familiar music, while ensuring a programme across each season that attracts sufficient audience for the choir to remain viable. Our fund-raising sub-committee is charged with arranging events that are both financially and socially successful.

Administrative information

Danesborough Chorus is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and was registered in February 2020 when we changed from a registered charity. Our objectives, set out in the constitution, are to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of music. This is achieved by presenting concerts as set out in this report in the counties of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. The address for communications is 45 The Quantocks, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1TG.

The Trustees are elected at the charity's AGM with a further two places available for co-option. Ordinary members may only serve for a maximum continuous period of three years, though there is no current limit on our officers remaining in post. In the past year Peter Snelling and Imogen Allen have been acting co-chairs. We expect to have a new chair in post after the next AGM.

We have developed and annually review a number of policies as recommended including Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Complaints and a Code of Conduct for members.

Finance

As our attached accounts show, we emerged from a challenging season with our reserves intact. Concerts with a professional orchestra and soloists always run at a significant loss and other forms of income have to bridge the gap. Although reduced membership and audiences since covid present obvious difficulties, we have made a stepchange with fundraising to enable the choir to weather those issues. Our Friends scheme is an important source of support along with our chamber group who sing at weddings and funerals. As mentioned above the use of young soloists has assisted us financially as well as giving them opportunities to help develop their careers. We encourage all our members and Friends to sign up for gift aid which is usually our most important income stream apart from members subscriptions. Our reserve policy is to maintain a level sufficient to cover the average cost of a season's concerts, which we currently exceed. Our treasurer also looks ahead with draft budgets for two years to flag up potential financial challenges.

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	12 Mths ended 31.8.25		12 Mths ended 31.8.24	
	£	£	£	£
Current Assets				
Debtors and Prepayments	2076.00		4112.75	
Music Stock	720.43		866.85	
Bank	32036.53		30191.93	
Petty Cash	0.00		0.00	
		34832.96		35171.53
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and Accruals	892.76		1324.56	
		892.76		1324.56
Net Assets		<u>33940.20</u>		<u>33846.97</u>
Represented by				
Funds				
General Fund	29700.34		29607.11	
Staging Fund	590.00		590.00	
Friends Reserve	3649.86		3649.86	
		<u>33940.20</u>		<u>33846.97</u>

P J SNELLING
TREASURER
1st October 2025

on behalf of the Trustees

The notes on the attached pages form part of the accounts

Registered CIO No 1188026



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name DANESBOROUGH CHORUS		
On accounts for the year ended	31 AUGUST 2025	Charity no (if any)	1188026
Set out on pages	3,4 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

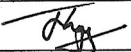
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  **Date:** 17 OCTOBER 2025

Name: JAMES LEGG ACMA

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

Address: 28 Grasmere Way
Leighton Buzzard
LU7 2QN



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name DANESBOROUGH CHORUS		
On accounts for the year ended	31 AUGUST 2025	Charity no (if any)	1188026
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The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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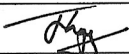
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Signed:  **Date:** 17 OCTOBER 2025

Name: JAMES LEGG ACMA

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

Address: 28 Grasmere Way
Leighton Buzzard
LU7 2QN

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

England & Wales - Charity number 1188026

Accounts

Danesborough Chorus

Charity Number 1188026

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 August 2024

Activities during the year

During the season the choir has continued to perform music to the high standard to which it aspires. The trustees have complied with Charity Commission guidance concerning the requirement for the choir as a charity to provide a public benefit.

We performed on three occasions. In November 2023 we gave a performance of Rutter's *Gloria* and Paul Patterson's *Magnificat*, the latter a challenging work which, nonetheless, drew praise from the composer who honoured us with his presence and expressed delight that his work was being performed. In March we performed Bach's *St John Passion*. Having been added to their list of approved choral societies by the Josephine Baker Trust, we were able to engage young soloists from the Royal College and the Royal Academy of Music for this performance. Thanks must go to David Roberts for his efforts in researching and securing this opportunity. Our summer concert featuring Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* was a huge success, eliciting cheers and a standing ovation from the audience.

Other events this season have included the Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Christingle service at St Mary's, Woburn; an event which has become a welcome fixture in the Danesborough calendar.

We also provided a small choir to lead the singing at the Christmas lights switch-on at the Frank Moran Centre in Bletchley.

This season we hosted our first Come and Sing event in Woburn Sands. The work chosen for this event, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, proved to be a huge draw. The event was well attended by members and non-members alike with participants coming from as far afield as Northumberland. We received very complimentary feedback from participants. Ian Smith, our musical director, was singled out for his energy and infectious enthusiasm and Tim Grant-Jones, our accompanist, was complimented on his excellent playing.

We were engaged to sing at a number of weddings and funerals. Bookings for such events exceeded expectation and contributed welcome funds to choir coffers.

Day-to-day running

We are very fortunate to have many members who assist in our day-to-day operation. Without these helpers, concerts would not run as smoothly as they do and the enjoyment in

belonging to the choir would be considerably reduced. Having many members performing these various functions means that no-one has to be overcommitted. As with all these tasks, we do need to have new members joining the band of volunteers as some inevitably do retire, and so we appeal to those among you, whatever your skills, to see if you can assist in some small way.

After many years' service, Jenny Harris will be stepping down from her role as website manager and a replacement will be required. We are also seeking a deputy to shadow David Roberts in his role as graphic design and production manager.

As a committee we have met four times this year. Danesborough Chorus continues to face financial challenges and these are influencing programming decisions. We have been looking for works with reduced orchestration or alternative accompaniment to keep costs low in this area.

Committee attention has also been given to creating policy documents covering Finance, Bullying & Harassment, Social Media, Conflicts of Interest and Complaints as well as a Code of Conduct for choir members.

In addition to the Programming, Policies and Communications Sub-committees, we have this year set up a Fundraising Sub-committee. The Fundraising Sub-committee has proved enormously successful and thanks must go to its members, Imogen Allen, Jan Liddie, Maria Seaton, Ian Colling and David Pilgrim. The social events they organised, included a quiz night, an immensely popular curry night and a Friends' reception at the summer concert. The curry night in particular raised significant revenue.

Choir membership has not returned to pre-pandemic levels and we are operating below our optimal membership of 100. Recruiting new members and in particular attracting a younger demographic continues to be a challenge. This impacts on income from membership fees (and associated Gift Aid) as well as tickets sales, as members tend to sell to family and friends.

This year Jacqui Dankworth relinquished her role as President of Danesborough Chorus. We thank her for her years of service to the choir. We were delighted when Peter Hoare accepted the invitation to become our new president.

Sadly, Neville's Funeral Service decided not to renew their sponsorship of the choir but we are very grateful to them for their past support. The Fundraising Sub-committee has been pursuing other potential avenues for sponsorship.

Administrative Information

Danesborough Chorus is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and was registered in February 2020. Its objects, set out in the constitution, are to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular in the art and science of Music. It achieves this by presenting concerts and other activities as set out in this report in the counties of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. The address for communications is 45 The Quantocks, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1TG.

The trustees who have served during the year are: Peter Snelling (Treasurer); Ian Smith (Musical Director); Siân Rees (Secretary); David Roberts, Imogen Allen and Nick Wood. Jan Liddie and Maria Seaton have served as co-opted members.

The position of Chair became vacant at the 2023 AGM when Tessa Cox, our then Chair, stood down in accordance with our constitution. In the absence of any nominations for the position, Peter Snelling and Siân Rees have been Acting Co-chairs this season.

The trustees are elected at the charity's AGM with a further two places being available for co-option of members by the Committee. Ordinary members may only serve for a maximum continuous period of three years.

Finance

The annual accounts are attached to this report.

The choir has reserves which are necessary for the performance of concerts which have to be financed before the concerts take place. Reserves, considered necessary, need to be sufficient to cover the average cost of a season's concerts. Concerts generally run at a loss which is covered by members' subscriptions and other revenues but we cannot put on a concert without having adequate reserves to cover the costs of performances. Having begun the season with a budgeted deficit of £2000, we ended the season with a surplus of just over £3000, in large part due to the efforts of the Fundraising Sub-committee and the finalisation of Gift Aid for the 2021/2022 and the 2022/2023 seasons for which Imogen Allen and Peter Snelling deserve our thanks. Our reserves now stand at £29,000.

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	12 Mths ended 31.8.24		12 Mths ended 31.8.23	
	£	£	£	£
Current Assets				
Debtors and Prepayments	4112.75		5985.00	
Music Stock	866.85		1192.27	
Bank	30191.93		23657.69	
Petty Cash	0.00		0.00	
		35171.53		30834.96
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and Accruals	1324.56		332.45	
		1324.56		332.45
Net Assets		<u>33846.97</u>		<u>30502.51</u>
Represented by				
Funds				
General Fund	29607.11		26262.65	
Staging Fund	590.00		590.00	
Friends Reserve	3649.86		3649.86	
		<u>33846.97</u>		<u>30502.51</u>

P J SNELLING
TREASURER
1st October 2024

on behalf of the Trustees

The notes on the attached pages form part of the accounts

Registered CIO No 1188026

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 AUGUST 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1188026

Set out on pages

3,4

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

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**Independent
examiner's statement**

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have not been met; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

7 / 10 / 2024

Name:

JAMES LEGG ACMA

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

Address:

28 Grasmere Way
Leighton Buzzard
LU7 2QN

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

England & Wales - Charity number 1188026

Accounts



Danesborough Chorus

Charity Number 1188026

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 August 2023

Activities during the year

After four years of interrupted rehearsals and performances we made it through this season with a full complement of concerts.

We performed on four occasions. In November 2022 we performed Cherubini's *Requiem* and Fauré's *Requiem* and *Cantique de Jean Racine*. Our Christmas concert was performed in Hockliffe Street Baptist Church which proved to be a good venue. In March 2023 we sang *Stabat Mater* by Dvorak and for our Summer concert in June 2023 we achieved a partial standing ovation with our performance of Purcell's *My Heart is Indicting* and Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* which was wonderfully uplifting. Unfortunately, ticket sales were, again, lower than usual even though the weather for the interval picnic was ideal.

In addition to our own concerts Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service invited us to perform at their Christingle Service and to support their congregational carol singing. We also sang at the Carols on the Cobbles Christmas light switch-on in Woburn and provided some additional voices to Redbourne School choir in their Community Concert.

Day-to-day running

We are fortunate to have many members who assist in our day-to-day operation. Without these helpers, concerts would not run as smoothly as they do and the fun of belonging to the choir would be considerably reduced. Having many members performing these various functions means that no-one has to be overcommitted. As with all these tasks, we do need to have new members joining the band of helpers as some inevitably do retire, and so we appeal to those among you, whatever your skills, to see if you can assist in some small way.

As a Committee we have met four times in the past year. Danesborough Chorus continues to face financial challenges and these are influencing programming decisions heavily. We find ourselves looking at programming more popular classics, to try and increase tickets sales, and looking for pieces with reduced orchestration or alternative accompaniment to keep costs low in this area.

We are also finding that our membership levels have not returned to pre-pandemic levels. We are operating below our optimal membership of 100 and are finding recruitment difficult. This impacts on income from membership fees (and associated Gift Aid) and ticket sales as members tend to sell to family and friends.

Administrative Information

Danesborough Chorus is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and was registered in February 2020. Its objects, set out in the constitution, are to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of Music. The address for communications is 3 Ackroyd Place, Shenley Lodge, Milton Keynes, MK5 7PA.

The Trustees who have served during the year are: Tessa Cox (Chair); Peter Snelling (Treasurer); Ian Smith (Musical Director); Siân Rees (Secretary); Julia Dickens; Imogen Allen and David Roberts.

The Trustees are elected at the charity's AGM with a further two places being available for co-option of members by the Committee. No members came forward to fill these places this year so they became vacant.

Ordinary members of the Committee can only serve for a maximum continuous period of three years.

Finance

The annual accounts are attached to this report.

The choir has reserves which are necessary for the performance of concerts which have to be financed before the concerts take place. Reserves considered necessary need to be sufficient to cover the average costs of a season's concerts. Concerts generally run at a loss which is covered by members' subscriptions and other revenues but we cannot put on a concert without having adequate reserves to cover the costs of performances. We sustained a loss of £3,200 in the year under review and our reserves now stand, as shown by the accounts, as just over £26,000. There will be a small increase in the membership subscription for the coming year and the ticket pricing structure is also under review.

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	12 Mths ended 31.8.23		6 Mths ended 31.8.22	
	£	£	£	£
Current Assets				
Debtors and Prepayments	5985.00		2985.00	
Music Stock	1192.27		1300.98	
Bank	23657.69		28486.82	
Petty Cash	0.00		0.00	
		30834.96		32772.80
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and Accruals	332.45		0.00	
		332.45		0.00
Net Assets		<u>30502.51</u>		<u>32772.80</u>
Represented by				
Funds				
General Fund	26262.65		29472.94	
Staging Fund	590.00		590.00	
Friends Reserve	3649.86		2709.86	
		<u>30502.51</u>		<u>32772.80</u>

P J SNELLING
TREASURER
1st November 2023

on behalf of the Trustees

The notes on the attached pages form part of the accounts

Registered CIO No 1188026

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE 12 MTHS ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The CIO became active on March 1st 2022 and the comparative accounts are for the 6 month period until the end of our financial year on August 31st 2022.

	Notes	12 mths ended 31-Aug-23				6 mths ended 31-Aug-22			
		General Fund £	Staging Fund £	Friends Reserve £	Total Funds £	General Fund £	Staging Fund £	Friends Reserve £	Total Funds £
Income									
General Income	2	23372.87	0.00	1000.00	24372.87	4645.46	0.00	0.00	4645.46
Concerts	3	11071.53	0.00	0.00	11071.53	5725.31	0.00	0.00	5725.31
Grants	4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income		34444.40	0.00	1000.00	35444.40	10370.77	0.00	0.00	10370.77
Expenditure									
General Expenditure	2	13964.03	0.00	60.00	14024.03	5173.79	0.00	388.36	5562.15
Concerts	3	23690.66	0.00	0.00	23690.66	15101.84	0.00	0.00	15101.84
Total Expenditure		37654.69	0.00	60.00	37714.69	20275.63	0.00	388.36	20663.99
Net Income/(Loss)		<u>(3,210.29)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>940.00</u>	<u>(2,270.29)</u>	<u>(9,904.86)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(388.36)</u>	<u>(10,293.22)</u>
Funds Brought Forward		29472.94	590.00	2709.86	32772.80	39377.80	590.00	3098.22	43066.02
Funds Carried Forward		<u>26262.65</u>	<u>590.00</u>	<u>3649.86</u>	<u>30502.51</u>	<u>29472.94</u>	<u>590.00</u>	<u>2709.86</u>	<u>32772.80</u>

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MTHS ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The CIO became active on March 1st 2022 and the comparative accounts are for the 6 month period until the end of our financial year on August 31st 2022.

1 Accounting policy

These accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on accounting by charities.

2 General Income and Expenditure

	12 mths ended 31-Aug-23	6 mths ended 31-Aug-22
Income		
Members subscriptions	15948.00	545.00
Friends	2150.00	1055.00
Gift Aid tax refunds	3000.00	2126.37
Bank interest	0.00	0.00
Fundraising income	690.07	256.09
Wedding & funeral income	230.00	350.00
Donations	355.00	170.00
Programme advertising	208.00	50.00
Music hire income	291.80	93.00
Sponsorship	500.00	0.00
	<u>23372.87</u>	<u>4645.46</u>
Expenditure		
Rehearsal fees	8740.00	3320.00
Rehearsal premises	1178.00	615.00
MM/PRS fees	634.62	0.00
Publicity	158.88	0.00
Officers expenses	24.68	31.44
Sundry expenses	263.59	222.35
Training	0.00	0.00
Store rental	2364.00	985.00
Christmas costs	600.26	0.00
	<u>13964.03</u>	<u>5173.79</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus	<u>9,408.84</u>	<u>(528.33)</u>

3 Concerts

	12 mths ended 31-Aug-23		
	Woburn Nov 2022	Woburn March 2023	Woburn June 2023
Income			
Tickets	3,687.48	3,510.00	3,500.00
Programmes	<u>129.00</u>	<u>117.00</u>	<u>128.05</u>
	<u>3,816.48</u>	<u>3,627.00</u>	<u>3,628.05</u>
Expenditure			
Orchestra	400.00	4,385.00	5,350.00
Soloists	350.00	2,300.00	1,450.00
Conductor	1,450.00	1,450.00	1,350.00
Music	30.00	41.20	180.87
Premises	900.00	900.00	700.00
Programmes	140.09	144.46	150.75
Publicity	92.73	108.08	129.97
Other costs	<u>625.02</u>	<u>522.00</u>	<u>540.49</u>
	<u>3,987.84</u>	<u>9,850.74</u>	<u>9,852.08</u>
Deficit	<u>171.36</u>	<u>6,223.74</u>	<u>6,224.03</u>
Summary of all concerts			
	12 mths ended 31-Aug-23		6 mths ended 31-Aug-22
Income	11071.53		5725.31
Expenditure	23690.66		15101.84
Deficit	<u>12619.13</u>		<u>9376.53</u>

4 Grants and Sponsorship

	12 mths ended 31-Aug-23
Neville Funeral Services	500.00
	<u>500.00</u>

5 Fundraising detail (part of note 2)

	12 mths ended 31-Aug-23	6 mths ended 31-Aug-22
Members	76.00	18.00
Music hire (ext)	62.50	0.00
Sundries	1.79	0.00
Hire of choir	200.00	0.00
Coffee	0.00	127.91
easyfundraising	329.78	110.18
Sale of music/books	20.00	0.00
Total	<u>690.07</u>	<u>256.09</u>

6 Trustees Remuneration

No Trustees received remuneration or expenses in their role as Trustees

7 Staff

No staff are employed by the charity

8 Related Party Transactions

During the year musical director fees totalling £9275 (2022: £8480) were paid for the services of trustee, Mr I Smith,



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

On accounts for the year
ended

31 AUGUST 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1188026

Set out on pages

3,4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

31/01/2024

Name:

JAMES LEGG

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

ACMA

Address:

28 Grasmere Way

Leighton Buzzard

LU7 2QN

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

England & Wales - Charity number 1188026

Accounts



Danesborough Chorus

Charity Number 1188026

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 August 2022

Activities during the year

Compared to the two previous years the 2021/22 season was altogether more satisfying and far less affected by Covid.

We were able to return to indoor rehearsals in September 2021 and to performing publicly in November 2021 although all our concerts this season have had a reduced capacity of 75% to increase audience distancing.

Our first concert since the pandemic was Vivaldi's *Gloria* and *Magnificat* and McDowall's *Ave Maris Stellar*, a programme which had been delayed since March 2020. This was very well received with positive comments from the audience.

Unfortunately the Christmas concert had to be cancelled due to the emergence of the Covid Omicron variant and nervousness from both choir and audience about the self-isolation rules and how that would affect Christmas social arrangements.

In April 2021 we performed Bernstein *Chichester Psalms*, Lauridsen *Lux Aeterna* and Rheinberger's *Requiem*. We also sang a Prayer for Ukraine and took up a collection of nearly £500 for the Ukraine Appeal.

Once again we found ourselves in the midst of another Covid wave and a number of members had to withdraw from the concert with Covid infections while more members tested positive for Covid not long after.

Our summer concert was Michael Haydn *Requiem in C minor* and Joseph Haydn *Maria Theresa Mass*. The Requiem had been extensively rehearsed on zoom during lockdown and it was lovely to finally perform it.

Day-to-day running

The choir is blessed with many members who assist in its day-to-day operations. Without these helpers, concerts would not run as smoothly as they do and the fun of belonging to the choir would be considerably reduced. Having many members performing these various functions means that no-one has to be overcommitted. As with all these tasks, we do need to have new members joining the band of helpers as some inevitably do retire, and so we appeal to those among you, whatever your skills, to see if you can assist in some small way.

For many years we have had an informal arrangement for free storage of scores, staging and lighting in Milton Keynes thanks to a former choir member. This year it became necessary to

formalise that arrangement and start paying rent for the facility. This gave us the incentive to install shelving thus making it easier to find scores. Many thanks to the choir members who helped with this.

As a Committee we have held our usual regular meetings. We are facing some challenges both in recruiting new members to the choir and in drawing in audiences for our concerts, both of which impact on our financial position. We will be focussing on these areas in the coming year.

Administrative Information

Danesborough Chorus is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and was registered in February 2020. Its objects, set out in the constitution, are to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of Music. The address for communications is 3 Ackroyd Place, Shenley Lodge, Milton Keynes, MK5 7PA.

The Trustees who have served during the year are: Tessa Cox (Chair); Peter Snelling (Treasurer); Ian Smith (Musical Director); Siân Rees (Secretary); Julia Dickens, David Roberts, Jeremy Hopkinson and Carol Yirrell.

The Trustees are elected at the charity's AGM with a further two places being available for co-option of members by the Committee. Ordinary members of the Committee can only serve for a maximum continuous period of three years.

An EGM was held on 9th February 2022 and the members approved the transfer of assets from The Danesborough Chorus (279281) to Danesborough Chorus (1188026), and the dissolution of The Danesborough Chorus.

Finance

The annual accounts are attached to this report.

The choir has reserves which are necessary for the performance of concerts which have to be financed before the concerts take place. Reserves considered necessary need to be sufficient to cover the average costs of a season's concerts. Concerts generally run at a loss which is covered by members' subscriptions and other revenues but we cannot put on a concert without having adequate reserves to cover the costs of performances. We sustained a loss of £7,000 in the year under review and our reserves now stand, as shown by the accounts, as just over £29,000. In order not to deplete our reserves further we have taken the step of increasing the membership subscription for the coming year.

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	6 Mths ended 31.8.22	
	£	£
Current Assets		
Debtors and Prepayments	2985.00	
Music Stock	1300.98	
Bank	28486.82	
Petty Cash	0.00	
		<u>32772.80</u>
Current Liabilities		
Creditors and Accruals	0.00	
		<u>0.00</u>
Net Assets		<u><u>32772.80</u></u>
Represented by		
Funds		
General Fund	29472.94	
Staging Fund	590.00	
Friends Reserve	2709.86	
		<u><u>32772.80</u></u>

P J SNELLING
TREASURER
1st November 2022

on behalf of the Trustees

The notes on the attached pages form part of the accounts

Registered CIO No 1188026

3

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE 6 MTHS ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	6 mths ended 31-Aug-22			
	General Fund	Staging Fund	Friends Reserve	Total Funds
Notes	£	£	£	£
Income				
General Income	2 4645.46	0.00	0.00	4645.46
Concerts	3 5725.31	0.00	0.00	5725.31
Grants	4 0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	<u>10370.77</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>10370.77</u>
Expenditure				
General Expenditure	2 5173.79	0.00	388.36	5562.15
Concerts	3 15101.84	0.00	0.00	15101.84
Total Expenditure	<u>20275.63</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>388.36</u>	<u>20663.99</u>
Net Income/(Loss)	<u>(9,904.86)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(388.36)</u>	<u>(10,293.22)</u>
Funds Transferred from previous charity	39377.80	590.00	3098.22	43066.02

Funds Carried Forward	<u>29472.94</u>	<u>590.00</u>	<u>2709.86</u>	<u>32772.80</u>
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DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE 6 MTHS ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The CIO became active on March 1st 2022 and the accounts are for the 6 month period until the end of our financial year on August 31st 2022.

1 Accounting policy

These accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on accounting by charities.

2 General Income and Expenditure

	6 mths ended 31-Aug-22	
Income		
Members subscriptions/donations	545.00	
Friends	1055.00	
Gift Aid tax refunds	2126.37	
Bank interest	0.00	
Fundraising income	256.09	
Wedding & funeral income	350.00	
Donations	170.00	
Programme advertising	50.00	
Music hire income	93.00	
Sponsorship	0.00	
	<u>4645.46</u>	
Expenditure		
Rehearsal fees	3320.00	
Rehearsal premises	615.00	
MM/PRS fees	0.00	
Publicity	0.00	
Officers expenses	31.44	
Sundry expenses	222.35	
Training	0.00	
Store rental	985.00	
Christmas costs	0.00	
	<u>5173.79</u>	
(Deficit)/Surplus	<u>(528.33)</u>	

3 Concerts

	6 mths ended 31-Aug-22	
	Woburn April 2022	Woburn July 2022
Income		
Tickets	2,873.60	2,626.71
Programmes	104.00	121.00
	<u>2,977.60</u>	<u>2,747.71</u>
Expenditure		
Orchestra	1,200.00	5,440.00
Soloists	50.00	1,900.00
Conductor	1,400.00	1,400.00
Music	271.69	277.34
Premises	970.00	820.00
Programmes	115.51	111.36
Publicity	104.76	96.66
PRS fee		
Instrument hire		
Other costs	399.34	545.18
	<u>4,511.30</u>	<u>10,590.54</u>
Deficit	<u>1,533.70</u>	<u>7,842.83</u>

Summary of all concerts

6 mths ended
31-Aug-22

Income	5725.31
Expenditure	15101.84
Deficit	<u>9376.53</u>

4 Grants and Sponsorship

6 mths ended
31-Aug-22

0.00

5 Fundraising detail (part of note 2)

6 mths ended
31-Aug-22

Members	18.00
Music hire (ext)	0.00
Sundries	0.00
Coffee	127.91
easyfundraising	110.18
Sale of music/books	0.00
Total	<u>256.09</u>

DANESBOROUGH CHORUS

England & Wales - Charity number 1188026

Accounts



Danesborough Chorus

Charity Number 1188026

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 August 2021

Activities during the year

There were no activities.

Administrative Information

Danesborough Chorus is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and was registered in February 2020. Its objects, set out in the constitution, are to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of Music. The address for communications is 3 Ackroyd Place, Shenley Lodge, Milton Keynes, MK5 7PA.

The trustees who have served during the year are: Tessa Cox (Chair); Peter Snelling (Treasurer); Ian Smith (Musical Director); Siân Rees (Secretary); Julia Dickens, Jeremy Hopkinson and Carol Yirrell.

The trustees are elected at the charity's AGM with a further two places being available for co-option of members by the Committee. Ordinary members of the Committee can only serve for a maximum continuous period of three years.

The activities of Danesborough Chorus have not been able to be transferred from The Danesborough Chorus (279281) due to administrative delays within the banking sector caused by the ongoing Covid pandemic.

Post year-end this matter has been resolved and the activities have transferred to this CIO.

Finance

We are submitting a nil return for this year.

Danesborough Chorus has no assets and there were no activities during the year.

