



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **Period start date** 1 August 2022 To **Period end date** 31 July 2023



Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Reigate and Redhill Choral Society CIO

Other names charity is known by RRCS

Registered charity number (if any) 1188249

Charity's principal address 46 Park Lane

Reigate

Surrey

Postcode RH2 8JX

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	Ailsa Darroch	Chair from 10/9/2019		
2	Adrienne Elliott	Secretary from 11/9/2018		
3	Tim Nelson	Treasurer from 11/9/2018		
4	Sarah Ashworth	Membership Secretary from 10/9/2019		
5	Yvonne Sinclair			
6	Kevin Chamberlain			
7	Richard Salmon			
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution adopted 26 September 2019, and came into effect with the registration of the CIO on 28 February 2020.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	RRCS is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are normally elected or re-elected by members at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees may also be appointed at other times by members or the charity trustees.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Musical Director

The recruitment process for a permanent MD was completed in Autumn 2022 and Naomi Butcher was appointed as of 1 January 2023.

Membership

Post Coronavirus, membership has stabilised at about 90 members, with a good number of new and younger members joining.

Policies

The trustees are making arrangements for preparing the Safeguarding and EDI policies; and updating the Data Privacy and the Reserves Policies.

Inflation

The policy to date has been to use low risk, low return, bank deposit accounts. Although interest rates have improved the impact of inflation on reserves remains a concern.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the Society are 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 see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Society is committed to providing a vehicle for the enjoyment of choral music in all its many forms by:

- promoting and encouraging live music in the community; bringing together all who enjoy singing in a lively and social atmosphere;
- raising standards of presentation and promotion through innovative programming and excellence in performance;
- welcoming singers regardless of their race, ethnic or national origins, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, disability, religious or political beliefs or socio-economic status;
- helping members to acquire and develop the necessary skills to achieve the realisation of their full musical potential;
- providing members with services that are effective, efficient and good value for money;

- aiming to achieve the highest possible standards in issues of governance, internal structure and communication;
- playing a constructive role in establishing and building ongoing relationships with businesses, organisations and individuals; and
- such other ways as the Society, through its Management Committee, shall determine from time to time.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In pursuing our aims for the public benefit, the choir impacts on people's lives in two ways. First, for participants, we involve people in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity, providing them with opportunity to develop vocal technique and musical repertoire. Second, for audiences, we present exciting, innovative and high-quality performances which should always be a pleasurable cultural experience, but will sometimes challenge them and educate them by extending their musical knowledge.

The choir is non-audition, so that people without prior experience are able to join. There is a reduced subscription rate for students and a bursary scheme to cover the subscription in case of need.

At our concerts we offer concessionary rates for young people and we subsidise our ticket prices to make our events as accessible as possible.

In normal years the choir performs at least four times per season. It organises performances, workshops and other activities designed to involve the wider community, including other musicians, musical groups, schools and audiences. In addition, it holds fund-raising events, often with a social purpose, and tours each Spring either within the UK or on the continent.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

In addition to the functions of the trustees, the success of the choir relies heavily upon a large number of members who perform voluntary roles on behalf of the choir. The roles cover music library, fundraising, concert and tour organisation, marketing, website and media, and community development.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

RRCS CIO Chair Report, Season 81 2022-23

We were delighted to welcome our members back in September 2022 at the start of RRCS's 81st season, with the Covid pandemic risks fading, and the promise of greater stability ahead under the baton of a new Musical Director. Over the summer months, the Trustees narrowed down the wide and talented field of applicants to a final list of four candidates, who were called to audition with us in early October. The appointment of Naomi Butcher was announced on 31 October 2022, to take office in January 2023.

Our final concert under Penny Homer's interim directorship was held at St John's Church in Redhill in late November, with a programme including works by Parry, Boyce, Amy Beach and Vaughan Williams,

together with Dvorak's Mass in D. Our accompanist Charles Thompson delighted us with a solo performance on the organ, and our four vocal excellent soloists were recommended to us by Penny. We closed the calendar year with an informal, open evening of Christmas music at Shaw's Corner URC, which was led by Charles Thompson and followed by a popular social gathering to meet and welcome our community audience, family and friends.

In early January 2023 we welcomed Naomi Butcher to RRCS, and quickly embarked on learning the challenging but beautifully themed programme of music for our Spring Concert which Naomi devised to celebrate her first concert with us in April. The repertoire included choral works by Lotti, Tallis and Finzi, a Haydn symphony as an orchestral interlude, and finished with part 2 of Handel's Messiah. We were accompanied by Charles Thompson and our regular associates from Surrey Pro-Musica managed by Geoff Southall. Our three soloists were all generously supported by the Josephine Baker Trust, with the soprano Madeline Boreham being recommended by her tutor, our President, Patricia Rozario; Samuel Kibble was the tenor and Daniel Barrett sang bass. Notable guests for the evening, which was held at St Mary's Church in Reigate, included the Deputy Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Councillor Rosemary Absalom, our President Patricia Rozario and our newly appointed Vice President, Robin Gritton and his wife Patsy.

We were honoured when Robin Gritton accepted our invitation in March to be our new Vice President, as he is a former Musical Director of RRCS from 1966 – 1977 during his early days as a professional musician, before moving on to direct the Netherlands Radio Choir. He went on to work frequently with the radio orchestras of WDR, RIAS and NDR in Germany, conducting the NDR Chor in Hamburg regularly from 1986, becoming their principal guest conductor in 1992 and principal conductor from 1995 to 1997. In 1993 he began his association with the Rundfunkchor Berlin, serving as an inspirational principal conductor in the period 1994-2001.

RRCS was pleased to pay their respects to the memory of long-standing member Beattie Nicholls, and at the invitation of her family we put together a small ensemble to sing for her Thanksgiving Service in early February.

Another notable and joyful event during the Spring season was the announcement of Naomi's marriage to Connor Clarke in February, and members were delighted to offer their sincere congratulations to the happy couple on their wedding day.

For our summer concert in July we experimented with a new format, holding it at St John's Church in Redhill on a Sunday and starting the evening slightly earlier, with a longer interval to provide seasonal refreshments to audience members. This proved a popular choice with local concert-goers as we sang to a good house and all refreshments were consumed! The programme was devised by Naomi with the theme of celebrating 500 years of Choral Music, so works ranged from a favourite 16th Century Madrigal through to a song from a popular 20th Century musical, and put members through their linguistic paces with works in English, Latin, German and Russian. We also demonstrated singing in a wide variety of styles in both sacred and secular music through the ages, finishing with the light-hearted 'Name that Tune' by Grayston Ives, described in the programme notes as a raucous, rollicking ride through many of Classical Music's best-known melodies. Charles Thompson provided the accompaniment throughout, and the Mayor of

Reigate & Banstead Cllr Eddy Humphreys and his Mayoress and wife, Mrs Sarah Humphreys were our honoured guests.

After two years without indoor social and fundraising events, our members embraced the opportunity to arrange a series of activities through the year, including a traditional quiz night in October and two local interest events: a WWII afternoon in November and a Murder Mystery evening in May. Special thanks are due to Helier and Ann Dreux, and Kevin and Pia Chamberlain for running these events, and to our fundraising and refreshment teams for their organisation and support. We continued our more recent tradition of sponsored walks, holding several well-attended outings with a local historical interest theme, led by Adrienne Elliott, Richard Salmon and team.

Our concert charity partners for this year were all nominated by our members, with a focus on organisations that are close to their hearts and that benefit our local community; they included Loveworks: a local foodbank, Active Prospects: a local mental health care home, East Surrey YMCA and Dementia 1st: an independent local day care and support charity.

After the uncertainties of the past three years, RRCS is now well on the road to a more stable future, with membership increasing and plans being explored for events and co-production opportunities in seasons ahead. Sincere thanks are due to our members for their loyalty and support, and most particularly to the Trustees, Operating Committee and expanded working groups of members for their unstinting service to RRCS this year, thereby ensuring the smooth running of all our activities, from weekly rehearsals, concerts, social and fund-raising events. The Trustees are looking forward to an exciting 82nd Season ahead.

Ailsa Darroch, November 2023

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The choir's total funds, less liabilities, stood at £79,486 at the year end, compared to £69,365 at the end of last year.

It has again not proved necessary to use reserves to make up any shortfall over the season.

Reserves of £33,000 are held to protect against future financial shocks and pressures. Designated funds of £41,000 are held for the purchase of new equipment (£3,000), equipment and staging (£18,000), orchestra costs in 2023/24 (£10,000) and £10,000 for a future major event.

No calls were made during the year on the Anne Garton Bursary Fund, that supports the scheme to cover subscriptions in case of financial difficulty. A further £277 was added to the fund from the Christmas concert and carol singing donations. The fund now stands at £1,192. New sources of funds need to be obtained to fund bursaries in the medium to long term.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Basis of Accounts

The choir's accounts are prepared on a 'Receipts and Payments' basis and are prepared in accordance with Charity Commission requirements based on the CC16a template.

Financial Highlights

Membership subscriptions were held at 2019 rates. Subscription income was slightly lower at £15,966.

However it was a strong season financially, generating a surplus of £10,661, as a result of:

- Lower concert expenditure due to less use of orchestral players than usual and the use of a lower cost venue (St Johns, Redhill); for two concerts.
- Gift Aid tax refunds totalling £5,573, relating to subscriptions and donations in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 seasons;
- Fundraising income £3,000 higher generated by a well attended quiz evening, a World War II event, a Christmas concert raffle, two sponsored walks, and a Murder at the Vicarage event; and
- Higher bank interest of £550 against £34 in the previous year.

The choir staged three main concerts this year, as well as an informal Christmas event. These events generated the following surpluses or (losses) as follows:

• Autumn	(£226)
• Christmas carols	£56
• Spring Concert	(£3,398)
• Summer Concert	£2,747

Collections at the choir's events raised the following amounts for local charities:

• Loveworks	£425
• Active Prospects	£150
• YMCA	£250 *
• Dementia 1 st	£558

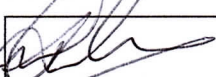
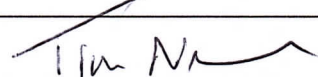
* plus further online payments of which value has not been advised.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Ailsa Darroch	Timothy Nelson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	2-4-24	2-4-24

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ending 31 July 2023

RECEIPTS				
Category	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	15,996.00		15,996.00	16,418.67
Friends	25.00		25.00	68.00
Fundraising Income	4,187.12		4,187.12	1,327.19
Christmas concert for bursary fund		154.00	154.00	
Donations	412.12		412.12	747.98
Carol singing for bursary fund		122.96	122.96	
Concert receipts	7,135.57		7,135.57	7,203.95
Josephine Baker Trust Grant		495.00	495.00	300.00
HR Taylor Trust				2,000.00
Workshop receipts				256.05
Tour receipts				2,000.00
Music hire income	2,936.11		2,936.11	2,298.67
Music sales	14.00		14.00	252.95
Gift Aid for 2020/21 season	2,044.18		2,044.18	
Gift Aid for 2021/22 season	3,528.82		3,528.82	
Bank interest	550.09		550.09	33.82
Collections, sundry receipts	606.77		606.77	175.00
GROSS INCOME	37,435.78	771.96	38,207.74	33,082.28
Member credits				
Cash refunds				(2,187.17)
Credits used				(1,738.00)
Total				(3,925.17)
TOTALS RECEIPTS	£37,435.78	£771.96	£38,207.74	£29,157.11

EXPENDITURE				
Category	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
MD rehearsal fees	5,338.60		5,338.60	5,109.26
Accompanist rehearsal fees	3,350.00		3,350.00	3,531.64
Hire of rehearsal venues	1,971.00		1,971.00	1,788.64
John Fletcher Rehearsal Tracks	172.56		172.56	
Fundraising expenditure	997.35		997.35	263.48
MD concert fees	1,636.00		1,636.00	1,760.00
Accompanist concert fees	373.90		373.90	745.00
Orchestra concert fees	2,435.00		2,435.00	7,313.31
Soloist concert fees	1,295.00		1,295.00	771.50
Josephine Baker Trust Grant		495.00	495.00	300.00
Other concert expenditure	3,839.71		3,839.71	3,467.13
Workshop expenditure				560.15
Music hire expenditure	1,737.65		1,737.65	1,684.10
Music purchase	286.01		286.01	110.39
Collections, sundry expenses	1,076.00		1,076.00	481.39
Administration and insurance	1,647.51		1,647.51	1,646.73
Hire of garage	895.20		895.20	895.20
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	27,051.49	495.00	27,546.49	30,427.92

SUMMARY				
Total Receipts	37,435.78	771.96	38,207.74	29,157.11
less Total Expenditure	(27,051.49)	(495.00)	(27,546.49)	(30,427.92)
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	10,384.29	276.96	10,661.25	(1,270.81)
Cash Funds at last year end	68,543.46	915.15	69,458.61	70,729.42
TOTAL CASH FUNDS AT YEAR END	78,927.75	1,192.11	80,119.86	69,458.61

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at year end 31 July 2023

MONETARY ASSETS				
	Unrestricted ³	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Current Account (CAF Cash)	28,238.74	1,192.11	29,430.85	18,827.20
Deposit Account (CAF Gold)	8,236.89		8,236.89	8,155.65
Deposit Account (CAF Gold)				10.00
Long Term Deposit Account (CAF Platinum)	42,242.39		42,242.39	41,825.77
Cash and cheques on hand	209.73		209.73	639.99
	£78,927.75	£1,192.11	£80,119.86	£69,458.61

REPRESENTED BY FUNDS				
General Fund	4,927.75		4,927.75	4,543.46
Reserves	33,000.00		33,000.00	33,000.00
Designated Funds ⁴	41,000.00		41,000.00	31,000.00
Anne Garton Bursary		1,192.11	1,192.11	915.15
Anniversary Event Fund				
Member Credits				
	£78,927.75	£1,192.11	£80,119.86	£69,458.61

LIABILITIES				
Refunds Due	194.00		194.00	94.00
Hire of rehearsal hall	440.00		440.00	
	£634.00	£0.00	£634.00	£94.00

Notes

- (1) An adjustment of £61 has been made to sundry receipts representing a refund due but not paid as at 31 July 2022.
- (2) £25,000 was transferred from the current account to the Gold deposit account on 10 August 2023.
- (3) The current account total includes 2022-23 debits of £425.59 and £45 credit items completed shortly after year end.
- (4) No remuneration or fees were paid to any of the Trustees during this year, and no Trustees received any financial benefit from the CIO during this year.
- (5) There were no individual staff salaries paid.
- (6) Unrestricted Funds, available to be spent to fulfil the aims of the charity, comprise:
 - a) General Funds: can be spent on any purpose including regular running costs.
 - b) Reserves: held to protect against financial shocks and pressures
 - c) Designated Funds: amounts earmarked for particular purposes
- (7) Designated funds of £41,000 currently comprise:

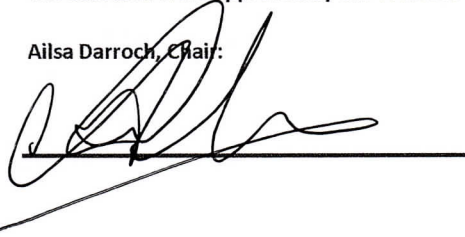
Equipment and staging	£18,000
Data storage and website	£3,000
Orchestra costs in 2023-24	£10,000
Major event	£10,000

More detail on restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in the Reserves Policy, which is due for review.

Approval of accounts

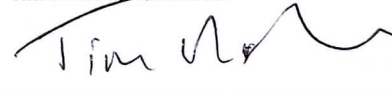
The accounts were approved by the Trustees on

Ailsa Darroch, Chair:



and signed on their behalf by:

Tim Nelson, Treasurer:





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Reigate & Redhill Choral Society CIO

On accounts for the year
ended

31 July 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1188249

Set out on pages

1 to 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed: Chris Horry

Date: 3 April 2024

Name: Christopher Peter Horry

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

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:

15 Oak Hill

Epsom KT18 7BU

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.