

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

**CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1197192**

**DAINS AUDIT LTD  
Chartered Accountants  
St John's Court  
Wiltell Road  
Lichfield  
Staffordshire  
WS14 9DS**

## **LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**

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**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

**Reference and Administrative information**

**Honorary President:** Mr David Cliffe

The Trustees who served during the year are:-

Mr Nicholas Waller	Chairman to 16 Nov 2022
Mrs Charlotte Groves	Vice Chairman to 16 Nov 2022
	Chairman from 16 Nov 2022
Mr Eric Lunt	Publicity officer to 16 Nov 2022
Mrs Phillipa Allen-Simpson	Publicity Officer from 16 Nov 2022 to 27 Oct 2023
Mr Mike Tighe	Secretary
Dr Paul Ecclestone-Brown	Treasurer
Mrs Robina Bettson	Choir Representative
Mrs Minna Andrews	Minutes Secretary
Mr John Skurr	Music Officer
Mr Nigel Lindsell	Choir Representative
	Vice Chairman from 16 Nov 2022
Mr Stephen Bushill	Membership Secretary

**Principal Address:** Lichfield Cathedral Chorus  
c/o Paul Ecclestone-Brown  
153 Leomansley View  
Lichfield  
WS13 8AU

**Registered Charity Number:** 1197192

**Independent Examiner:** M Gurney FCCA, DChA  
of Dains Audit Ltd  
St John's Court  
Wiltell Road  
Lichfield  
WS14 9DS

**Principal Bankers:** Cooperative Bank plc  
PO Box 101  
1 Balloon Street  
Manchester  
M60 4EP

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023 (CONTINUED)**

**Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2023**

The members of the Managing Committee present their report along with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 10 and comply with the Charity's Constitution, 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 effective 1 January 2019.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

Charity Number 1197192 is governed by its constitution and was registered with the Charity Commission on 17 December 2021 as a CIO. The unincorporated charity Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, registered charity number 509833, transferred its assets to Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, registered charity number 1197192 on 5 May 2022.

Under the constitution there must be at least three trustees and not more than twenty. Trustees are appointed at the AGM. The first Trustees of the CIO retired from office at the first AGM on 16th November 2022. Those willing to continue were reappointed unopposed. In subsequent AGMs one-third of the trustees shall retire from office as set out in the Constitution. The Trustees normally meet six times per year to consider the Charity's affairs.

New Trustees are appointed from amongst the membership of the chorus.

**Objects, Organisation and Activities**

The Charity is established to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and foster 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 in the Cathedral Church of Lichfield and elsewhere and to further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit, but in particular by the making of grants and donations.

Members of the chorus comprise:

- a) Performing members, who take part in the performance of choral works; and
- b) Patrons.

All members pay the annual subscription. The rates for 2022/2023 were set as follows:

Full subscription	£106
Senior Citizens	£91
Students	£25
Patrons	£25 minimum

Ben Lamb, the Director of Music at the Cathedral, is our Musical Director. Liam Condon, formerly Honorary Assistant Organist at the Cathedral and Acting Assistant Director of Music at Coventry Cathedral, is our Accompanist.

In the event of winding up of the Chorus any surplus assets shall be given or transferred to an organisation having similar objects to those of the Chorus.

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023 (CONTINUED)**

**Achievements and Performances**

Our first concert in December was an ambitious combination of Britten's *Saint Nicolas*, Finzi's ethereal *In Terra Pax* and Haydn's *Missa Sancti Nicolai*. The choir, encouraged by excellent playing of the Lichfield Camerata and Direction by Ben Lamb, rose to the challenge of portraying angels, terrified sailors and monks and rejoicing at the rescue of some pickled boys. The Britten required contributions by several current and former choristers who sang admirably. The large forces required, and high music costs of performing less well-known music still in copyright meant that the performance ran at a loss of £2,723.

Our Easter performance of Rossini's *Petite Messe Solonelle* witnessed a local reunion of beautifully matched soloists; Harriet Rawles, Cathy Lamb, Robin Morton and Fran Ambrose accompanied by Libby Burgess on piano and Liam Condon playing harmonium. A joyous and heartfelt performance was enjoyed by a larger audience and the event made a small surplus of £467.

Our final performance of the season was a performance of music by John Rutter and Ben Lamb, under his pseudonym of Disraeli Brown. We welcomed many new members who came and sang with us for a term as a taster, along with the wonderful Lichfield MusicShare Young and Youth Voices. The lovely weather, repertoire and larger number of performers meant that we had our largest audience for a summer concert in many years. The performance was a success musically, promoting our group and supporting the local area through song. It also made a surplus of £3,075.

Two long serving trustees of the Chorus stood down in November 2022. We thank Nick Waller and Eric Lunt for their hard work in keeping the Chorus buoyant throughout the challenges before, during and after lockdown. We also thank Pippa Allen-Simpson for her work in promoting the Chorus beyond its traditional bounds.

**Financial Review**

The year started with a direct appeal to our members to donate a small amount in excess of their annual subscriptions. This was done as the trustees believed that the smaller membership level and hence smaller concert audiences would not support the fixed operational costs of the charity. We are very grateful to all who responded by generously donating a total of over £1,500.

We have come to an agreement over the use of the Cathedral for rehearsal and performance. This agreement involves a significant increase in cost through grant to the Cathedral compared to the previous arrangement. However it has cemented the position of the Chorus as part of the life of the Cathedral.

Other costs have increased significantly due to global inflationary pressures. The trustees have explored several ways of reducing cost and increasing revenue. We are looking for local corporate sponsorship, to ensure that we keep the price of concert tickets as affordable as possible, whilst being able to work with talented soloists and instrumental performers.

Moving forward the trustees have decided not to announce subscription rates for the next year at the AGM as there is currently too much economic uncertainty due to global affairs. Instead, the subscription rates for the next year will be announced by the end of May each year. For 2023/2024 full subscriptions were set at £165 and the Senior Citizen rate was abolished.

The attached financial statements show the current state of the finances of the CIO organisation, which the Trustees consider to be sound. Free reserves at 31 July 2023 were £27,402 (£27,568 at 31 July 2022).

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023 (CONTINUED)**

This falls within the range agreed by the Trustees and is held to finance working capital requirements and cover any future shortfall in income.

**Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and have complied with their duties under the Charities Act 2011.

**Trustees Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

Charlotte Groves

.....  
Charlotte Groves

Date: 15 August 2024

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

### **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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



Mark Gurney FCCA, DChA  
of Dains Audit Ltd  
St. John's Court  
Wiltell Road  
Lichfield  
Staffordshire  
WS14 9DS

Date: 15 August 2024

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

	Note	2023	Combined 2022
		£	£
<b>Income from:</b>			
Subscriptions and donations	2	15,017	13,946
Concert income	3	16,061	10,288
Income from social events		191	-
Library income		1,120	95
Bank interest and investment income		626	525
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>33,015</b>	<b>24,854</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
General running expenditure	4	9,830	7,602
Concert expenditure	5	14,734	10,837
Expenditure on social events		157	-
Library expenditure		916	-
Scholarship expense		450	-
Grants to Lichfield Cathedral		6,762	4,600
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>32,849</b>	<b>23,039</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		166	1,815
Unrealised Gain on investment revaluation	7	(332)	(275)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(166)</b>	<b>1,540</b>
Fund Balance brought forward		29,568	28,028
<b>Fund Balance carried forward</b>		<b>29,402</b>	<b>29,568</b>

The combined year 2022 column indicates income and expenditure arising the in the period from the former unincorporated organisation and its successor incorporated organisation.



**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
BALANCE SHEET  
31 JULY 2023**

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Music					
As valued 31 July 1994			2,000		2,000
Listed Investment	7		18,536		18,868
			<u>20,536</u>		<u>20,868</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
CBF Deposit Account		2,815		2,211	
CAF Bank		-		8,149	
Cooperative Bank		8,360		-	
Debtors	8	2,438		830	
		<u>13,613</u>		<u>11,190</u>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Creditors	9	(4,747)		(2,490)	
			<u>8,866</u>		<u>8,700</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u><b>29,402</b></u>		<u><b>29,568</b></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Income Fund			<u><b>29,402</b></u>		<u><b>29,568</b></u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

These Accounts were approved by the Trustees on 15 August 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Paul Ecclestone-Brown

Charlotte Groves

Paul Ecclestone-Brown  
Date: 15 August 2024

Charlotte Groves  
Date: 15 August 2024

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**General**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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 effective 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

These Accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, with the exception of the music, which is included at valuation 31 July 1994 and investments which are shown at market value.

These accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

**2. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>Combined 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions	10,335	9,760
Tax repayable on Gift Aid income	1,714	2,787
Patrons & Donations	2,968	1,399
	<u>15,017</u>	<u>13,946</u>

**3. CONCERT INCOME**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>Combined 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Concert income:		
December	5,424	938
Carol Concert	548	452
April	4,694	6,246
June	5,395	2,652
	<u>16,061</u>	<u>10,288</u>

**4. GENERAL RUNNING EXPENDITURE**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>Combined 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Conductors and Accompanist	7,873	5,902
Rent of Room	314	277
Sundry Administration Expenditure	302	298
Adverts, Brochures and Website	247	93
Making Music Membership	544	532
Independent Examiner's Fee	550	500
	<u>9,830</u>	<u>7,602</u>

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023 (CONTINUED)**

**5. CONCERT EXPENDITURE**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>Combined 2022</b>
Concert income:	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Preceding years	(200)	(822)
December	8,147	1,761
Carol Concert	240	220
April	4,227	6,521
June	2,320	3,157
	<u>14,734</u>	<u>10,837</u>

**6. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES**

No Trustee or any person connected with them has received or is due to receive any remuneration or expenses for the year directly or indirectly from the Charity's funds.  
No expenditure was made in relation to related parties.

**7. LISTED INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
857.46 CBF Investment Fund Income Shares		
Market Value at 1 August – year commencement	18,868	19,143
Increase/(Decrease) in Value of holding	<u>(332)</u>	<u>(275)</u>
Market Value at 31 July – year end of holding	<u>18,536</u>	<u>18,868</u>
Historic Cost	<u>9,573</u>	<u>9,573</u>

**8. DEBTORS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gift aid recoverable	1,713	-
Cash in hand	212	830
Prepayment – 2023 Carols Deposit	<u>513</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,438</u>	<u>830</u>

**9. CREDITORS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Concert expenditure - performing rights levy payable	1,016	472
Concert expenditure	-	998
Grant to Lichfield Cathedral	2,381	-
Independent examiner	1,050	620
Scholarship payment	300	-
Deferred income – Commission	<u>-</u>	<u>400</u>
	<u>4,747</u>	<u>2,490</u>

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023 (CONTINUED)**

**10. CHARITY MERGER**

The unincorporated charity Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, registered charity number 509833, transferred its assets to Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, a charitable incorporated organisation, registered charity number 1197192 on 5 May 2022.