

BATTERSEA CHORAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st August 2023



Registered Charity No: 1200589

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Objects

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 events.

Governance and Administration

The Society has operated since 2012 under the terms of the Constitution it adopted in January 2012. In May 2022 it held an Extraordinary General Meeting to adopt a new constitution in anticipation of registering as a Charity. That registration took effect in September 2022. The Society is therefore now a charity registered with the Charities Commission, charity number 1200589.

The principal address of the Society is 5 Ernle Road, London SW20 0HH.

The Society is administered by a committee as defined in its Constitution. All the Committee roles are filled by members of the Society and all paid up members are eligible for any of the roles. All committee members offer themselves for re-election at the Annual General Meeting each year. The Committee members are trustees of the Charity. No trustee is paid for his or her role. For the year ended 31 August 2023 these roles were occupied as follows:

The Officers

• Chairman	Jeremy Nicholson
• Secretary	Lucy Newmark
• Treasurer	Gillian Broadley

Other members of the committee

• Librarian	vacant
• Sponsorship/advertising officer	Diana Macfarlane
• Concert manager	Nicola Ellard
• Assistant concert manager	Hazel Johnson
• Publicity officer	Judith Young

• Membership officer

Janet Bonthron

The music director attends meetings except when his fees are being discussed.

Employees

The Society has no employees. During the year ended 31 August 2023 the Music Director and accompanists were hired in a freelance capacity. Other musicians are hired on an ad hoc basis as required.

Public Benefit

In planning our programme the Committee is mindful of the Society's objects. Our aim is to perform a varied repertoire and to provide easy access at a reasonable price to our events and to membership of the Society.

During the year the Society gave three concerts: our traditional Christmas concert, Elgar's Dream of Gerontius and a concert comprising Handel, Durante and Vivaldi. All three concerts were held at our regular venue of Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square. At our Christmas concert, our chosen charity, Alport, held a retiring collection and we donated the net proceeds of the bar to that charity.

The Society values being open to all singers regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion. Reduced subscription rates are offered for the under 30s and those who are unemployed. The Society does not formally audition although our website explains that some experience is desirable. Potential new members are invited to join a few trial rehearsals.

The Society offers a scholarship for a young tenor or baritone each year; however, this year we were sadly unable to attract a scholar.

Reserves Policy

The trustees consider it prudent that the Society should maintain reserves sufficient to cover the cost of at least one concert and preferably a year's expenditure. As at 31 August 2023 we held reserves above this amount, as we received a generous donation of £10,000 just prior to the year end which will be spent over the next couple of years. There are no restrictions on how the Society can spend this money.

Financial Review

Income for the year was £55,986 of which £11,000 was in donations. Of this, £1000 was spent during the year and £10,000 will be spent over the next few years. Subscriptions increased to £19,220 (2022: £16,065) as membership grew and ticket sales were £20,494 (2022: £19,725).

Expenditure was £41,140 resulting in a surplus of £14,846. This figure is flattered by approximately £1,500 of rehearsal space invoices which were not received until after the year end.

Overall therefore, the Society made a surplus of £14,846, which, even without the donation, represents a welcome return to surplus following two years in which the Society posted net deficits.

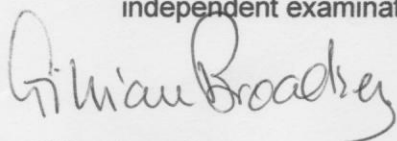
As a result, the reserves of the Society stand at £27,701, represented by cash.

The Society prepares its accounts on a receipts and payments basis, as permitted under S133 of the Charities Act 2011.

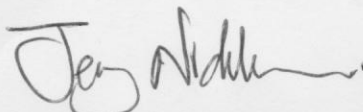
Financial Controls

The financial controls operated by the Society include:

- An annual budget is prepared which is approved by the Committee
- Performance against budget is reviewed by the Committee termly
- Payments from the Society's bank account all require two signatures/on-line approvals
- Subscriptions and ticket sales to members are fully recorded against a register of members and all other advance tickets are sold via an external ticketing agency. Very small volumes of ticket sales are made in cash on the door
- As required by the Charities Commission, the accounts of the Society are subject to an independent examination each year



Gillian Broadley
Treasurer



Jeremy Nicholson
Chairman

18 December 2023

**BATTERSEA CHORAL SOCIETY
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
31 AUGUST 2023**

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of Battersea Choral Society (Reg Charity no 1200589)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity (the "Trust") for the year ended 31st August 2023 set out on page 5.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under 214(5)(b) of the Act.

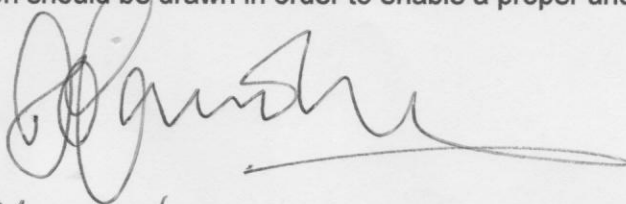
Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give 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:



D. O. CANNON
ACA

12, ERMLE ROAD, LONDON SW20 0HT

Dated:

27 December 2023

BATTERSEA CHORAL SOCIETY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	2023	2023	2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	funds		
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Subscriptions	19,220		19,220	16,065
Donations	10,000		10,000	0
Rehearsal refreshments	1,003		1,003	984
Sponsorship/advertising	3,080		3,080	4,285
Christmas bar charity collection		950	950	0
Miscellaneous income	97		97	757
Total non-concert receipts	33,400	950	34,350	22,091
Payments				
Music Director	6,830		6,830	6,600
Accompanist	3,660		3,660	3,500
Rehearsal space	1,453		1,453	2,657
Insurance/PRS	883		883	511
Website	326		326	0
Christmas bar costs		277	277	0
Donation to charity for Christmas bar		673	673	0
Miscellaneous	35		35	176
Total non-concert payments	13,187	950	14,137	13,444
Net ordinary receipts/(payments)	20,213	0	20,213	8,647
Concert receipts				
Ticket sales	20,494		20,494	19,725
Bar takings	1,092		1,092	600
Donation	0	1,000	1,000	
Total concert receipts	21,586	1,000	22,586	20,325
Concert payments				
Orchestra fees	10,116		10,116	10,985
Venue hire	3,460		3,460	4,620
Professional/soloist fees	6,069	1,000	7,069	6,800
Publicity and printing	3,960		3,960	4,977
Concert bar costs	600		600	210
Orchestral score hire	511		511	728
Staging/chair hire	1,689		1,689	1,016
Miscellaneous	548		548	560
Total concert payments	26,953	1,000	27,953	29,896
Net concert (payments)/receipts	(5,367)	0	(5,367)	(9,571)
Net receipts/(payments) for the year	14,846	0	14,846	(924)
Cash at start of year			12,855	13,779
Cash at end of year			27,701	12,855