

**BATTERSEA CHORAL SOCIETY**  
**ANNUAL TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31st August 2024**



## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**For the year ended 31 August 2024**

### **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 operates under the terms of the Constitution it adopted in May 2022 . It is 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 the Trustees of the Charity. No trustee is paid for his or her role. For the year ended 31 August 2024 these roles were occupied as follows:

#### **The Officers**

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

#### **Other members of the committee**

• Librarian	Ann Morgan (appointed 17/09/24)
• Sponsorship/advertising officer	Diana Macfarlane
• Concert manager	Nicola Ellard
• Assistant concert manager	Hazel Johnson
• Publicity officer	Louise Riley (appointed 23/01/24)
• 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 2024 the Music Director and accompanist were retained 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, Cherubini's Requiem and the magnificent and rarely sung Mendelssohn oratorio, St Paul.

All three concerts were held at our regular venue of Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square. At our Christmas concert, our chosen charity, Music4Children, held a retiring collection and we donated the net proceeds of that evening's 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 in receipt of unemployment benefits. The Society does not formally audition although our website explains that some experience of choral singing is desirable. Potential new members are invited to join a few trial rehearsals.

The Society offers a scholarship for a young musician each year. This year we trialled a new scholarship for a young choral conductor and we are pleased to have the services of Alice Habis, who started with us in the summer term and will continue with us for a further 2 terms.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees consider it prudent that the Society should maintain reserves sufficient to cover the normal expenditure of the Society for one year or the gross cost of one concert, whichever is the greater. As at 31 August 2024 we held reserves above this amount, as we continue to spend the generous donation of £10,000 received in the previous year. There are no restrictions on how the Society can spend this money and it is in part going towards the choral conductor scholarship.

### **Financial Review**

Income for the year was £58,564 (2023: £56,936) of which £2,310 (2023: £11,000) was in donations. All of the donations received during the year were spent according to the terms of the donations. Subscriptions increased to £24,075 (2023: £19,220) as membership grew and ticket sales were £21,471 (2023: £20,494). The Society benefited for the first time from the receipt of GiftAid, which amounted to £4,022. There was a further £546 of Gift Aid received after the year end but relating to this financial year.

Expenditure for the year was somewhat higher than usual, as we celebrated our 25th Anniversary year with a very special concert of Mendelssohn's St Paul. Unusually the Society had to purchase music which was unavailable for members to buy independently. We arranged



a special print run of the Mendelssohn St Paul as insufficient were available for rehearsals, also we printed an out of copyright piece for the Christmas concert and a small run of the piece we commissioned a few years ago. Members contributed significantly to the cost of these items but we were left with a loss of £546 including a small stock of the St. Paul which we have written off.

The Society also invested in some publicity to grow the choir. New members were sought and investment made in a video recording for use in social media and on our website. A few additional rehearsals and a rise in costs, which had remained static for some years, also meant a rise in professional musician fees. Finally, as reported last year, approximately £1,500 of rehearsal space for 22/23 fell into the payments for 23/24.

Overall the Society made a deficit for the year of £1,485 (2023: surplus of £14,846).

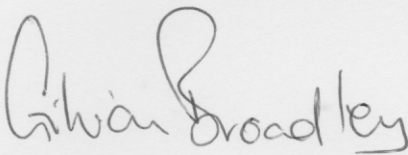
As a result, the reserves of the Society stand at £26,216 (2023: £27,701), represented by cash.

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

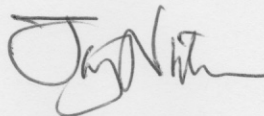
#### **Financial Controls**

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. Only a very small number if ticket sales are made for cash.
- 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

21 January 2025

**BATTERSEA CHORAL SOCIETY  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
31 AUGUST 2024**

**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 2024 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.

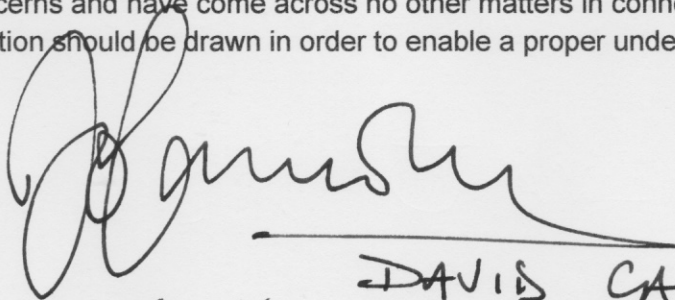
**Independent Examiner's statement**

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:



DAVID CANNON A.C.A

Dated:

21 January 2025

**Battersea Choral Society**  
**Receipts and Payment Account for the year ended 31 August 2024**

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Subscriptions		24,075		24,075	19,220
Donations		0	0	0	10,000
Rehearsal refreshments		1,215		1,215	1,003
Gift Aid		4,022		4,022	0
Miscellaneous income		0		0	97
<b>Total non-concert receipts</b>		<b>29,312</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29,312</b>	<b>30,320</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Music professionals		13,113		13,113	10,490
Rehearsal space		4,339		4,339	1,453
Insurance		151		151	143
Making Music membership		392		392	465
Website		163		163	326
Scholars		667		667	0
Scores for members		545		545	0
Publicity		733		733	0
Miscellaneous		678		678	35
<b>Total non-concert payments</b>		<b>20,781</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,781</b>	<b>12,912</b>
<b>Net ordinary receipts/(payments)</b>		<b>8,531</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,531</b>	<b>17,408</b>
<b>Concert receipts</b>					
Ticket sales		21,471		21,471	20,494
Bar takings		1,821		1,821	1,092
Christmas bar charity collection	1.		1,316		950
Advertising	1.	3,650		3,650	3,080
Donations			2,310	2,310	1,000
<b>Total concert receipts</b>		<b>26,942</b>	<b>3,626</b>	<b>29,252</b>	<b>26,616</b>
<b>Concert payments</b>					
Orchestra fees		17,430	1,860	19,290	10,116
Venue hire		3,705		3,705	3,460
Conductor/soloist fees		7,130	450	7,580	7,069
Publicity and printing		4,482		4,482	3,960
Concert bar costs		755		755	600
Christmas bar costs	1.		743		277
Christmas bar donation to charity	1.		573		673
Orchestral score hire		1,249		1,249	511
Staging/chair hire		1,597		1,597	1,689
PRS	2.	416		416	275
Miscellaneous		194		194	548
<b>Total concert payments</b>		<b>36,958</b>	<b>3,626</b>	<b>39,268</b>	<b>29,178</b>
<b>Net concert (payments)/receipts</b>		<b>(10,016)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(10,016)</b>	<b>(2,562)</b>
<b>Net receipts/(payments) for the year</b>		<b>(1,485)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,485)</b>	<b>14,846</b>
Cash at start of year				27,701	12,855
Cash at end of year				26,216	27,701

**Notes**

1. In the prior year, advertising and the Christmas bar were showed as ordinary income and expenditure. They are now shown as concert income/expenditure
2. In the prior year, PRS was combined shown as an ordinary payment, but is now shown as concert expense.