

New Sussex Singers
Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts year ending 31 December 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The Trustees confirm that the financial statements have been prepared to comply with s133 Charities Act 2011.

Objects and Activities

The Objects of the choir are to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of choral music in all its aspects, in particular but not exclusively by the presentation of public concerts as determined from time to time by the choir through its trustees.

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission (PB2).

In pursuing our aims to provide benefit for the public, the choir believes it has achieved a threefold positive impact in the last year.

- a) Singers engage in a creative, enjoyable, fulfilling and sociable educational activity, providing opportunities to develop vocal technique and repertoire as well as to experience public performance.
- b) For audiences, the choir presents high quality, varied and innovative performances which should always be a pleasurable cultural experience. In addition, it provides opportunities from time to time for the people attending concerts to be challenged and educated by extending their music experience and knowledge. At each concert, information is provided about each piece of music, in a way that is both educational and entertaining.
- c) New Sussex Singers offers occasional workshops, publicising widely to encourage a broad breadth of participants. These focus on developing expertise in various aspects of choral singing.

To ensure that its activities are affordable, Trustees provide concessionary rates as necessary for both membership subscriptions and concert tickets. Any member with financial difficulties can privately discuss a reduced subscription arrangement with the Membership Secretary.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

In the year covered by this report we organised two workshops with quite different themes, the first focussing on techniques for choral singing and the second led by John Rutter. Between them they brought over 350 people together to share and develop their musical knowledge.

As part of our community activities, we collaborated with All Saints Lindfield to perform the Coleridge Requiem and our Christmas concert performance was enhanced again with the contribution from the choir at South Malling School. We also performed a Christmas programme in support of Kent, Sussex and Surrey air ambulance.

Our other performances were the German Requiem (Brahms) with four hands and a concert celebrating the music of John Rutter in his 80th birthday year which particularly focused on the tradition of choral jazz spearheaded by Rutter and Shearing.

Review

The Trustees are pleased to report a successful year delivering a surplus despite rising costs. The Trustees are considering appropriate ways to manage this surplus in relation to the charity's objects and public benefit and look forward to reporting more in 2027.

Details of any funds held as a custodian trustee – none.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are appointed every year through election at the AGM. During the period covered by this report they met six times

The charity is governed by a constitution ((based on the Charitable Associations (unincorporated) Model Constitution Ver Nov 13 New format Jan 17)) adopted on 9 March 2023.

Reference and administrative information

Name of Charity	New Sussex Singers
Charity Registration Number	1204239
Principal Address	Castle Precincts Cottage Castle Precincts Lewes East Sussex BN7 1YT

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows: -

Alison Lawfield
Marion Umney (resigned March 2026)
Lisa Quilter
Melinda Stone
Elizabeth Dandridge
Peter Ashley (appointed March 2026)

New Sussex Singers

Charity registration number: 1204239

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED TO 31 DECEMBER 2025**

Receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Subscriptions from members	9,095	-	-	9,095	7,786
Donations	260	-	-	260	405
Gift aid received	2,369	-	-	2,369	1,402
Income from concerts (see note 1)	16,151	-	-	16,151	7,468
Music score hire	-	-	-	-	30
Rehearsal refreshments	182	-	-	182	86
Sub total	28,057	-	-	28,057	17,177
Asset and investment sales					
Sale of investments	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	28,057	-	-	28,057	17,177
Payments					
Music director fees for rehearsals	5,440	-	-	5,440	4,750
Accompanist fees for rehearsals	3,475	-	-	3,475	2,520
Hire of rehearsal venues	1,290	-	-	1,290	1,234
Expenses for concerts (see note 1)	11,251	-	-	11,251	8,694
Publicity	-	-	-	-	10
Music scores	391	-	-	391	583
Insurance	155	-	-	155	107
Subscription to Making Music etc.	464	-	-	464	401
Website	355	-	-	355	15
Sundry	50	-	-	50	86
Beamish - First instalment of Commission	1,200	-	-	1,200	-
Sub total	24,071	-	-	24,071	18,400
Asset and investment purchases					
Equipment purchased	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	24,071	-	-	24,071	18,400
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,986	-	-	3,986	(1,223)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	4,971	-	-	4,971	6,194
Cash funds this year end	8,957	-	-	8,957	4,971

New Sussex Singers

Charity registration number: 1204239

Notes

Concerts

	Prior year	Workshop 22.3.25	Coleridge Requiem 18.4.25	Rutter workshop 7.6.25	Utterly Rutterly 28.6.25	German Requiem 15.11.25	Sing Noel 13.12.25	Ardingly 18.12.25	Next year	Total 2025	Total 2024
		61	150	296	95+5 (under16)	110+6 (under 16)	98 + 24 (under 16) + 4 (under 5)				
Ticket Sales											
Receipts	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ticket sales	-	984	1,740	7,205	1,545	1,866	1,194	-	-	14,534	5,579
Fee received	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	275	-	275	1,000
Bar sales	-	-	-	-	339	129	-	-	-	468	399
CD sales	-	-	-	225	-	-	-	-	-	225	-
Programme advertising	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Donations	-	55	50	199	115	-	-	-	-	419	346
Contribution to music score replacement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Contribution to weekend rehearsal	-	-	-	-	-	490	15	-	-	505	77
Total income	-	1,039	1,790	7,629	1,999	2,485	1,209	275	-	16,426	7,468
Less: income not yet received	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(275)	-	(275)	-
Total receipts	-	1,039	1,790	7,629	1,999	2,485	1,209	-	-	16,151	7,468
Payments											
Music director fees	-	350	350	200	300	350	275	275	-	2,100	1,440
Accompanist fees	-	200	200	300	-	777	180	-	-	1,657	700
Soloists	-	-	-	-	-	700	-	-	-	700	456
Instrumentalists	-	-	-	-	750	-	-	-	-	750	2,867
Additional singers fees	-	-	130	-	-	-	130	130	-	390	455
Gift for John Rutter	-	-	-	150	-	-	-	-	-	150	-
Hire of venues	-	157	-	1,045	269	56	182	-	-	1,709	414
Event facilitator	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	411
Publicity	-	-	-	219	170	144	127	-	-	660	384
Hire of music scores	-	59	165	771	280	194	111	-	-	1,580	770
Music score purchases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105
Finance costs	-	52	-	359	76	82	60	-	-	629	235
Performing rights society fees	(9)	-	82	-	60	60	60	-	-	253	171
Bar costs	-	-	-	126	180	163	-	-	-	469	269
Donation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of CDs	-	-	-	123	-	-	-	-	-	123	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	26	17
Total expenditure	(9)	818	927	3,293	2,085	2,526	1,151	405	-	11,196	8,694
Less: payments made last year	-	(25)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(25)	-
Add: payments made for next year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	28	-
Less: outstanding payments	-	-	-	-	-	(60)	(139)	-	-	(199)	-
Add: payments made for last year	251	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	251	-
Total payments	242	793	927	3,293	2,085	2,466	1,012	405	28	11,251	8,694
Net of surplus/deficit for concerts	9	221	863	4,336	(86)	(41)	58	(130)	-	5,230	(1,226)


Receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £
Cash	Bank current account	8,857.00	-	-
	Cash float	100.00	-	-
				-
	Total cash funds	8,957.00	-	-
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £
Other assets	Prepaid Music Hire	28	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total	28	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost	Insured value
Assets retained for the charity's own use				
		Fund to which asset belongs	Amount due	When due
Liabilities	Members' sub/donation in advance	Unrestricted	36	< 1 year
	Concert expenses unpaid	Unrestricted	199	< 1 year

No trustees received any remuneration or expenses during the year.
There are endowment funds or restricted funds at present.

Signed on behalf of
all the trustees:

Signature 

Name	Date of approval
Alison Lawfield	16/03/2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of New Sussex Singers

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of New Sussex Singers (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

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 Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Jenny Dinnage FCA
Chartered Accountant
ICAEW

Suite 3, 1 – 3 Warren Court
Park Road
Crowborough
East Sussex
TN6 2QX

Date: 16 March 2026

New Sussex Singers

Charity registration number: 1204239

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED TO 31 DECEMBER 2025**

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Date: 16 March 2026