

Morning Chorus (Borough of Ealing)
Annual Report for the period ending 31 December 2023.

Chair's Report

This report covers the period from July 2022 to 31 December 2023. This is our first full period since adopting our constitution and becoming Morning Chorus (Borough of Ealing).

The first AGM of Morning Chorus was held in June 2023 and at this meeting the interim accounts and an interim report were presented to members.

As at the end of December 2023 we had 67 full members. The choir meets on Mondays in term time in Hanwell and Thursdays in Ealing. Singers can attend either or both sessions in a week for one inclusive fee.

Terms are 12 weeks and the fee is currently £100 plus £5 for copyright material.

The choir was formally a not-for-profit organisation from its inception in July 2022. It became a charity on 23 August 2023 and was granted Charity Commission registration on 20 October 2023 (Registration number 1025341).

Trustees

Trustees of the charity are as follows;

Denise Field – Chair

David Bourne – Treasurer

Val Woodroffe – Secretary

Music Director

Paul Ayres

In addition we are very grateful for the voluntary work of the following members;

Sukyi Ma - who has a lot of work to manage our accounts and who does so with professionalism and efficiency. Sukyi is stepping down from this role in August 2024 and we are seeking a new accounts manager.

Lynn Laws - who works with local community groups to put together our programme of performances. Lynn will be stepping down from this role in July 2024.

Alex Broman - who manages new enquiries with enthusiasm and encouragement.

Chris and Gilly Popham - who have so generously managed our publicity material. Gilly stepped down from the choir during the year.

Moir Brookfield – who manages our Facebook page.

My thanks, too, to other members of the choir who help on an ad hoc basis.

Members discussed keeping the choir to manageable numbers at the AGM in June 2023, consistent with our objectives and the capacity of the rooms in which we rehearse. Trustees have decided that a maximum number of 70 singers with

some flexibility is right for the choir at this point of our development. As we reached 31 December we had 3 places available.

Our main purpose is to enjoy singing together at our twice weekly rehearsals. In addition we perform at community events in the local area.

Since our inception in July 2022 we have provided the following concerts.

- We have provided a small choir to entertain people at Hanwell Neighbourly Care both at Christmas 2022 and as part of their Coronation celebrations in May 2023.
- We have performed in July 2023 and in December 2023 for the Memory Café at St Barnabas church, Pitshanger Lane W5.
- We performed at a Macmillan Cancer Support fundraising event in October 2023, as well as passing on £310 of donations from choir members to Macmillan.
- We showcased our work at Lighting the Lane, a community-based Christmas event, in Pitshanger Lane in November 2023.
- We performed and led a sing-along at Haven Green Baptist church for their Friendship café in December 2023.
- In addition through friendships and connections which have formed some of our members sang with Holy Cross church choir, in Greenford at their carol concert in December 2023 and with a charity group which sang at Kew Christmas market in December 2023.
- In addition we held an afternoon workshop at Ealing Green Church in September 2023 to attract new members.

A full programme of gigs has taken place in the Spring term 2024.

FINANCES

We finish the financial period with cash funds of £7,699 (see accounts). This has enabled us to offer special arrangements to those people who are either unwaged or whose health means they are not able to attend choir regularly.

External Factors

There have been no external factors which bear directly on the work of the choir or its financial position.

Future plans

Our small surplus has enabled us to plan the purchase of a portable keyboard and amplifier to enable us to perform for community groups who do not have access to this equipment.

We have sung songs not only in English but in Japanese, Indian languages, Welsh, German, French reflective of some of our members' backgrounds and the population of the borough.

Music Director

My special thanks to our Music Director, Paul Ayres, whose professional expertise and knowledge of working with choirs enables us to meet the

challenges of a wide range of material and who teaches us week by week how to use our voices and work together on our choral sound.

Most of all my thanks to all the members of the choir whose friendliness, enthusiasm and willingness to give anything a try means every session is a joy!

Denise Field
Chair
June 2024

Financial Report – to 31 December 2023

Background

This report covers the period from the start of Morning Chorus on 28 July 2022 to the end of our last financial year at 31 December 2023. People who were members at this time last year may remember the accounts we presented at the last AGM: these accounts cover the same time period but extend them to the end of the financial year. These are the accounts that will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

The format of the accounts has changed from the accounts we presented last year. Those accounts followed the accountancy format normally used for businesses (referred to as an accruals basis). We have now adopted a new format, as provided by the Charity Commission for charities of our small size.

This format is simpler. The accounts show what cash income was received and what cash payments were made during the accounting period, and reports the period end cash balance. The starting cash balance, plus the cash paid in, minus the cash paid out, must equal the period end cash balance.

Comments

When it started, Morning Chorus took on the cash and the outstanding debts of its predecessor, the daytime choir. The cash (£449) is shown as income, and the outstanding payments have been incorporated into the payments shown.

The accounts show that we ended 2023 with £7,699 cash in the bank. The new accountancy format does not require us to report reserves, but i) £5,040 of the cash received during December 2023 constituted member fees in respect of the spring term, and ii) we had no bills outstanding, so of that £7,699 cash, about £2,600 was uncommitted and can be considered as reserves. We therefore believe the choir's financial position to be stable.

David Bourne
Treasurer
June 2024

Attachment



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Morning Chorus (Borough of Ealing)

1205341

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

28th July 2022

To

31st December 2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year (N/A) to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations received	380	-	-	380	-
Membership Fees to 31/12/2023	20,304	-	-	20,304	-
Workshop Income	320	-	-	320	-
Performance Income	60	-	-	60	-
Cash from Daytime Choir	449	-	-	449	-
Membership Fees for Spring Term 2024	5,040	-	-	5,040	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	26,553	-	-	26,553	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	26,553	-	-	26,553	-
A3 Payments					
Cost of external performances	410	-	-	410	-
Cost of Workshop	372	-	-	372	-
Musical Director's fees (rehearsals)	12,320	-	-	12,320	-
Hire of Halls (rehearsals)	4,550	-	-	4,550	-
Making Music Insurance and Membership fee	521	-	-	521	-
Music copyright	222	-	-	222	-
Stationery	12	-	-	12	-
Refreshment	37	-	-	37	-
Making Music fee for CC Application	100	-	-	100	-
Donation paid (Macmillan Cancer event)	310	-	-	310	-
		-	-	-	-
Sub total	18,854	-	-	18,854	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	18,854	-	-	18,854	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,699	-	-	7,699	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	7,699	-	-	7,699	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at Bank	7,699	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	7,699	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

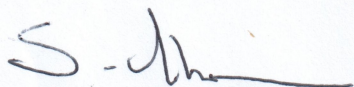
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
	Funds reserved for music copyright	284	-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
David Bourne	DAVID BOURNE	22 April 2024

Trustees of Morning Chorus (Borough of Ealing)

I confirm that on 4 May 2024 I reviewed the accounts of Morning Chorus (Borough of Ealing) for the financial year ended 31 December 2023, as presented to me by the Treasurer, David Bourne. In doing so I identified no issues with the accounts.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S. Thompson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sandy Thompson