



**THE NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**  
**Registered Charity No. 231548**

**168th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 7 OCTOBER 2024 - 8.15PM**  
**AT THE NOTTINGHAM EMMANUEL SCHOOL**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Minutes of the meetings held on:**
  - 9 October 2023 - 167th Annual General Meeting
  - 15 April 2024 - Special General Meeting
- 2. Matters arising from the above minutes**
- 3. Consideration of the report from the Chair of the General Committee**
- 4. Consideration of the Annual Report of the General Committee**
- 5. To receive the Statement of Accounts**
- 6. To note the subscription rates for the 169th Season (2024-2025)** as approved at the Special General Meeting held on 15 April 2024.

Proposed by the General Committee:	FULL RATE 2024-2025/2023-2024/2022-2023	CONCESSION RATE 2024-2025/2023-2024/2022-2023	STUDENT RATE 2024-2025/2023-2024/2022-2023
Existing members pay FULL SEASON	£175/£165/£155	£140/£132/£124/	FREE/FREE/FREE
New members joining from 1 Jan 2025	£105/£99/£93	£84/£79.50/£74.50	FREE/FREE/FREE
New members joining from 1 April 2025	£61.25/£57.50/£54.25	£49/£46.50/£43.50	FREE/FREE/FREE
Friends joining at anytime	£20/£20/£20	£20/£20/£20	

Note that existing members, who need to take a sabbatical for work, family or health reasons can pay a Retainer subscription of £25.

**7. Election of Independent Examiner**

Baldwin Cox Ltd. Accountants - Proposer: John Filsak, Seconder: Guy Turner

**8. Election of Honorary Treasurer**

**Nominee:** John Filsak - Proposer: Dave Pitt, Seconder: Guy Turner

**9. Election of General Committee** - There are four vacancies.

Nominations are:

1. Muriel Kettlewell - Proposer: Lusia Coulson, Seconder: Julie King
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

There are also two co-options allowed under the Rules. These are for specific reasons and can be allocated at any time during the season after the AGM.

**10. Any Other Business**

**11. Long Service Certificates will be presented to:**

**25 yrs: Mrs Joanne Browne**

**35 yrs: Mr Gary Ackrill**

**Dr Margaret Benson**

**Mrs Glynis Prosser**

**40 yrs: Mrs Gail Brown**

**Mrs Alison Simkins**

**45 yrs: Mrs Jane Rouse**

**THE NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**  
**Registered Charity No. 231548**

**Minutes of the 167th Annual General Meeting**

Held at The Nottingham Emmanuel School  
on Monday 9 October 2023 at 8.15pm

**Present:** President – Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason  
Chair of the General Committee – Mrs Joanne Browne  
Hon. Treasurer – Mr John Filsak  
Hon. General Secretary (acting) – Mrs Joanne Browne  
Vice Chair (acting) – Mrs Dorothy Martin  
103 members of the Society attended.

**Welcome**

Mrs Browne welcomed everyone to the meeting. She also gave a warm welcome to our President, Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason, and explained that she would be presenting our Long Service certificates later this evening. Mrs Browne reminded attendees that they must be a member of the Society to vote, which would be by show of hands. Our Tellers, Dave Pitt and Paul Morris, would be counting attendees and votes.

1. **Minutes of the 166th Annual General Meeting held on 10 October 2022** were unanimously accepted as a true and correct record with no objections or abstentions.

**Minutes of the Special General Meeting held on 24 April 2023** were unanimously accepted as a true and correct record with no abstentions or objections. The minutes of all meetings would be signed by the Chair of the General Committee.

2. **Matters arising from the minutes of the 166th AGM and the Special General Meeting.**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 166th AGM. Regarding the SGM, under item 2 - Choir Vacancies, Mrs Browne asked members to note that she had recently taken on the role of Programme Compiler, Jenny Weir had taken on the role of Membership Secretary and Cathy Milne that of New Member and Auditions Secretary.

3. **Consideration of the report from the Chair of the General Committee**

Mrs Browne commented that her three-year term will conclude at the General Committee meeting later in the week. In addition to her published report, she added her reflections on the most unusual term of office which was divided into three parts. Firstly, there was the virtual year, as the Choir stoically tuned into 'Harmonic TV', aka Zoom. Then we moved into the 'at a distance' period and finally normality arrived with the past year. Mrs Browne reiterated her sincere thanks to everyone who had supported her and the Choir throughout and latterly extended special thanks to Dorothy Martin for the past few weeks whilst she had been unable to attend rehearsals.

#### **4. Consideration of the Report from the General Committee**

The report was accepted and with no matters arising.

#### **5. To Receive the Statement of Accounts**

Our Hon. Treasurer, Mr John Filsak, presented the accounts as included on pages 20 to 31 of the Annual Report.

Mr Filsak thanked our former Treasurer, Jane Rouse, for her support since he had taken over the role during the spring. He then emphasised that although the Society is well-financed, it cannot continue to make losses indefinitely. All were encouraged to sell more tickets and that we should at least try to break even with some of our concerts.

Members raised questions:

- It was asked whether performing Messiah every year is viable as it now makes a loss when it used not to. The Chair explained that the Committees had discussed this at length and even looked at alternative venues, but it had been agreed that we should remain at our current venue and endeavour to build our audience levels. This will continue to be reviewed. It was stated that the enjoyment of both singers and our audience is a consideration as well as making a profit.
- A further query was raised as to why we now only perform one Family Carol Concert, rather than two as in the past. The Chair explained that costs had increased immensely for the event in terms of venue hire and it is considered better to have a fuller audience at one event. Also, members had often been unable to take part in both performances.
- Also mentioned was that clashes with other events might reduce our audience. It is regrettable that there is a Messiah performance at Southwell Minster at a similar time. In response, it was explained that the Nottingham clash diary is viewed. We must book our concert dates a long way in advance for several reasons and often other events crop up at the Arena or Theatre Royal after our programme is agreed.

The motion to accept the Statement of Accounts was proposed by Dr John Whittle and seconded by Mr David Tranter. This motion was accepted and carried unanimously.

#### **6. To note the subscription rates for the 168th Season (2023-2024)**

These rates were approved at the Special General Meeting held on 24 April 2023. No questions were raised.

<b>Proposed by General Committee:</b>	<b>FULL RATE</b> <b>2023-2024/2022- 2023/2021-2022</b>	<b>CONCESSION RATE</b> <b>2023-2024/2022- 2023/2021-2022</b>	<b>STUDENT RATE</b> <b>2023-2024/2022- 2023/2021-2022</b>
<b>Existing members pay FULL SEASON</b>	<b>£165/£155/£150</b>	<b>£132/£124/£120</b>	<b>FREE/FREE/FREE</b>
<b>New members joining from 1 Jan 2024</b>	<b>£99/£93/£90</b>	<b>£79.50/£74.50/£72</b>	<b>FREE/FREE/FREE</b>
<b>New Members joining from 1 April 2024</b>	<b>£57.50/£54.25/£52.50</b>	<b>£46.50/£43.50/£42</b>	<b>FREE/FREE/FREE</b>
<b>Friends joining anytime</b>	<b>£20/£20/£20</b>	<b>£20/£20/£20</b>	

## 7. Election of Independent Examiner

Mrs Browne reported that Baldwin Cox Limited had agreed to continue as Independent Examiner. A formal proposal was made by Mr John Filsak and seconded by Mrs Joanne Browne. The members approved this, with no objections.

## 8. Election of Honorary Treasurer

Mrs Browne explained that John Filsak was appointed by the General Committee as Hon. Treasurer in January 2023 but that the role is usually an annual appointment at the AGM. Mr Dave Pitt proposed that Mr John Filsak should be elected as Hon. Treasurer, and this was seconded by Mrs Jane Rouse. The members approved this nomination, with no objections.

## 9. Election of General Committee Members

There were nine vacancies. The following people had been nominated prior to the meeting:

1. Guy Turner - Proposer: Julie King, Seconded: John Parry
2. Joanne Browne - Proposer: Claire Russ, Seconded: Dave Pitt
3. Dorothy Martin - Proposer: Heather Norbury, Seconded: Clare Bayley
4. Lusía Coulson - Proposer: Christine Taylor, Seconded: Muriel Kettlewell
5. Julie King - Proposer: Rachel Cropley, Seconded: Gail Brown
6. Cathy Milne - Proposer: Margaret Farrington, Seconded: Alison Fretwell
7. Jane Rouse— Proposer: Lusía Coulson, Seconded: Joanne Browne

Mrs Browne explained that under our rotation system there were four committee members who had completed their term of office – Dorothy Martin, Lusía Coulson, Julie King and herself. All four agreed to stand for re-election and had been nominated. Jane Rouse had been a co-opted member since January. She wished to stand for election so that she could continue to support our new team of officers. The other two nominees were Cathy Milne (our new Auditions and New Members Secretary) and Guy Turner. There were no further nominations. Following a unanimous vote, all members nominated were elected.

## **10. Any Other Business**

The Chair explained that no further business items had been submitted prior to the meeting.

At this point, Mrs Julie King stood to announce that the General Committee had decided to present a Professor John Morehen Award for Outstanding Service. She then explained the background and criteria of the Award. The recipient was to be Mrs Joanne Browne, in recognition of her efforts over and above what is usually expected, specifically due to the pandemic. She had also taken on the role of Hon. General Secretary as the position was vacant. This was loudly applauded, and Mrs King invited our President, Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason, to present the Award to Mrs Browne. Joanne responded to say that she was both delighted and honoured to receive the award.

## **11. Presentation of Long Service Certificates**

Ahead of presenting the Long Service certificates, Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason said she was delighted to be present at our AGM and had been extremely happy when invited to become President of the Choir. She said that she much admired the dedication of members attending rehearsals week after week and recognised that it was because music matters.

She said that this was music at its best and it cannot exist without the communication with each other and shared love of what you achieve together. She acknowledged that despite the pandemic and general economic gloom, the Choir's dedication was undiminished. Kadiatu closed by saying that in addition to congratulating some very deserving individuals this evening, she wanted to congratulate all the members as they stand for two very important things which we need to hold onto and fight for: community and music.

Mrs Browne thanked Kadiatu and then said, in usual tradition, that in memory of the late Prof. John Morehen, the total number of years' service being acknowledged this evening was two hundred.

Dr Kanneh-Mason then stepped forward to present certificates to those present. Three people were unable to attend the meeting and their certificates will be presented another time.

**25 yrs: Mr Mike Childerhouse** (not present)  
**Mrs Jan Johnson** (not present)  
**Mr Dave Pitt**

**30 yrs: Mrs Joanna Hando**  
**Mrs Joanne Needham** (not present)  
**Mr Barry Shaw**

**35 yrs: Dr David Evans**

Mrs Browne congratulated all recipients and asked members to show their appreciation. She concluded by thanking members for attending and gave special thanks to Dr Kanneh-Mason for her kind words and making the presentations.

There being no further business the Chair of the General Committee closed the meeting at 8.37pm

**THE NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**  
**Registered Charity No. 231548**

**Minutes of the Special General Meeting**

held on Monday 15 April 2024 at 8.40pm  
at The Nottingham Emmanuel School

**Item 1. Proposal for Subscriptions**

The subscription rates for the 2024/2025 Season proposed by the General Committee were emailed to all members prior to the meeting.

Attention was drawn to:

Full: £175 and Concession: £140

The proposed rates include the hire of all music for the Season

Two items were raised:

- a. What is the qualifying age for concessions? In response, the subscription form states that this is 'pensionable age' - i.e. in receipt of the state pension.  
Note: Subsequent to the meeting, the General Committee agreed, after discussion, to set the age for concessionary subscriptions at 65 on 1 September of the season in question. This avoids pensionable age being different for different people, which was a matter of concern for some members.
- b. It was suggested that students might pay a small subscription rather than receive free membership.  
This query will be referred to the General Committee for consideration before the 2025 SGM.

96 members of the Society attended the meeting

All members present voted in favour of the subscription proposal with no abstentions.



**THE NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**  
**Registered Charity No. 231548**

**Annual Report of the 168th Season 2023-2024**  
**October 2024**

**PRESIDENT**

The President for the 168th season was Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason.

**REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE**

As I reach the end of my first year 'in the Chair' I am delighted to report that the Choir's 168th season has again seen great success, both musically and in terms of audience numbers. It is very encouraging to know that the huge enthusiasm we singers feel for what we do is so clearly shared by our audiences. We now look forward to another full concert programme for our 2024-25 season, commencing with one of my personal favourites, Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*.

At last October's AGM it was a pleasure to present our Long Service Awards plus our very special additional award, The Professor John Morehen Award for Outstanding Service, to Mrs Joanne Browne. I would like to express my personal gratitude to Joanne for the comprehensive handover and continued support she has given me as I have taken up the reins as Chair.

During November we performed our Autumn Rhapsody concert at Nottingham's Albert Hall, featuring Brahms' sublime *Alto Rhapsody* with soloist Rhonda Browne, as well as works by Grieg and Sibelius. Mozart's *Laudate Dominum* was followed by Mendelssohn's rousing *Hymn of Praise* from Symphony No 2. For this concert we were also pleased to welcome three excellent young soloists from the Royal Northern College of Music.

Given the ever-increasing costs of performing at the Royal Concert Hall it was gratifying that our annual Messiah and Family Carol concerts were enjoyed by audience numbers exceeding our budgets. The Family Carol Concert, unusually on a Sunday this year, attracted a massive audience of over 1900 people, representing 84% of capacity. We were happy to announce from the stage that it was our thirtieth appearance with the Thoresby Colliery Band, a fact which was greeted with rousing applause.

Just before Christmas some members of the Choir travelled to Birmingham's huge Utilita Arena to augment a core professional choir for a screening of *Home Alone*, accompanied by full orchestra. As well as earning a useful fee for Harmonic funds it was a great experience to work under exacting conditions on minimal rehearsal and perform music very different from our usual repertoire.

Our Music Director Richard Laing, now with us for fifteen years, came up with an unusual piece for our Come and Sing day in February 2024 - a choral arrangement by Christopher Phelps of Elgar's song cycle *Sea Pictures*. Ably supported by our resident accompanist Jonathan Allsopp, the day was enjoyed by 112 singers of whom nearly half were non-members of the Harmonic.

For our March performance we were delighted to have been invited to sing Fauré's *Requiem* in a Sinfonia Viva concert at the Royal Concert Hall as part of the Nottingham Classics season. Under the baton of Natalie Murray Beale, the programme also included *Overture No. 2* by Louise Farrenc and the Schumann piano concerto. We have received many compliments on our performance, and we look forward to future such collaborations.

Our visit to Southwell Minster in May was something very special indeed, as we were privileged to perform Swiss composer Carl Rütti's *Requiem* in the presence of the composer himself. Coupled with the Vivaldi *Gloria*, the concert attracted a large audience who were very appreciative of the extraordinary emotional impact of Rütti's music. We were pleased to welcome guests from our sponsors Hopewells and A. W. Lymn who joined our President Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason and Carl and Marie-Louise Rütti in the audience.

To bring our season to a close approximately 70 members took part in the annual Drivetime event at the Royal Concert Hall with the Hallé Orchestra. An Olympic theme this year, with a rousing rendition of the Olympic Hymn by Samara contrasting with Fauré's *Cantique de Jean Racine*. Always a fun evening, the Drivetime concert has become an established part of Nottingham's music calendar and the Harmonic has been the 'core choir' from the very beginning.

I cannot finish without a huge 'thank you' to my fellow officers and committee members, together with all the volunteers who do so many jobs to help keep the Choir running smoothly. We really couldn't function without them. Taking on the job of Chair has been, and continues to be, a steep learning curve, but the knowledge that there is such a solid team in place is incredibly reassuring.

Dave Pitt

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

This has been quite a good year from a financial point of view. The accounts show an operating loss of just under £1,800 – we almost managed to break even. This was primarily due to attendance at our concerts being better than expected, especially the Family Carol Concert. In addition, the value of our investments has jumped astonishingly. It will be interesting to see how that holds up in the coming year.

This has been my first full year as treasurer, and I have been able to track every payment as it came in or went out. So, for the first time, I have been able to appreciate the contribution made by the Friends of our society, whose subscriptions have added some £1,500 to our income. I know that many of them also serve the society in other ways.

As many of you know, we have received a legacy of £20,000 from Iris Best, a former member of the choir. This was received at the end of June. It hasn't made any difference to our bottom line because it was immediately transferred to the balance sheet as income carried forward (where it keeps company with the members' hardship fund). In the accounts before you the legacy is still in the current account. We have since moved it to an interest-bearing account at the United Trust Bank. The General Committee will make sure that it isn't used up in day-to-day running expenses. Instead, we'll look for something special, exciting or different (or all three).

In the coming season we're going to be performing some wonderful music, but the concerts will be expensive. Please encourage people to come along.

John Filsak

## **TICKET OFFICERS REPORT**

Tickets for our November and Spring Concerts are now sold via Ticketsource, so there is increasingly less involvement from this team. We still sell paper tickets for our Southwell concert, along with the alternative options of using PayPal direct from our own website.

Jo Parry and Anna Charly

## MARKETING AND PUBLICITY

*Printed literature:* The Committee has continued to work a little further ahead during this past Season in producing publicity for each of the concerts and is now almost back on track with scheduling.

New designs were required for Autumn Rhapsody, the Family Carol Concert and the May concert. Thanks to all who had input with helping develop these ideas. We continue to produce our programmes in-house and strive to refresh the content where possible and maintain our high standards for content. Thanks to Joy Lee for continuing to produce the artwork for our Family Carol Concert.

The postal marketing database and hand-delivery distribution list for flyers are working well with new locations and volunteers being added regularly. We have two new members of the M&P team but still need at least one further volunteer to come forward. We will continue to use multiple resources to promote our events and concerts.

*Promotional emails:* Thank you to Inge Alferink who has taken on the promotion of our concerts using our email database. We currently have 428 subscribers. The 'open rate' has maintained its level of around 50% over the last season, which means we are reaching just over 200 people with each mailout. This remains an area of our publicity we could develop further. Perhaps you have some experience in digital marketing and would like to help us make more of our contacts? Choir members are welcome to join this mailing list - you can then forward the emails to family and friends who may be interested (or even better, ask them to sign up themselves). Just visit the website and use the box that will pop up after a short delay. Or just go straight to the envelope icon at the base of our homepage to subscribe there.

*Social media:* Social media continues to be an important tool for marketing Harmonic. We use posts to promote the concerts and engage people in the following ways:

Facebook (search: Nottingham Harmonic Choir),  
X (search: @Notts\_Harmonic)  
Instagram (search:@notts\_harmonic).

We currently have 892 followers on X, 700 followers on Facebook and 257 on Instagram. We continue to slowly increase our reach each year. Huge thanks to Julie King and to Rachel Cropley for continuing to keep our social media updated throughout the season.

Joanne Browne

## **NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC CHOIR WEBSITE**

The website primary functions are:

- To promote Nottingham Harmonic Choir concerts and other related events to the public with the aim of encouraging and maximising attendance.
- To provide information and help for choir members regarding rehearsals, concerts and choir administration.
- To promote the choir to potential new members, providing a contact point and joining information.

Key requirements of the website are that it should be clear and easy to navigate and that the information presented should be fresh and up to date. We hope that it meets those key requirements but recognise that there is always room for improvement.

The membership administration system, built into the website, but accessible only to a small number of administrators and the Membership Secretary, has continued to evolve and play an important role in managing auditions and mass mailings to the membership.

The day to day updates to the website are currently being shared between Joanne Browne and myself. Thanks very much to Julian Toler for continuing with managing the web hosting and maintenance of the site.

Dave Pitt

## **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Membership of the Society has maintained a consistent level this season. The Season closed with 185 members. Of these, eleven chose to take a year out and we look forward to their return. Fifteen members resigned or failed to renew their membership and sadly one member passed away during the season.

We welcomed fifteen new members to the Choir and one returning member. All new members are, of course, very welcome but it is very pleasing that four of these joined the tenor section. The membership breakdown at the end of the season, including those taking a year out, was:

64 Soprano  
65 Alto  
21 Tenor  
36 Bass

Jennifer Weir

## **FRIENDS OF NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC CHOIR**

During the past season, we were sorry to have lost two members, but we welcomed some new members. Please encourage your family and friends to consider joining the Friends. There is a minimum annual donation of £20 per person but no limit! Friends receive discounts on tickets and free programmes for our Nottingham Albert Hall and Southwell Minster concerts.

Newsletters with the now customary bad jokes (think Christmas crackers), puzzles, quizzes are sent out regularly. Friends are invited to observe rehearsals and other choir social events including an annual summer garden party.

We have proactive members who help with stewarding at concerts. This is totally voluntary. Some members are no longer local to Nottingham having moved away; others live many miles away but support the choir in other ways, attending concerts or financially. All help is gratefully received and thank you to all members.

It would be great if we could increase our membership numbers, so please encourage family and friends to consider joining and even consider joining yourselves - membership is open to anyone.

Lusia Coulson

## **LIBRARY REPORT**

It has been easier to source hired music this year than last, because only one or two choir pieces were required for each concert and most music was readily available from libraries or other choirs. The exception was the Rütli Requiem, where most of the copies had to be hired (at great expense) from the publisher. We are very grateful to the Sinfonia Chorale, based in Nottingham, for the loan of their copies of this piece at a reduced price.

Thank you to Sarolta Toth, who has volunteered to take over the role of librarian next season, and to the members of the Library Team, who have been a constant support during my time as librarian.

Heather Norbury

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

### **Professional Staff**

The General Committee wishes to record, as ever, its grateful thanks and appreciation to our Music Director, Richard Laing, and to our Accompanist and Organist, Jonathan Allsopp, for their immense contribution to all our endeavours. We should also like to thank Guy Turner and Michael Dutton.

### **Venues**

The facilities afforded to the Society over the last year by the following are gratefully acknowledged.

The Nottingham Emmanuel School - rehearsal and audition venue

Beeston Parish Church - rehearsal venue

Nottingham High School - audition venue

The Becket School - Come and Sing venue

## Concerts in the 168th Season

### Autumn Rhapsody

Saturday 4 November 2023 7.30PM

Albert Hall, Nottingham

**Grieg** At the Cloister Gate

**Sibelius** The Swan of Tuonela

**Brahms** Alto Rhapsody

**Mozart** Laudate Dominum

**Mendelssohn** 'Hymn of Praise' (Symphony No2)

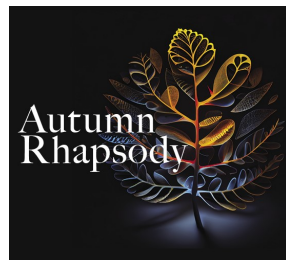
**Rhonda Browne** Contralto

and soloists from the Royal Northern College of Music

**Richard Laing** Conductor

**Simon Hogan** Organist

**Orchestra da Camera**



### Handel *Messiah*

Saturday 2 December 2023 7PM

Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham

**Katie Trethewey** Soprano

**Ciara Hendrick** Mezzo-soprano

**Martin Bell** Tenor

**Edward Grint** Baritone

**Richard Laing** Conductor

**Michael Overbury** Continuo

**Orchestra da Camera**



### Family Carol Concert

Sunday 17 December 2023 5PM

Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham

**Richard Laing** Conductor

**Michael Dutton** Organist

**Thoresby Colliery Band**

**David Purkiss** Band Conductor



### Come and Sing

Saturday 17 February 2024 9.30AM-5PM

The Becket School, West Bridgford

**Elgar** Sea Pictures (arr. Christopher Phelps)

**Richard Laing** Conductor

**Jonathan Allsopp** Accompanist





## Nottingham Classics

Saturday 23 March 2024 7.30PM

Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham

**Louise Farrenc** Overture No. 2

**Schumann** Piano Concerto

**Fauré** Requiem

**Natalie Murray Beale** Conductor

**Jean-Selim Abdelmoula** Piano

**April Fredrick** Soprano

**Simon Wallfisch** Baritone

**Sinfonia Viva**



## Rutti *Requiem* & Vivaldi *Gloria*

Saturday 25 May 2024 7.30PM

Southwell Minster

**April Fredrick** Soprano

**Angus McPhee** Baritone

**Anne Bishop, Rachel Cropley, Julie King** Soprano

**Sarah May Morris** Contralto

**Richard Laing** Conductor

**Simon Hogan** Organ

**Southern Sinfonia**



## The Drivetime Concert with The Hallé

Friday 14 June 2024 6PM

Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham

**John Williams** Olympic Fanfare and Theme

**Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle** La Marseillaise

**Johann Strauss II** Thunder and Lightning Polka

**Aram Khachaturian** Sabre Dance (from Gayane)

**Gabriel Fauré** Cantique de Jean Racine\*

**Gioacchino Rossini** Overture: William Tell

**Tim Jackson** The Sun Comes Out

**Spiro Samara** Olympic Hymn\*

**Sergei Prokofiev** Cinderella – Waltz and Midnight

**Augusta Holmès** La nuit et l'amour from Ludus pro patria

**Michael Giacchino** Theme from The Incredibles

**Euan Shields** Conductor

**Ruth Rosales** Presenter

**Georgie Malcom** Soprano

**\*Drivetime Choir** (core choir - Nottingham Harmonic Choir)



# THE NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 231548

## The Nottingham Harmonic Society – 168<sup>th</sup> Season (2023–2024)

**President:** Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason

### **General Committee:**

#### *Elected members -*

Chair of the Committee	Mr Dave Pitt
Vice-Chair	Ms Rachael Elliot Wood
Hon. General Secretary	Mr Guy Turner
Hon. Treasurer	Mr John Filsak
	Mrs Joanne Browne
Friends' Secretary	Mrs Lusia Coulson
Making Music Representative	Mrs Susan Graves
	Mrs Muriel Kettlewell
	Mrs Julie King
	Mrs Dorothy Martin
	Dr Cathy Milne
	Mr Paul Morris
	Mrs Jane Rouse

### **Other appointments:**

Website Administrators	Mrs Joanne Browne/Mr Dave Pitt
Website Manager	Mr Julian Toler
Programme Compiler	Mrs Joanne Browne
200 Club Manager	Mrs Sarah Morris
Librarian	Dr Heather Norbury
Gift Aid & Membership Secretary	Mrs Jennifer Weir
New Member & Audition Secretary	Dr Cathy Milne
Artistes' Booking Secretary	Dr Philip Smart
Concert Manager (Albert Hall & RCH)	Mrs Julie King
Concert Managers (Southwell Minster)	Mrs Gill Wright/Mrs Jill Blackwell/ Mr David Wright
Archivist	Dr John Whittle assisted by Mr Tim Oaten
Members' Ticket officers	Mrs Jo Parry/Mrs Anna Charly
Concert Assistant	Mr David Martin

### **Choir Stewards:**

First Soprano	Mrs Julie King
Second Soprano	Mrs Dorothy Martin
First Alto	Mrs Claire Russ
Second Alto	Mrs Margaret Farrington
Tenor	Mr Gordon Stoner
Bass	Dr Roger Knaggs

Independent Examiner

Mr Andrew Crossley FCA (Baldwin Cox Ltd, Beeston)

**Professional appointments:**

Music Director & Chorus Master

Mr Richard Laing MA BA PGDip PGCertEd  
CertAPS FISM FRAS FRSA

Accompanist & Organist

Mr Jonathan Allsopp BA (Hons) FRCO

**Sub-Committees:**

**Programming Committee**

Chair of sub-committee

Mrs Dorothy Martin

Mrs Joanne Browne

Mr Garard Cawthorne (Co-opted)

Hon. Treasurer

Mr John Filsak

Mr Andy Kettlewell (Co-opted)

Music Director & Chorus Master

Mr Richard Laing (Co-opted)

Librarian

Dr Heather Norbury (Co-opted)

Chair of the General Committee

Mr Dave Pitt

Artistes' Booking Secretary

Dr Philip Smart (Co-opted)

Hon. General Secretary

Mr Guy Turner

Dr John Whittle (Co-opted)

**Marketing and Publicity**

Chair of sub-committee

Mrs Joanne Browne

Mrs Elizabeth Barrett (Co-opted)

Mr Michael Gillie (Co-opted)

Mr Jonathan Hall (Co-opted)

Chair of the General Committee

Mrs Julie King

Mr Dave Pitt

Mrs Sue Spencer (Co-opted)

**Social Events Group**

Convenor

Mr Jonathan Hall

**Sponsorship Group**

Convenor

Mr John Parry

**APPENDIX**

**NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**

Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

## NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

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## **NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their annual report and financial statements, which comply with current statutory requirements and those of the charity's governing document.

#### **Organisation**

Registered charity number	231548
Principal address	Flat 11 The Old Silk Mill Maythorne Southwell Nottinghamshire NG25 0RS
Trustees	Mrs Joanne Browne Mrs Lusia Coulson Mr John Filsak Mrs Susan Graves Mrs Muriel Kettlewell Mrs Julie King Mrs Dorothy Martin Dr Cathy Milne Mr Paul Morris Mr David Pitt Mrs S Jane Rouse Mr Guy Turner Ms Rachael Elliot Wood

#### **Governance and Management**

The charity is an association of approximately 180 members, which is governed under the rules of its constitution, adopted on October 5, 2020.

Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the AGM held in October.

#### **Objective and Activities**

The objectives 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, including through public performances of choral music of the highest class. The objects of the society shall be confined to charitable purposes only according to the legal meaning of the term.

The focus of our activities for the public benefit remains the promotion of choral and orchestral music in Nottinghamshire by way of concerts. Singing can be for anyone and brings people together. Unusual or seldom-performed works are introduced to the public to educate and encourage music in the community.

The guidance of the Charity Commission regarding public benefit has been considered when discussing and planning the society's five-year concert programme.

## NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### Achievements and Performance

The society has performed in four of its own concerts. "Autumn Rhapsody" featured rarely heard works by Grieg and Brahms, alongside Mozart's Laudate Dominum and Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise. The annual performance of Messiah, and the Family Carol Concert were well attended and well received. Carl Rütti came to Southwell Minster, joining a large audience to hear us sing his Requiem. We formed the choir for a Nottingham Classics performance of Fauré's Requiem. We also provided singers for a "Home Alone" film evening in Birmingham. Our outreach event, "Come and Sing", welcomed singers of all abilities to learn and perform a four-part arrangement of Elgar's Sea Pictures.

#### Reserves Policy

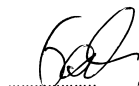
The charity divides its funds equally between low/medium risk investments and cash. The funds are unrestricted. Our investments are reviewed regularly with a financial advisor to ensure that risk is managed and value protected. Investments are not considered to be freely available for spending.

Strong cash reserves ensure that the society can meet current and future liabilities. They provide underlying stability and sustainability, which enable the society to perform concerts where costs cannot be met from one year's income.

Prepared by and signed on behalf of the trustees on August 29, 2024.



D G Pitt (Chair of the General Committee)



J Filsak (Hon Treasurer)

## NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Nottingham Harmonic Society

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30 June 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

#### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act: and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of the Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

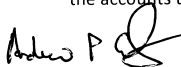
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Andrew P Crossley FCA  
Baldwin Cox Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
15 Foster Avenue  
Beeston  
Nottingham  
NG9 1AE

29 August 2024



## NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>			
Incoming Resources from generated funds:			
Subscriptions		25,040	24,126
Investment income	3	3,438	1,273
Activities for generating funds	4	2,946	2,328
Incoming Resources from charitable activities:	5	61,511	54,171
Other incoming resources	6	7,208	7,414
		<u>100,143</u>	<u>89,312</u>
<b>Resources Expended</b>			
Costs of generating funds	7	21,549	20,394
Charitable activities	8	77,978	84,168
Governance costs	9	2,405	2,393
		<u>101,932</u>	<u>106,955</u>
<b>Net Incoming Resources</b>		<b>(1,789)</b>	<b>(17,643)</b>
Other Recognised Gains:			
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of investments	11	14,283	4,016
<b>Surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure</b>		<b>12,494</b>	<b>(13,627)</b>
Total funds brought forward		295,866	309,493
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>308,360</b>	<b>295,866</b>

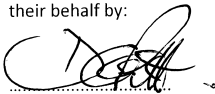
All funds are unrestricted funds

NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

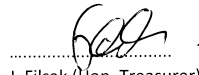
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Music and Folders	10	4,861	4,193
Investments	11	165,606	151,323
		<hr/> 170,467	<hr/> 155,516
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors		6,891	6,436
Cash at bank and in hand	12	153,975	135,784
		<hr/> 160,866	<hr/> 142,220
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		<hr/> (22,973)	<hr/> (1,870)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<hr/> <b>137,893</b>	<hr/> <b>140,350</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<hr/> <b>308,360</b>	<hr/> <b>295,866</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
Unrestricted fund		<hr/> <b>308,360</b>	<hr/> <b>295,866</b>

he financial statements on pages 1 to 9 were approved by the trustees on 29.8.2024 and signed on their behalf by:



D. G. Pitt (Chair of the General Committee)



J. Filsak (Hon. Treasurer)

## NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

#### 1 Accounting Policies

In preparing the accounts, the following accounting policies have been complied with:

- a) The accounts have been prepared on the historic cost convention with the exception that investments are valued at market value. The accounts are in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and reporting by Charities) and comply with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Investment income is recorded when received.
- c) Gift Aid reclaimed on donations to the charity is included within the amount receivable.
- d) Other income and expenditure is included in the accounts when receivable or payable.
- e) Quoted investments have been valued at market value at the balance sheet date.
- f) Unrealised and realised investment gains and losses are shown net in the statement of financial activities.
- g) Music and folders are shown at valuation or cost by the trustees and are being depreciated at 10% per annum on a reducing balance basis.

#### 2 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and accordingly is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they are applied for charitable purposes.

# **NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

### **3 Investment income**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Listed investments	117	54
Interest received	3,321	1,219
	<u>3,438</u>	<u>1,273</u>

### **4 Activities for generating funds**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Come and sing income	<u>2,946</u>	<u>2,328</u>

### **5 Incoming resources from charitable activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Ticket sales	56,876	49,474
Advertising and sponsorship income	1,050	1,650
Performance fee	2,800	1,500
Grant received	-	500
Programme income	785	1,047
	<u>61,511</u>	<u>54,171</u>

### **6 Other incoming resources**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Charities gift aid	5,268	5,460
Other income	1,940	1,954
	<u>7,208</u>	<u>7,414</u>

# **NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**

## **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

### **7 Costs of generating funds**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Rehearsal fees	16,168	15,481
Music stock depreciation	540	466
Come and sing costs	1,717	1,702
Advertising printing and production	1,264	516
Music hire	1,860	2,229
	<u>21,549</u>	<u>20,394</u>

### **8 Charitable activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Orchestra	21,906	27,230
Performers	5,728	3,941
Conductor	6,384	6,300
Music hire	482	2,562
Printing and publicity	1,576	1,686
Programmes	1,307	1,828
Hall hire	34,456	34,716
Advertising	2,076	2,257
PRS	1,519	1,417
Box office commission	2,327	1,928
Sundry	217	303
	<u>77,978</u>	<u>84,168</u>

### **9 Governance costs**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Printing, postage and stationery	529	681
Subscriptions	442	365
Miscellaneous	421	358
Website costs	91	103
Insurance	507	461
Accounting fees	415	425
	<u>2,405</u>	<u>2,393</u>

## NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

#### 10 Music and Folders

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Valuation/cost</b>		
At 1 July 2023 / 1 July 2022	18,754	18,805
Additions	1,208	48
Disposals	-	(99)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 30 June 2024 / 30 June 2023	19,962	18,754
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 July 2023 / 1 July 2022	14,561	14,115
Charge for year	540	466
On disposals	-	(20)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 30 June 2024 / 30 June 2023	15,101	14,561
<b>Net book value</b>		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
30 June 2024 / 30 June 2023	4,861	4,193
	<hr/>	<hr/>

#### 11 Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying value at 1 July 2023 / 1 July 2022	151,323	147,307
Gain/(loss) on revaluation	14,283	4,016
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 30 June 2024 / 30 June 2023	165,606	151,323
	<hr/>	<hr/>

#### 12 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 £	2023 £
Current Account	38,712	7,595
Number Two Account	19	121
United Trust Bank	75,200	73,038
Mansfield Building Society	40,000	55,000
Petty cash	44	30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	153,975	135,784
	<hr/>	<hr/>

#### 13 Trustees

None of the Trustees were paid any remuneration by the charity during the year (2023:£Nil).

**NOTTINGHAM HARMONIC SOCIETY**

**Concert profit and loss account 2023/24**

	4.11.23 AH Autumn Rhapsody	2.12.23 RCH Messiah	17.12.23 RCH Carols	20.12.23 B'ham Home Alone	23.3.24 RCH Faure	25.5.24 Southwell Rutti/Vivaldi	TOTAL
Ticket Sales	3,519	20,454	27,004	-	-	5,899	56,876
Performance fee	-	-	-	800	2,000	-	2,800
Programme Income	214	316	-	-	-	255	785
Sponsorship - 200 Club	-	-	-	-	-	500	500
Advertising	183	183	67	-	-	117	550
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>£3,916</b>	<b>£20,953</b>	<b>£27,071</b>	<b>£800</b>	<b>£2,000</b>	<b>£6,771</b>	<b>£61,511</b>
Orchestra	8,100	4,850	2,000	-	-	5,681	20,631
Hire of instrument	150	-	-	-	-	185	335
Soloists	1,421	2,557	-	-	-	1,350	5,328
Conductor	1,323	1,323	1,323	-	1,092	1,323	6,384
Organist/Harpsichordist etc	300	400	240	-	-	400	1,340
Music/Band parts	481	-	-	-	-	-	481
Printing/Publicity	508	408	527	-	-	408	1,852
Programmes	251	335	479	-	-	316	1,382
Hire of Hall	3,100	12,300	12,300	-	-	2,283	29,983
Hall Expenses	-	2,031	2,293	-	-	150	4,473
Advertising	262	687	549	-	46	270	1,813
PRS	137	-	1,134	-	-	248	1,519
Commission	194	840	1,108	-	-	185	2,327
Miscellaneous	23	-	12	-	-	95	129
<b>COSTS</b>	<b>£16,250</b>	<b>£25,730</b>	<b>£21,964</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£1,138</b>	<b>£12,895</b>	<b>£77,977</b>
<b>PROFIT / -LOSS</b>	<b>-£12,334</b>	<b>-£4,777</b>	<b>£5,107</b>	<b>£800</b>	<b>£862</b>	<b>-£6,124</b>	<b>-£16,466</b>
Attendance	223	1004	1918			357	3,502

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