



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Objects

The Society provides opportunity and encouragement for local people to participate in the study & practice of choral music, both secular and religious. The Society also aims to bring choral music to audiences from Godalming and surrounding areas with a view to encouraging greater musical knowledge and appreciation as well as reinforcing the sense of community amongst local residents.

Governance & Administration

The Society operates under the Constitution adopted on 1 November 1967 as amended by subsequent General Meetings of the Society. The last revision was in February 2023 which was filed and accepted by the Charity Commissioners. The Society is an Unincorporated Charitable Association with members and elected officers and trustees.

There is a main board of trustees with Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer as officers: following the resignation of our Chairman in May 2023, the committee of trustees worked effectively and steadily as a collective pending the election of a new Chairman. Sub committees deal with specific issues & projects. Sub committees are appointed from the main board and trustees supplemented by members when required. Society members also perform additional functions under the guidance & control of the main board of trustees.

No member, trustee or otherwise, is paid for his or her role. During the year ending on 31 July 2024 the Trustees were:

Alyson Burton (Secretary)
William Middleton-Smith (Treasurer)
Henrietta Bradshaw
Helen Gee
Gilles Gergaud (elected 30 January 2024)
Helen McSherry (resigned 30 January 2024)
Susan O'Connell (resigned 26 September 2023)
Pauline Powlesland (elected 30 January 2024)
Elizabeth Sims
Elizabeth Bevans-Jones (elected 30 January 2024)

Selection of Trustees

Full Members are invited to participate in the management of the Society and suitable applicants are elected at the Society's AGM.

Employees

The Society has no employees. Two professional musicians are hired on a renewable contract or ad-hoc basis to assist the Society in fulfilling its Objects with a further two engaged on the same basis for our Children's Choir. Orchestras and Soloists are engaged as required for the performances given and paid for this role.

Advisers

The Society banks with Lloyds Bank plc
Independent Examiner: A J Bennewith FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA

Review of developments, activities and achievements

Paul Jeanes completed a full year with us but he found that the driving from his home in Harrow was too challenging. After much agonizing, he decided to resign. We were sad to see him go. However, we were lucky to have a handful of applicants for the vacant position and after two rounds of interviewing, the trustees were delighted to appoint George de Voil as MD.

The number of members during the year fell slightly to 71 but have since picked up again. We continued to maintain our recruitment drive and encourage new members.

Our Children's Choir remains a modest operation and is still evolving.

Last year we performed only two concerts as our 'summer' concert could not take place until September, so we gave four concerts in the 2023/2024 year. We mounted the Verdi Requiem, with support from three local choirs, at the Theatre in the Woods, the home of Grange Park Opera. This was a resounding success, with a capacity audience of over 600, and enabled us to make donations of £650 each to Primary Robins, a charity which supports singing in primary schools, and our own Children's Choir.

After the grandeur of performing Verdi's music in an opera house it was good to be singing in Farncombe church again. Our Christmas concert included music by: J.S. Bach and Geoffrey Bush, selected Tomasino Albinoni movements as well as some Christmas Carols which the audience enjoyed singing. The concert was well attended. For our Easter concert, we sang the much-loved Fauré Requiem, the Cantique de Jean Racine and Haydn's Nelson Mass. We had a large and appreciative audience. Our summer concert was Paul Jeanes' last with us as MD: we sang Will Todd, Three Jazz hymns, John Rutter. A Sprig of Thyme and George Shearing, Songs and Sonnets.

Financial Review

This year we adopted new accounting software and on the advice of our Independent Examiner have switched from accruals-based accounts to a receipts and payments basis. This has required the restatement of our accounts for 2022-2023 which now show a significant profit reflecting advance payments received for 2023-2024: in consequence the accounts for the current year show a substantial loss.

Our Verdi Requiem concert was funded by a generous donation from our former chairman, which fully covered our operating loss on the performance. We more or less broke even on our Christmas and summer concerts and made a modest loss on our larger scale Easter one, which was covered by a drawdown from our Bradish reserves.

Donations and other fund-raising activities continued to help our finances. The Children's Choir is not a separate legal entity and its finances are incorporated within the annual accounts of the Society.

The trustees' policy on reserves in the Bradish Bequest funds remains broadly unchanged - they will still be used essentially to generate investment income and fund exceptional future planned capital expenditure. The members have approved the allocation of up to £3,000 each year from the Bradish Bequest funds to augment performance resources for an annual "Bradish Concert" in memory of the benefactor who bequeathed these funds to the Society

Investment policy remains conservative & under regular review. No funds are held by the Society as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Risk Management

The trustees perform regular reviews of the Society's operations and strategic objectives to ensure adherence to its principal charitable objects and financial controls. They are satisfied that there are sufficient systems and procedures in place to identify and address in a timely manner those risks that the Society may face from time to time. A constant potential risk throughout any season is that of having to cancel one or more concerts at short notice. Implementation of the Reserves Policy above together with subscription to Making Music's insurance scheme is agreed by the trustees as being of an adequate nature to minimise this particular risk.

Public Benefit

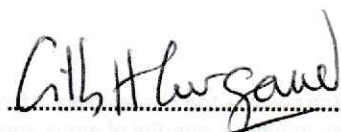
In the local area the Society actively promotes participation in choral singing: we offer free concert tickets to those under 18 to help stimulate interest in choral music among younger age groups and hope to increase participation in our Children's Choir.

We take part in local activities where possible and we also run events open to non-members.

It is our opinion that the trustees of the Society have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.



A BURTON [SECRETARY]



G. H GERGAUD [ACTING CHAIRMAN]

31 August 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
The Godalming Choral Society	254800

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Aug-23		31-Jul-24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Annual member's subscriptions	10,921	-	-	10,921	11,410
Children's Choir workshop ticket sales	199	-	-	199	325
Concert programme advertising	945	-	-	945	240
Concert programme sales	2,318	-	-	2,318	688
Concert refreshments sales	602	-	-	602	235
Concert ticket sales	15,026	-	-	15,026	12,581
Come and Sing Day	-	-	-	-	546
Loan & Sale of Music	1,380	-	-	1,380	178
Friends & Donations	148	-	-	148	5,518
Interest Income	572	-	-	572	275
Sundry Income	-	-	-	-	150
Adult Choir fund raising activities	1,042	-	-	1,042	1,616
Children's Choir fund raising activities	960	-	-	960	1,996
Sale of merchandise	-	-	-	-	2
GiftAid received	5,833	-	-	5,833	0
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	39,947	-	-	39,947	35,762
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	39,947	-	-	39,947	35,762

A3 Payments					
Accompanists' Rehearsal Fee	3,969	-	-	3,969	3,489
Audit & Accountancy fees	245	-	-	245	200
Booster singers fee	995	-	-	995	-
CC accompanist costs	460	-	-	460	615
CC conductor fees	853	-	-	853	985
CC Publicity	427	-	-	427	208
CC Workshop venue hire	126	-	-	126	125
Charitable and Political Donations	650	-	-	650	1,920
Concert orchestra and accompanist fee	14,106	-	-	14,106	1,815
Concert Posters & Advertisement	644	-	-	644	816
Concert Programme Printing	1,270	-	-	1,270	479
Concert Refreshments Cost	755	-	-	755	531
Concert Soloists Fee	3,931	-	-	3,931	825
Concert staging, sound, lights	7,994	-	-	7,994	-
Concert Sundry Expenses	2,177	-	-	2,177	1,666
Concert venue hire	3,610	-	-	3,610	1,264
Come and Sing day costs	0	-	-	-	846
Conductor's Concert Fee	2,340	-	-	2,340	1,065
Conductor's rehearsal fee	6,510	-	-	6,510	6,065
Hire & Purchase of Music	1,524	-	-	1,524	775
Hire of Orchestra Scores	285	-	-	285	-
Hire of rehearsal venues	1,515	-	-	1,515	1,709
Fundraising costs	-	-	-	-	60
Insurance	283	-	-	283	269
Posters & advertising - choir	87	-	-	87	-
Subscriptions	392	-	-	392	365
Sundry Choir Expenses	706	-	-	706	387
DBS checks & training	53	-	-	53	621
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	55,906	-	-	55,906	27,100
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	55,906	-	-	55,906	27,100
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 15,959	-	-	- 15,959	8,662
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	57,608	-	-	57,608	48,947
Cash funds this year end	41,649	-	-	41,649	57,608

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	Lloyds Bank Adult Choir current 87213760	2,629	-	-
	Lloyds Bank Children's Choir current 87992768	5,629	-	-
	Lloyds Bank Instant Access deposit 87214160	0	-	-
	Scottish Widows 90 day deposit	13,390	-	-
	Scottish Widows 90 day deposit (Bradish Bequest)	20,000	-	-
	Total cash funds	41,649	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK OK OK

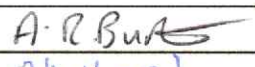
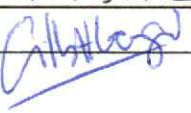
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	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			-	
	MBS Medical Ltd (invoice received/settled after year-end)	Unrestricted	100	
	Godalming Town Council (invoice received/settled after year-end)	Unrestricted	113	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Alyson Burton	31 August 2025
	Gilles Gergaud	31 August 2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Godalming Choral Society

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 July 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

254800

Set out on pages

1 – 2, 4

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

05 09 25

Name:

A J Bennewith

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA

Address:

Upper Ground Floor, 18, Farnham Road

Guildford

Surrey GU1 4XA

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.