

PORTSMOUTH CHORAL UNION

England & Wales · Charity number 266974

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1975-07-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 21 Second Avenue
Southbourne
Emsworth
PO10 8HP

Phone 01243379450

Email pcusecretary@gmail.com

Website www.pcuchoir.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE FURTHERANCE OF THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC, BY THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC PERFORMANCES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

Activities: Practises and puts on public performances of music often in collaboration with young persons/school choirs, orchestras and bands and with young soloists. Holds 'Come and Sing' events for public participation.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Hampshire
- Portsmouth City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£48,329	£33,821	-	-
2024-07-31	£39,679	£26,630	-	-
2023-07-31	£23,689	£33,004	-	-
2022-07-31	£27,888	£36,602	-	-
2021-07-31	£18,365	£51,278	-	-
2020-07-31	£31,960	£24,051	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sylvia Mary Lock	Chair	2022-02-08
Dr ALISON MARGARET BARKER		
Dr Andrea Hegedus		2020-09-15
Dr David Gweirydd Griffiths		2023-10-03
JANE HELLIWELL		
Julie Ann Smith		2023-11-21
Lesley Evelyn Chapman		2023-10-03
Lois Houston		2017-10-03
Paul Alastair Hately		2025-10-07
Sonia Helen SCHOFIELD		2013-10-15
Susan Florence Ward		2025-10-07

PORTSMOUTH CHORAL UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 266974

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/08/2024 Period start date To 31/07/2025 Period end date

Charity name: Portsmouth Choral Union

Charity registration number: 266974

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the Society will be to advance 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 concerts and recitals.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	In 2024-2025 we planned a programme of four concerts of music ranging from the traditional classical Haydn <i>Creation</i> , written in 1798, to Will Todd's Jazz-inspired <i>Passion Music</i> , written in 2021. We held a lively open workshop with the composer himself to give singers an opportunity to learn this new work. We collaborated with Portchester's Castle Primary School on a carol concert and enjoyed a rousing concert of Opera Choruses.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity is entirely run by members on a voluntary basis. Many members (including the Trustees) and friends regularly volunteer in roles in fundraising, behind-the-scenes organisation and helping with audiences and refreshments at events.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>We started the 2024 -2025 season with a new Deputy Music Director and Accompanist in place, Mrs Sue Graham Smith, Happily, she settled in quickly and proved to be a tremendous asset to the choir's rehearsals and a key support and backup to our Music Director Mr David Gostick.</p> <p>Our first performance of the season was a classical choral favourite, Joseph Haydn's <i>The Creation</i>, working with the orchestra Southern Pro Musica and with three gifted young soloists. This was followed by a traditional Christmas Carol concert accompanied (and upstaged by) the school choir from Portchester Castle Primary School who we invited to share the evening.</p> <p>Our spring concert was planned to be a real contrast in repertoire, with works by two Modern composers. We sang <i>Feel the Spirit</i>, a choral setting of spirituals by John Rutter, and a recently-written work by Will Todd, <i>Passion Music</i>, which is a retelling of the Easter Story with a jazz/gospel fusion with choral music. This was a challenging step away from our usual classical comfort zone but we were greatly enthused and informed by a workshop with the composer himself. This was also attended by members of the Medici Choir from London who we invited to sing in the concert with us. We learned a lot about a more free-form way of singing in harmony and were able to perform in a way that passed on our enjoyment and understanding of the music to the audience.</p>

		Our summer concert was another style again, with a night at the opera performing favourite opera choruses. Supported by two expert and dramatic opera soloists, Lynsey Docherty and David Pendred we had a fun evening with a slightly lighter note to finish the season.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	In 2024-2025 we gave 4 concerts ranging in style from the modern to the classical and held an educational workshop led by the composer of one of the compositions. We collaborated again with the Medici choir and with young singers from Portchester Castle Primary School. We were able to work with professional orchestral musicians and with a range of different expert soloists.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Our fundraising is mainly through membership subscriptions and ticket sales, plus internal fundraising events. We are finding some external sources of income, like the local charitable lottery. We are planning some bigger events for our 150 th anniversary in four years time and are exploring strategies for fundraising for this.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our policy is to try to hold one year's running costs in reserve which we achieved in this financial year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We aim to maintain the minimum of one season's running costs in hand to act as a reserve against years when concerts are more expensive and against unforeseen events.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£ 68,313.91 as of 31/07/2025
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Our audience are still smaller than before Covid, and we are also concerned that the age profile of our audiences and membership is creeping higher.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Member subscriptions and (normally) ticket sales provide the majority of our income. We also receive donations from members and supporters and from the Portsmouth Lottery. We also have a 'Friends' scheme of supporters.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	We have one investment with a fund tailored for charitable investments.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Rising costs are making it harder to afford venues and put on full orchestral concerts. We are also concerned about the smaller audiences that now come to concerts.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Written constitution dated 30 th January 2018
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	All Trustees are elected at our Annual General Meeting of members or by Extraordinary Vote of members following any mid-term resignations.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	All Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities under the law as Charity Trustees using guidance from the Charity Commission.
		We co-operate with other musical groups and other choral charities in the area to

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	avoid clashes of concert dates as far as possible and to collaborate on selected projects
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Portsmouth Choral Union
Other name the charity uses	PCU
Registered charity number	266974
Charity's principal address	21, Second Avenue, Emsworth, Hampshire, PO10 8HP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mrs Sylvia Mary Lock	Chair		
2	Mrs Jane Helliwell	Deputy Chair		
3	Dr Andrea Hegedus	Treasurer		
4	Mrs Sonia Schofield	Registrar		
5	Mrs Lois Houston	Marketing and Publicity Officer		
6	Dr Alison Barker	Secretary		
7	Julie Ann Smith	Ticket Manager		
8	Carolyn Ann Keyzor	Soprano Representative	Until 31 st July 2025	
9	Susan Florence Ward	Soprano Representative	From 7 th October 2025	
10	Lesley Evelyn Chapman	Alto Representative		
11	Dr David Gweirydd Griffiths	Tenor Representative		
12	Mr James Sweasey	Bass Representative	Until 1 st October 2024	
13	Mr Anthony Spender	Bass Representative	From 1 st October 2024 until 7 th October 2025	
14	Mr Paul Alistair Hately	Bass Representative	From 7 th October 2025	

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the	N/A

assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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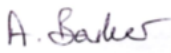
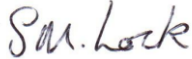
Other optional information

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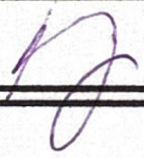
Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alison Margaret Barker	Sylvia Mary Lock
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Chair
Date	15/05/2026	

Section A Receipts and Payments					
			2024/2025		2023/2024
A1 Receipts					
Subscriptions			22,069.00		22,875.54
Sub Donations			355.00		452.99
Donations			10,486.15		2,882.27
Gift Aid			5,463.24		4,177.48
Programmes & Adverts			1,212.93		1,131.54
Library			616.17		917.16
Friends			430.00		483.58
Recordings			11.85		24.56
Fundraising			562.82		0.00
Merchandise Sales			12.89		1.48
100 Club			0.00		430.00
e-fund (Easyfundraising, everyclick)			182.85		325.04
Portsmouth Lottery			647.00		621.50
Sundry			355.94		474.46
Interest from Investments/Savings			5,923.65		1,019.08
Bank Interest					0.00
			48,329.49		35,816.68
A2 Asset and Investment Sales					
A3 Payments					
Professional Fees			13,542.00		13,008.00
Donations			75.00		0
Hall Hire			2,405.21		2,460.10
Storage of Staging			3,000.00		1,500.00
Publicity			1,301.43		1,051.53
Sundries			809.10		1,132.68
Insurance			700.00		675
Red scarves			-24.56		0
Subscriptions					
Bank Charges			120.00		121.5
PRS Charges			125.30		0
Loss from Investments/Savings					
Admin and Stationery			0.00		273.2
Internal fundraising					
Bookkeeping / Accountancy			0		0
Deficit from Recordings			0		0
Deficit from Programmes			0		0
Deficit from Tour Refunds			0		0
Deficit from Concerts			11,767.76		6,408.01
			33,821.24		26,630.02
A4 Asset and Investment Purchases					
Net of Receipts/Payments			14,508.25		9,186.66
Balance B/Fwd from Previous Year			53,805.66		44619
Fund Balance Carried Forward			68,313.91		53,805.66

Section B Statement of Assets and Liabilities			
		<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
		Cost	Cost
B1 Cash funds			
CAF Cash Account (main)		66,437.75	7,291.15
CAF Gold Account (tour)		2,701.61	5,090.47
CAF Cash Account (tour)		95.05	100.00
Petty Cash		200.00	200.00
B2 Other Monetary Assets			
Deposits		600.00	700.00
B3 Investments Assets			
M&G Charibond		0.00	45,996.58
B4 Assets Retained for the Charity's own use			
Keyboard (purchased 13/03/20)		0.00	0.00
Compact Audiohub (purchased 16/10/20)		0.00	0.00
B5 Liabilities			
Accrual - PRS		150.00	150.00
Accrual - Bookkeeping		250.00	250.00
Accrual - Storage			
Creditor - Members travel funds		1,320.50	5,172.54
Total Assets less Liabilities		68,313.91	53,805.66
Signatures			
(Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees)			
Signature	Print Name	Approval Date	
	DR ANDREA HEREDOUS	19/5/26	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
PORTSMOUTH CHORAL UNION

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st July 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

266974

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

**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: **J Przybycin**

Date: **22/09/2025**

Name: **JOANNE PRZYBYCIN**

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

**F.C.A
ICAEW**

Address:

**13 PETERS ROAD, LOCKS HEATH,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 6EQ**

PORTSMOUTH CHORAL UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 266974

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **01/08/2023** Period start date To **31/08/2024** Period
end date

Charity name: Portsmouth Choral Union

Charity registration number: 266974

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the Society will be to advance 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 concerts and recitals.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	In 2023-2024 we were back to a full normal schedule of rehearsals and concerts, although we needed to be more mindful of costs than before the pandemic and cost-of-living crises. It was a year of collaboration, with a joint concert in London with the Medici choir in December 2023 and another one with the Consort of 12 in Chichester in July 2024. And we had several open rehearsals and a Come and Sing event to allow non-members to come and enjoy the experience of singing in a big choir with us.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity is entirely run by members on a voluntary basis. Many members regularly volunteer in roles in fundraising, behind-the-scenes organisation and helping with audiences and refreshments at events.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>We started 2023-2024 very aware that the choir was down on numbers of members and that this was impacting both performances and finances. As a result we had a big recruitment drive with open rehearsals at which anyone who wanted could come and try singing with us. This added several members to the normal recruitment process, as did our <i>Carmina Burana</i> Come-and-Sing event in St Jude's Church, Southsea in January 2024. Our new format for this event, with an all-afternoon opportunity to learn and rehearse the piece followed by a communal tea and a short concert is proving very popular with members and visitors alike.</p> <p>Another decision for the year to was to be bold and choose to rehearse some popular works that are a bit more expensive to put on, again to attract singers but also to increase audiences. To this end our first concert of the year in early December was Verdi's <i>Requiem</i>, and we did it as a collaborative concert in Holy Trinity church, Sloane Square, London with the Medici Choir. The concert sold out and was much enjoyed by the choir and the audience.</p> <p>We followed it with Handel's <i>Messiah</i> as a Christmas concert in our normal venue, St Mary's Church in Portsmouth, with the full orchestra of Southern Pro Musica which also drew an appreciative audience.</p> <p>After Christmas we planned a slightly different format of two shorter spring</p>

		<p>concerts with organ and soloists. The first was the modern St John Passion by Bob Chilcott, a work consciously referencing the great Bach St John Passion but with a modern style and sensibility. Solos from Nicholas Sharratt as the Evangelist and Johnny Herford as Christ told the story while the choir acted as crowd and the audience joined in with hymns woven into the piece's structure in a truly involving work.</p> <p>Our second short concert was a selection of English anthems followed by Duruflé's <i>Requiem</i> accompanied on the St Mary's organ by our Deputy Music Director and Organist Ian Richardson. A proportion of the choir then undertook a tour of Brittany with the same programme, performing in the very different soundscape of Quimper cathedral. The tour, as all previous tours, was self-financed by payments from the attendees and did not use the choir's charitable funds, although the retiring collection made at the concert was donated back to the choir.</p> <p>Our final concert of the year was another collaboration, this time Handel's less well-known Oratorio <i>Saul</i>, performed with the early-music orchestra the Consort of 12. The concert was part of the Chichester Festival and performed in St Paul's church Chichester. The performance really came alive with the well-trained singing of the choir, the skilled accompaniment from the orchestra and the expert dramatic performances of the soloists. This sadly was our farewell performance with Ian Richardson who is leaving to take up a new post; luckily we have been able to secure the service of a new Deputy Music Director and accompanist who joins us in the autumn.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>In 2023-2024 we held five concerts and a Come and Sing that gave audiences chance to hear live classical music performances from eras ranging from the Baroque to the 21st Century. We also found ways to offer opportunities to guests to come and enjoy singing with us and collaborated with a London choir and an early-music orchestra. We worked hard to keep this close to our annual budget.</p>
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The choir is heavily reliant on membership subscriptions and tickets sales. We also hold in-house fundraising events but find it hard to fundraise externally. We have managed to increase membership in 2023-24 and are working hard to improve ticket sales.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our policy is to try to hold one year's running costs in reserve; due to rising costs this is becoming harder as our reserve only grows with investment income but we avoided having to use any of it in this year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We aim to maintain the minimum of one season's running costs in hand to act as a reserve against years when concerts are more expensive and against unforeseen events.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£ 50066.56 as of 25/06/2024
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We continue to have lower audiences than before the pandemic, apparently a wider problem across the classical music world.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Member subscriptions and (normally) ticket sales provide the majority of our income. We also receive donations from members and supporters and from the Portsmouth Lottery. We also have a 'Friends' scheme of supporters; this was relaunched 2 years ago and is beginning to grow.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	We have one investment with a fund tailored for charitable investments.

A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	With outgoings continuing to rise and audiences still low we are having to work hard to maintain our reserves.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Written constitution dated 30 th January 2018
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	All Trustees are elected at our Annual General Meeting of members or by Extraordinary Vote of members following any mid-term resignations.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	All Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities under the law as Charity Trustees using guidance from the Charity Commission.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We co-operate with other musical groups and other choral charities in the area to avoid clashes of concert dates as far as possible and to collaborate on selected projects
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Portsmouth Choral Union
Other name the charity uses	PCU
Registered charity number	266974
Charity's principal address	21, Second Avenue, Emsworth, Hampshire, PO10 8HP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mrs Sylvia Mary Lock	Chair		
2	Mrs Jane Helliwell	Deputy Chair		
3	Dr Andrea Hegedus	Treasurer		
4	Mrs Sonia Schofield	Registrar		
5	Mrs Lois Houston	Marketing and Publicity Officer		
6	Dr Alison Barker	Secretary		
7	Julie Ann Smith	Ticket Manager	From 21 st November 2023	
8	Carolyn Ann Keyzor	Soprano Representative		
9	Lesley Evelyn Chapman	Alto Representative	From 3 rd October 2023	
10	Dr David Gweirydd Griffiths	Tenor Representative	From 3 rd October 2023	
11	Mr James Sweasey	Bass Representative		

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	

Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	
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Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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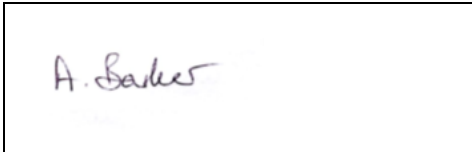
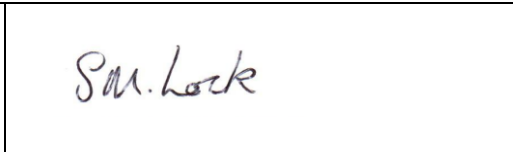
Other optional information

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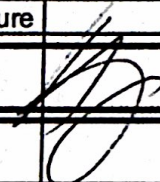
Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alison Margaret Barker	Sylvia Mary Lock
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Chair
Date	29/05/2025	

Portsmouth Choral Union
Assets and Liabilities
1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024

Section B Statement of Assets and Liabilities				2024	2023
				Cost	Cost
B1 Cash Funds					
CAF Cash Accounts (bank)				7,291.15	4,272.12
CAF Gold Account (tour)				5,090.47	19,411.27
Petty Cash				200.00	200.00
B2 Other Monetary Assets					
Payments in Advance:		St Mary's		700.00	800.00
B3 Investment Assets					
M & G Charibond				49,859.24	45,922.20
B4 Assets Retained for the					
Parity's own use					
Keyboard (purchased 13/03/20)				-	678.58
Compact audiohub (purchased 16/10/20)				-	311.86
B5 Liabilities					
Accrual - PRS & Recordings				150.00	150.00
Accrual - Bookkeeping				250.00	250.00
Accrual - Storage					-
Creditor - Members travel funds				5,072.54	26,577.03
Total of Assets less Liabilities				57,668.32	44,619.00
Signatures					
(Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees)					
Signature			Print Name	Approval Date	
			DR ANDREA HEGDOW	30/5/24	

Portsmouth Choral Union
Receipts and payments
From 1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024

Section A Receipts and Payments						
				<u>2023/2024</u>		<u>2022/2023</u>
A1 Receipts						
Subscriptions				22,875.54		17,875.50
Sub donations				452.99		280.00
Donations and Sponsorship				2,882.27		530.20
Gift Aid				4,177.48		544.20
Fund Raising				0.00		975.67
Merchandise Sales				1.48		16.44
100 Club				430.00		260.00
E-Funding				325.04		571.01
Portsmouth Lottery				621.50		583.50
Income from Recordings				24.56		83.74
Income from Programmes				1,131.54		975.17
Income from Music Library				917.16		465.36
Income from Friends Subscriptions				483.58		179.68
undry				474.46		199.51
Interest from Investments/Savings				4,881.74		149.35
Bank Interest				0.00		0.00
				39,679.34		23,689.33
A2 Asset and Investment Sales						
A3 Payments						
Professional Fees				13,008.00		11,710.00
Donations				0.00		0.00
Hall Hire				2,460.10		2,100.73
Storage of Staging				1,500.00		1,500.00
Publicity				1,051.53		1,085.64
Sundries				1,132.68		1,331.25
Insurance				675.00		634.00
Red scarves				0.00		0.00
Subscriptions						0.00
Bank Charges				121.50		60.00
MS Charges				0.00		85.45
Loss from Investments/Savings						2,384.13
Admin and Stationery				273.20		47.96
Internal fundraising						466.40
Bookkeeping / Accountancy				0.00		250.00
Deficit from Recordings						0.00
Deficit from Programmes				0.00		0.00
Deficit from Tour Refunds				0.00		
Deficit from Concerts				6,408.01		11,368.13
				26,630.02		33,003.69
A4 Asset and Investment Purchases						
Net of Receipts/Payments				13,049.32		-9,314.36
Balance B/Fwd from Previous Year				44,619.00		53,933.36
Fund Balance Carried forward				57,668.32		44,619.00



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

PORTSMOUTH CHORAL UNION

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st July 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

266974

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2024

**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:

Przybycin

Date:

23/9/24

Name:

JOANNE PRZYBYCIN

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

F.C.A
ICAEW

Address:

18 PETERS ROAD

LOCKS HEATH

SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 6EQ

PORTSMOUTH CHORAL UNION

England & Wales - Charity number 266974

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **01/08/2021** Period start date To **31/08/2022** Period
end date

Charity name: Portsmouth Choral Union

Charity registration number: 266974

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the Society will be to advance 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 concerts and recitals.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	After 18 months disrupted by Covid-19 which for much of the time made group singing impossible or set extreme restrictions, we were finally able to resume rehearsing and giving concerts in autumn 2021, albeit with continuing regard to recommendations for social distancing and other safety measures. Between August 2021 and July 2022 we were able to stage 4 full concerts, one of which was given as part of a series celebrating and supporting the Organ Restoration Project in St Mary's Church, Fratton, Portsmouth. We also held a Come and Sing with proceeds donated to Key Changes Music Therapy, a Winchester-based charity that uses music therapy to alleviate the emotional effects of mental illness, learning disability, social deprivation and developmental delay in children and adults.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity is entirely run by members on a voluntary basis
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>After such a disrupted year in 2020-2021, we were finally permitted to start indoors singing rehearsals again in autumn 2021 with a full risk assessment in place to reduce the risks of Covid-19 transmission. For our first concert piece of the term we chose Fauré's <i>Requiem</i>, which we had been rehearsing at times between lockdowns. We put on a small autumn concert with a reduced-size choir, as many of our members were not yet able to return to singing in concerts, and with a socially-distanced audience. It was exciting to be able to do a concert again and to see an audience enjoying our music after all the restrictions.</p> <p>We were encouraged to be more ambitious for our Christmas concert and perform Bach's <i>Christmas Oratorio</i>. This is a large work and normally we would have done a large November concert and not had time to rehearse this, so it made for a nice change. We were not sure until quite late that we would be able to do the concert, as there was concern about a new Covid variant and ticket sales were low. To our surprise we were able to go ahead and there was a big rush for tickets on the day,</p>

		<p>leaving us rushing to put out more chairs in distanced groups.</p> <p>In the spring our Music Director completed a retranslation of Joseph Haydn's <i>Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the Cross</i>, with help from choir member and composer Ian Schofield in producing the newly-set arrangement. This work retells the end of the Easter story and was a first performance for the choir.</p> <p>By this stage we had been able to relocate from the church we were using for rehearsals before Christmas back to our usual pre-Covid school venue, having assessed how we might use it safely and with most of the choir having been vaccinated at least once. We felt we were adapting well to new ways of working for concerts as well although ticket sales continued to be unpredictable and the choir was still not back to full size. Although restrictions eased as the year advanced we were cautious, given the older age of many of our members and audience, and continued with some Covid precautions throughout the year.</p> <p>Our fourth concert of the year was planned to celebrate the newly refurbished organ in St Mary's Church, but technical problems pushed back its reconstruction and our concert was delayed until the end of July. So instead in June we held a Come and Sing Gilbert and Sullivan extravaganza, inviting other singers to come to rehearsals with us and then performing the full '<i>HMS Pinafore</i>' in semi-staged form with soloists from the choir led by Philip Blake-Jones from the former D-Oyley-Carte Opera Company. Sadly this was not attended as well as we had hoped but all those who came, including our guests, had a very good time and we were able to raise a considerable sum of money for Key Changes Music Therapy based in Winchester (<i>Registered Charity number 1124102</i>).</p> <p>We then held the organ concert in July with <i>Vierne Messe Solennelle</i>, <i>Poulenc's Organ Concerto</i>, <i>Parry's Hear my Words</i> and <i>Bairstow's Blessed City</i>, accompanied by Daniel Cook, Organist of Durham Cathedral.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	In 2021-2022 we were able to get back to holding four concerts and a Come and Sing that gave audiences chance to hear live music performances again after an 18-month gap. We also found ways to offer opportunities to guests to come and enjoy singing with us and to raise money for a worthwhile music charity. Our core membership really appreciated the care we took to maintain safe conditions for all this and the chance to get back to making music together.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The choir is heavily reliant on membership subscriptions and tickets sales. Due to Covid our membership was down by about 30%, with some members unable to return and normal recruitment much reduced. Ticket sales were also down, partly due to the requirements for social distancing and caution on the part of potential concert-goers. However we felt that we needed to get back to a full and ambitious concert programme to fulfil our choir's aims and reward those who could come. We also had not done as much forward planning as usual as the uncertainty of Covid had repeatedly disrupted our plans for 18 months making it difficult to plan effectively. We therefore had to use reserves to support this season's music making.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our policy is to try to hold one year's running costs in reserve. At the end of the previous period we were holding a slightly higher reserve than usual, but we had to use this to cover the current year when costs returned to normal but income did not..
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We aim to maintain the minimum of one season's running costs in hand to act as a reserve against years when concerts are more expensive and against unforeseen events.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£48,306.33
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A

Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We will need to be able to recruit more members and audience in the future to improve our income levels.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Member subscriptions and (normally) ticket sales provide the majority of our income. We also receive donations from members and supporters and from the Portsmouth Lottery. We also have a 'Friends' scheme of supporters; in the year 2021- 2022 we identified that this needed a relaunch as it was no longer meeting our needs.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Our risks at present stem from the reduced size of the choir and audience due to Covid which is having a negative impact on our income whilst our outgoings are rising.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Written constitution dated 30 th January 2018
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	All Trustees are elected at our Annual General Meeting of members or by Extraordinary Vote of members following any mid-term resignations.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	All Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities under the law as Charity Trustees using guidance from the Charity Commission.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We co-operate with other musical groups and other choral charities in the area to avoid clashes of concert dates as far as possible and to collaborate on selected projects
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Portsmouth Choral Union
Other name the charity uses	PCU
Registered charity number	266974
Charity's principal address	21, Second Avenue, Emsworth, Hampshire, PO10 8HP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mr Philip Stokes	Chairman	To 4 th October 2022	
2	Mrs Jane Helliwell	Deputy Chair		
3	Dr Andrea Hegedus	Treasurer		
4	Mrs Sonia Schofield	Registrar		
5	Mrs Lois Houston	Marketing and Publicity Officer		
6	Dr Alison Barker	Secretary		
7	Mrs Rosemary Kerridge	Ticketing Manager	To 4 th October 2022	
8	Sylvia Mary Lock	Soprano Representative to 4 th October 2022, then Chair	From 4 th October 2022	
9	Carolyn Ann Keyzor	Soprano Representative	From 4 th October 2022	
10	Sarah Louise Spender	Alto Representative		
11	Mr John Cook	Tenor Representative		
12	Mr James Sweasey	Bass Representative		
	Note that some of these Trustees are current but have been appointed since the year covered by this report.			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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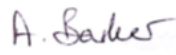
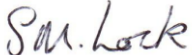
Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alison Margaret Barker	Sylvia Mary Lock
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Chair
Date	27/04/23	

Portsmouth Choral Union
Receipts and payments
From 1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022

Section A Receipts and Payments						
				2021/2022		2020/2021
A1 Receipts						
Subscriptions				16,636.00		11,442.50
Sub donations				458.00		320.00
Donations and Sponsorship				1,266.00		394.50
Gift Aid				6,528.77		5,185.36
Fund Raising				0.00		0.00
Merchandise Sales				5.50		0.00
100 Club				0.00		0.00
E-Funding				693.13		122.49
Portsmouth Lottery				749.00		693.50
Income from Recordings				14.48		87.05
Income from Programmes				326.00		0.00
Income from Music Library				389.51		0.00
Income from Friends Subscriptions				295.00		0.00
Red Scarves				526.14		
Sundry				0.00		44.17
Interest from Investments/Savings				0.27		75.49
Bank Interest				0.00		0.00
				27,887.80		18,365.06
A2 Asset and Investment Sales						
A3 Payments						
Professional Fees				11,733.90		11,177.75
Donations				350.00		0.00
Hall Hire				2,049.51		534.34
Storage of Staging				0.00		1,470.00
Publicity				1,243.45		400.79
Sundries				610.06		585.20
Insurance				382.00		613.00
Bank Charges				200.00		162.00
Admin and Stationery				101.59		79.61
Bookkeeping / Accountancy				200.00		200.00
Loss from Investments/Savings				3,222.83		0.00
Deficit from Recordings				0.00		0.00
Deficit from Programmes				0.00		25.00
Deficit from Tour Refunds				0.00		34,430.00
Deficit from Concerts				16,508.33		500.00
				36,601.67		50,177.69
A4 Asset and Investment Purchases						
Net of Receipts/Payments				-8,713.87		-31,812.63
Balance B/Fwd from Previous Year				62,163.87		93,976.50
Fund Balance Carried forward				53,450.00		62,163.87

Portsmouth Choral Union
Assets and Liabilities
1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022

Section B Statement of Assets and Liabilities							
				2022			2021
				Cost			Cost
B1 Cash Funds							
CAF Cash Accounts (bank)				3,103.85			9,598.16
CAF Gold Account (tour)				699.38			96.11
Petty Cash				200.00			200.00
B2 Other Monetary Assets							
Payments in Advance:		St Mary's		500.00			100.00
B3 Investment Assets							
M & G Charibond				48,306.33			51,529.16
B4 Assets Retained for the Charity's own use							
Keyboard (purchased 13/03/20)				678.58			678.58
Compact audiohub (purchased 16/10/20)				311.86			311.86
B5 Liabilities							
Accrual - PRS & Recordings				150.00			150.00
Accrual - Bookkeeping				200.00			200.00
Total of Assets less Liabilities				53,450.00			62,163.87
Signatures							
(Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees)							
Signature		Print Name		Approval Date			
S.M. Lock		SYLVIA LOCK		7.3.23			
A. Barker		ALISON BARKER		7.3.23.			



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
THE PORTSMOUTH CHORAL UNION

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST JULY 2022

Charity no
(if any)

266974

Set out on pages

of the Treasurer's Annual Report to the Trustees
(remember to include additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

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

Signed:

Joanne Michelle Przybycin

Date:

27/2/2023

Name:

JOANNE MICHELLE PRZYBYCIN

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

F. C. A (CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT ICAEW)

(if any):

--

Address:

18 PETERS ROAD
LOCKS HEATH
SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 6EQ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

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