

GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 280533

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 JULY 2024

GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION - YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Trustees

Derek Lake	Chairman
Katherine Thompson	Secretary
Mike Richmond	Treasurer
Geoffrey Barham	Concert Venue Manager
Sara Gee	Assistant Treasurer
Sara Davies	Box Office Manager
Lesley Pratt	Rehearsal Secretary
Natalie Thurley	IT Manager
Keith Torbet	Concert Manager
Charlotte Beck	Publicity Manager
Philip Tudor	Librarian
Isobel Venner	Programme Editor
Marilyn Vincent	Patrons Secretary
Catherine Wands	Membership Secretary

Principal Office

c/o K Thompson
14 Orchard Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU2 7QY

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Website

www.guildfordchoral.org

Independent Examiner

Ramani Langley MA

TRUSTEES' REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The trustees present the annual report and accounts of Guildford Choral Society for the year ended 31 July 2024. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 8 and comply with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Constitution and objects

Guildford Choral Society ("the Society") was founded in 1839 and is constituted under its Constitution and Rules (as amended from time to time) and is a registered charity no. 280533. The Constitution can be amended by a Special General Meeting of the members of the Society.

The objects of the Society have continued to be to promote the advancement and improvement of general education in relation to all aspects of the art of choral music and the development of the public appreciation of such art, principally by the participation of its members in the performance of choral concerts.

The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Organisation

The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are set out on page 1. Trustees are elected for the following year at each Annual General Meeting of members of the Society. All trustees are committee members, and the committee meets at least twice a year. The income and expenditure relating to the promotion of concerts and to other activities is set out on page 6.

Financial and operating review

A full season of four concerts was performed. Concert income totalled £38,307 and concert expenses were £67,436. Non-concert income including member subscriptions totalled £45,574 and non-concert costs including rehearsal costs totalled £20,348, resulting in a loss for the year of £3,903.

Our year began in September 2023 with a weekend spent making a recording of the new work commissioned on our behalf by the friends of Guildford Choral; Society - Owain Park's *Officium Lusorum*. Recording took place at St. Catherine's School, Bramley. Soloists and instrumental players were as the premiere performance we gave the previous year – Josephine Goddard (soprano), Gareth Brynmor John (baritone), Sue Graham Smith and Philip Scriven (pianos), the Percussion Ensemble of London and Jonathan Willcocks (conductor). The recording was later produced on CDs and is available for purchase from the choir.

In November 2023 we returned to Holy Trinity Church, Guildford for a jazz-based concert comprising Chilcott's *Little Jazz Mass*, a medley of songs from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, and John Rutter's *Feel the Spirit*. We were joined by Melanie Marshall (mezzo soprano), the singer for whom the Rutter had been composed, as well as Southern Pro Musica.

The following month we gave a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in G Live. Soloists were Charlotte Kennedy (soprano), Angharad Rowlands (alto), Samuel Kibble (tenor) and Thomas Butler (bass) and the orchestra was Southern Pro Musica.

GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

In March 2024 we returned to G Live for a performance of Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* and Faure's *Requiem*. Southern Pro Musica began the concert with Brahms' *Tragic Overture*. Soloists were Charlotte Bowden (soprano) and Thomas Niesser (baritone). In recognition of the ongoing wars in Ukraine, Gaza and Israel, this concert was branded a Concert for Peace, and a collection was taken for the British Red Cross to support their humanitarian work in those areas, and they raised £2,495.

Our final concert of the year was of Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, and was given in Guildford Baptist Church with Philip Scriven on organ and Sue Graham Smith on piano. Soloists were Madeline Boreham (soprano), Alexandria Moon (alto), Samuel Stopford (tenor) and Ryan Vaughan Davies (baritone) – the latter a very late substitution due to illness.

The Society continues to enjoy support from a separate charity, The Friends of Guildford Choral Society, who generously supported the *Officium Lusorum* recording project with a grant of £5,000.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Society to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves of the charity (excluding listed investments), at a level which equates with approximately 12 months' net expenditure. In this context, net expenditure means budgeted annual rehearsal costs and administrative expenses, together with anticipated finance required for the concerts to which the Society is committed for the coming year. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs and to be able to commit to the planned programme of concerts for the next 2 - 3 years.

Unrestricted reserves at 31 July 2024 totalled £101,332. The trustees consider that reserves of £40,000 are required for the coming year.

Risk management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Society faces and are satisfied that systems have been established to address the identified risks.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. As confirmed by the information contained in this report, the maintenance of a comprehensive website and in other ways, the trustees actively seek to demonstrate, on a continuing basis, that the aims of the charity are carried out for the public benefit.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the accounts

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

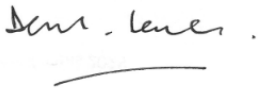
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in business.

GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society, which enable the trustees to ascertain the financial position of the Society and to ensure that the accounts comply with the charities legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



.....

Derek Lake
Chairman

Date: ...1st July 2025.....



.....

Mike Richmond
Treasurer

Date:1st July 2025.....

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 July 2024

	Concerts /recording	Restricted funds	Other Activities	Total year ended 31 July 2024	Total year ended 31 July 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Concert tickets	28,438		-	28,438	24,925
Programme sales and advertising	2,413		-	2,413	1,802
Sponsors and grants	5,000		-	5,000	165
Patrons and other donations	-		8,984	8,984	3,474
Fundraising	993		416	1,409	1,007
Investment income	-		466	466	135
Members' subscriptions	-		28,285	28,285	24,585
Tax recoverable under gift aid	-		4,271	4,271	4,067
Other income	1,463		3,152	4,615	1,964
	38,307		45,574	83,881	62,123
Resources expended					
Charitable expenditure:					
Orchestras	22,554		-	22,554	13,180
Soloists and conductors	17,656		-	17,656	8,050
Concert halls	16,541		-	16,541	10,865
Publicity	1,723		306	2,029	2,225
Programme printing	1,614		-	1,614	1,979
Other concert costs	7,347		-	7,347	6,431
Donations	-		-	-	-
Rehearsals	-		18,497	18,497	22,357
	67,436		18,803	86,239	65,086
Management and administration	-		1,545	1,545	1,133
	67,436		20,348	87,784	66,219
Net incoming/(outgoing) expenditure before investment losses	(29,129)	-	25,226	(3,903)	(4,096)
Net losses on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	29,129	-	(29,129)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	-	-	(3,903)	(3,903)	(4,096)
Total funds brought forward	-	1,600	105,235	106,835	110,931
Total funds carried forward	-	1,600	101,332	102,932	106,835

GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY**BALANCE SHEET as at 31 July 2024**

		Restricted Funds	Un- restricted funds 31-Jul-24	Total		Restricted Funds	Un- restricted funds 31-Jul-23	Total
	Notes	£	£	£		£	£	£
Current Assets								
Cash at bank		1,600	94,149	95,749		1,600	102,067	103,667
Debtors, prepayments and accrued income	5	-	9,725			-	4,067	4,067
Total current		1,600	103,874	95,749		1,600	106,134	107,734
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year								
Creditors and deferred income	6		(2,542)	(2,542)		-	(899)	(899)
Total assets less current liabilities		1,600	101,332	102,932		1,600	105,235	106,835
Funds								
Balance brought forward		1,600	105,235	106,835		1,600	109,331	110,931
Net movement in resources in the year			(3,903)	(3,903)		-	(4,096)	(4,096)
Balance carried forward		1,600	101,332	102,932		1,600	105,235	106,835

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention on an accruals basis and are based on the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 insofar as it applies to the accounts of unincorporated charities with up to £250,000 annual income, and the Charities Act 2011.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

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Mike Richmond
Treasurer

.....
Derek Lake
Chairman

Date:

Date:

1. Basis of preparation

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Charities Act 2011.

Going concern

The trustees have no reason to consider that the Society is not a going concern.

2. Accounting policies

Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- we become entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that we will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources are accounted for on an accruals basis and consist of the total income receivable during the year. This comprises concert income, sponsorship and grants, fundraising, member subscriptions, donations received from patrons and others, and investment income receivable, together with gift aid tax recoveries.

Expenditure & liabilities

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

3. Net movement in funds

Unrestricted funds are those accumulated surpluses and deficits which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the Society's general charitable objectives (and may include designated funds).

Restricted funds are those subject to specific trusts, to be directed to a specified purpose, in some cases with a requirement for the assets to be invested and retained for actual use (an endowment fund) without being expended.

4. Related party transactions

Remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees of the Society was paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year.

No remuneration has been paid to the independent examiner.

Trustee expenses

Trustees are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses where the trustee acts as an agent for the Society. No trustee has claimed for travel, subsistence or similar costs incurred in carrying out their duties.

Related parties

The Society purchases flower bouquets from Outside In, a floral decorating business based in Milford, Surrey which is owned by one of the trustees. Purchases during the year totalled £368 (2023: £388) and related to flowers presented to concert soloists and conductors.

5. Debtors, prepayments and accrued income

	Year ended 31 July 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023
	£	£
Debtors		
Cash receipts from trustees	1,387	-
Gift Aid due from HMRC	8,338	4,067
	<u>9,725</u>	<u>4,067</u>

6. Accruals and deferred income

	Year ended 31 July 2024	Year ended 31 July 2023
	£	£
Accruals		
Expenses due to trustees	2,227	-
Deferred Income		
Library receipts for future concerts	315	899
	<u>2,542</u>	<u>899</u>

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Registered Charity No. 280533

ACCOUNTS

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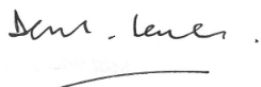
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The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



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Derek Lake
Chairman

Date: ...1st July 2025.....



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Mike Richmond
Treasurer

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 July 2024

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NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	-	-	(3,903)	(3,903)	(4,096)
Total funds brought forward	-	1,600	105,235	106,835	110,931
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GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY**BALANCE SHEET as at 31 July 2024**

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	Notes	£	£	£		£	£	£
Current Assets								
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Debtors, prepayments and accrued income	5	-	9,725			-	4,067	4,067
Total current		1,600	103,874	95,749		1,600	106,134	107,734
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year								
Creditors and deferred income	6		(2,542)	(2,542)		-	(899)	(899)
Total assets less current liabilities		1,600	101,332	102,932		1,600	105,235	106,835
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Balance brought forward		1,600	105,235	106,835		1,600	109,331	110,931
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Signed on behalf of the trustees

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Mike Richmond
Treasurer

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Derek Lake
Chairman

Date:

Date:

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- we become entitled to the resources;
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Expenditure & liabilities

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Restricted funds are those subject to specific trusts, to be directed to a specified purpose, in some cases with a requirement for the assets to be invested and retained for actual use (an endowment fund) without being expended.

4. Related party transactions

Remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees of the Society was paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year.

No remuneration has been paid to the independent examiner.

Trustee expenses

Trustees are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses where the trustee acts as an agent for the Society. No trustee has claimed for travel, subsistence or similar costs incurred in carrying out their duties.

Related parties

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5. Debtors, prepayments and accrued income

	Year ended 31 July 2024 £	Year ended 31 July 2023 £
Debtors		
Cash receipts from trustees	1,387	-
Gift Aid due from HMRC	8,338	4,067
	<u>9,725</u>	<u>4,067</u>

6. Accruals and deferred income

	Year ended 31 July 2024 £	Year ended 31 July 2023 £
Accruals		
Expenses due to trustees	2,227	-
Deferred Income		
Library receipts for future concerts	315	899
	<u>2,542</u>	<u>899</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Guildford Choral Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Guildford Choral Society (the Society) for the 12 months ended 31 July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Society as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as a 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Langley', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ramani Langley, MA