

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

Registered Charity No: 285602

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

CONTENTS

Charity information	2
Trustees' Report	3 - 4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the accounts	8 - 19

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees

V Burgess (resigned 9 th October 2023)	J Burke
J Chandler-Smith	C Granby (resigned 30 th September 2024)
A Howse	J Likierman (resigned 9 th October 2023)
P Parr (appointed 30 th September 2024)	N Salisbury
M G Spencer (resigned 30 th September 2024)	C Stephenson
A Stevens	

Principal Address

3 Popes Road
Abbots Langley
Hertfordshire
WD5 0EY

Charity Registration Number

285602

Independent Examiner

S Robinson
Mercer & Hole LLP
Chartered Accountants
The Pinnacle
170 Midsummer Boulevard
Milton Keynes
MK9 1BP

Principal Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
67 High Street
Watford
Herts
WD17 2DU

COIF Charities Deposit Fund
CCLA Investment Managers Limited
One Angel Lane
London
EC4R 3AB

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their annual report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st July 2024.

Constitution and objects for the public benefit

The charity is governed by its constitution, last revised in June 2002. The constitution contains no restrictions. It is administered by a committee, members of which are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for a minimum of three years. Committee members are recruited from the membership of the choir and act as the charity's trustees. Induction training is provided for all new trustees.

The trustees confirm that they have made reference to the guidance of the Charities Commission general guidance on public benefits when reviewing their aims, objectives and future activities of the charity.

The objects of the charity are to improve public appreciation of music through choral concerts.

Review of the Development, Activities and Achievements of the Charity, and how the Charity delivers public benefit

The surplus for the year amounted to £2,247.

Reserves

The accumulated funds as at 31st July 2024 were £94,549 of which £1,250 related to designated funds.

The trustees have determined that an appropriate level of available reserves should be equivalent to at least twelve months' expenditure.

Investments

The charity's constitution requires its assets to be invested in Great Britain, in bank accounts or safe interest-bearing securities.

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Major risks

The trustees have taken steps to identify the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

Future Development

The Choir's Centenary year concludes in December 2024 and following the retirement of Andrew Lucas in July, the choir welcomes its new conductor, William Fox, from September 2024.

Trustees' Responsibilities in relation to the Financial Statements

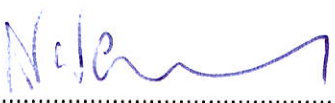
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

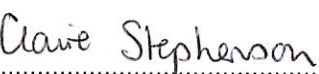
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

Signed on behalf of the trustees


.....

N Salisbury


.....

C Stephenson

Date: 19th November 2024

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st July 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 19.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

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 charity 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 (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.



Steve Robinson FCA
Mercer & Hole LLP
The Pinnacle
170 Midsummer Boulevard
Milton Keynes
MK9 1BP

Date **18** December 2024

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	Unrestricted General Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Total Unrestricted 2024	Total Unrestricted 2023
Income:		£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	2	43,243	-	43,243	33,640
Legacies and donations	3	101	-	101	-
Interest		2,245	-	2,245	1,131
Taxation recovered from Gift Aid		8,106	-	8,106	7,133
Carol concert	4	12,468	-	12,468	11,579
Major concerts	5	60,334	-	60,334	20,637
Other income	6	1,474	-	1,474	2,336
Total income		127,971	-	127,971	76,456
Expenditure:					
<u>Charitable Expenditure</u>					
Carol concert	4	12,700	-	12,700	11,208
Major concerts	5	111,701	-	111,701	67,760
Centenary events and book		2,146	-	2,146	-
		126,547	-	126,547	78,968
<u>Management and Administration</u>					
Subscriptions and affiliation fees		787	-	787	757
Audition costs	7	581	-	581	2,011
Singing lessons and workshops (net)		474	-	474	1,145
Website and IT		296	-	296	259
Andrew Lucas retirement events		741	-	741	-
Sundry expenses	8	1,403	-	1,403	80
Total expenditure		130,829	-	130,829	83,220
Net expenditure before gains on investments		(2,858)	-	(2,858)	(6,764)
Gains on investments	11	5,105	-	5,105	456
Net expenditure/income		2,247	-	2,247	(6,308)
Transfer between funds		5,500	(5,500)	-	-
Net movement in funds		7,747	(5,500)	2,247	(6,308)
Total funds brought forward		85,552	6,750	92,302	98,610
Total funds carried forward	14	93,299	1,250	94,549	92,302

The notes on pages 8 to 19 form part of these accounts

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

BALANCE SHEET

			2024		2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Floodlighting and music stands at cost		658		658	
Less accumulated depreciation		(658)		(658)	
Investments: COIF Investment account	11	53,475		48,370	
			53,475		48,370
Current assets					
Stock of music		626		626	
Debtors	12	4,942		-	
Cash at bank: Lloyds Treasurers account		6,295		1,046	
Cash at bank: COIF Deposit account		29,976		42,730	
Cash in hand		-		-	
		41,839		44,402	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(765)		(470)	
Net current assets			41,074		43,932
Net assets			94,549		92,302
Accumulated funds					
Unrestricted general funds	14		93,299		85,552
Designated funds	14		1,250		6,750
Total charity funds	15		94,549		92,302

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by

Clare Stephenson C Stephenson

Date: 19th November 2024

The notes on pages 8 to 19 form part of these accounts

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (issued in October 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have therefore necessarily departed from the extant Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 rather than the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities effective from 1 April 2005, which has since been withdrawn.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs to that category.

Going Concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Voluntary income including donations are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Subscription income is recognised when received from members.

Concert income represents the gross receipts. A breakdown of the income and expenditure for each concert is shown in the notes to the accounts.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Investments

Investments in equity instruments which are not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in the profit and loss accounts.

Fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Floodlighting and music stands 5 years

Stock

Stock is included at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking into account of any trade discounts offered.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Subscriptions	2024	2023
Singers	40,218	33,150
Friends	3,025	490
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	43,243	33,640
	<hr/>	<hr/>

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

3. Donations	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
General donations	101	-	101	-
Legacies	-	-	-	-
	<u>101</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>101</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>101</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
4. Carol concerts				Dec 2023
			£	£
Tickets sales				11,405
Less: commission				(1,369)
				<u>10,036</u>
Sundry income – music sales				724
Sundry income – flowers and candles				339
				<u>11,099</u>
Conductor			1,160	
Brass Quintet			1,450	
Organist			750	
Pianist			215	
Venue costs			4,074	
Music purchases			753	
Design and printing			950	
Publicity			-	
Rehearsals			1,909	
Miscellaneous expenses			70	
			<u></u>	(11,331)
Surplus				<u><u>(232)</u></u>

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5.	Major Concerts	Note	Gross income	Expenses	Deficit
	November 2023 – <i>Rutter Magnificat and Requiem</i>	5a	13,533	(27,418)	(13,885)
	March 2024 – <i>Bach St Matthew Passion</i>	5b	19,893	(45,667)	(25,774)
	July 2024 – <i>Mozart Requiem and Coronation Mass</i>	5c	26,908	(38,616)	(11,708)
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			60,334	(111,701)	(51,367)
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

ST ALBANS BACH CHOIR

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5a. November 2023 – <i>Rutter Magnificat and Requiem</i>	Nov 2023
Ticket sales	12,270
Less: commission	(1,472)
	<hr/>
	10,798
Programmes (including adverts)	909
Sundry income – music sales	354
	<hr/>
Conductor	1,160
Orchestra	13,687
Soloists	700
Instrument hire	138
Chorus tenors	525
Music hire	120
Venue hire	3,798
Design and printing	1,050
Publicity	760
Rehearsals: Conductor	1,701
Rehearsals: Accompanist	882
Rehearsals: Venue hire	1,275
Rehearsals: Vocal coach	-
Miscellaneous expenses	150
	<hr/>
	(25,946)
	<hr/>
Deficit	(13,885)
	<hr/> <hr/>