

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 295839

Details

Other names THE DORKING HALLS CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY, DCS

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1986-12-22

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

Contact

Address South Lodge
Horsham Road
South Holmwood
Dorking
Surrey
RH5 4LZ

Phone 01306888922

Email john.chiverton@btinternet.com

Website www.dorkingconcertgoers.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE SOCIETY SHALL BE TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC

Activities: To educate the public in the art and science of music through the promotion of an annual series of classical music concerts

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£31,442	£22,971	-	-
2024-06-30	£48,391	£39,903	-	-
2023-06-30	£64,258	£53,318	-	-
2022-06-30	£84,875	£22,682	-	-
2021-06-30	£9,540	£8,051	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREW DORMAN		
Christopher John Pratt		2020-12-08
DIANA ELIZABETH SMITH BILLARD		
JOHN EDWIN CHIVERTON		
LADY VERONICA MARY GOODENOUGH		2024-11-18
MRS PAM CHIVERTON		
Virginia Susan Wheeler		2020-12-08

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

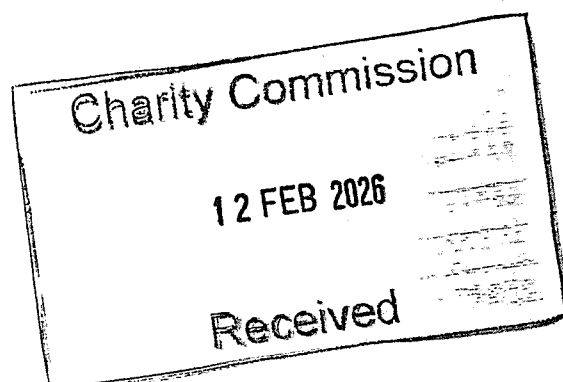
England & Wales - Charity number 295839

Accounts

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025

FOR

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY**



THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY
TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025

<u>Address</u>	South Lodge South Holmwood Dorking Surrey RH5 4LZ
<u>Registered Charity Number</u>	295839
<u>President</u>	Miss Susan Bixley
<u>Trustees</u>	Christopher Pratt (Chairman) Diana Smith-Billard (Hon Secretary) John Chiverton (Hon Treasurer) Pam Chiverton (Hon Ticket Secretary) Andrew Dorman Virginia Wheeler Veronica Goodenough
<u>Bankers</u>	National Westminster Bank
<u>Independent Examiner</u>	David Wheeler, FCCA Cheeld Wheeler & Co Chartered Certified Accountants Redhill Chambers 2d, High Street Redhill Surrey RH1 1RJ

Dorking Concertgoers Society

The Trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended 30th June 2025. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Society'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 Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102.

Structure and governance

The present Constitution of the Society was approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 26th October 2009

The managing body of the Society is a committee which is elected annually and is to be not more than twelve members including those holding the offices of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Membership and Ticket Secretary. New Committee Members may be recruited either by election at a General Meeting or by co-option.

The Society is a registered charity no. 295839 and the committee members are Trustees. Members, Friends and Sponsors of the Society are those persons who pay an annual subscription fee at the rate determined by the committee. At the end of the financial year there were 20 Personal Sponsors, 21 Friends and 33 members, making a total of 74.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The purpose of the Society is to educate the public in the art and science of music and it seeks to fulfil this by promoting concerts and recitals. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Charity Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Charity Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- 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 that the Charity will continue.
- The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity website.

Review Of The Year.

The 2024/25 60th Anniversary Season was severely affected by the closure of the Dorking Halls over the Summer and Autumn of 2024 for essential roof repairs. We were unable to organise any concerts before Christmas. The concert by the Jess Gillam Octet and the piano recital by Ignas Maknickas were cancelled. Many people had already purchased tickets. Most of those, fortunately, were from the Dorking Halls' box office which had to organise refunds. We offered alternative dates in 2025 and 2026 to both performers but were unable to agree. We paid Ignas Maknickas the sum of £100 in compensation for the cancellation of his concert. We had also planned a concert by the LPO immediately after Christmas. In theory this could actually have taken place because the Halls re-opened in time for Christmas. Given the nature of such building works and the possibility of a works' overrun, however, we felt that we had to inform the orchestra of the situation. By mutual agreement the concert was cancelled.

The Halls were scheduled to be closed again during this Summer (2025) and we were planning a concert on Oct 25th 2025 in St Martin's Church. That closure has been delayed until 2026 so a second autumn season has been disrupted. The October concert will now, however, take place in the Martineau Hall.³

AGM.

The AGM was held on 18th November 2024 in the Dorking Dramatic and Operatic Society's Green Room. We were made extremely welcome, in spite of unforeseen heating issues in the theatre, but were gratified by the attendance.

We organised a reception and buffet for members and Oscar Perks (violin) kindly agreed to give a short concert. It was supposed just to be a celebration of our 60th season but the attendance was so much better than in previous recent years, when we have often feared that the AGM would not be quorate, that we have decided to repeat the experiment this year on October 20th.

It provides a rare opportunity for our members to meet socially.

There were 33 members present including our President, Susan Bixley. (c.f. 15 in 2023.)

There were 25 apologies for absence. (c.f. 11 in 2023)

85 members were eligible to vote at the meeting, meaning that they had either joined the society before the AGM or joined "on the spot" using our "SumUp" facility. Invitations had been sent to members from the preceding season because not everybody had confirmed their membership for this season at the time. Similarly, we shall invite this year's members to the AGM in 2026.

The final membership count for season 2024/25 was 74.

All the existing committee members were ready to stand again and at the meeting Veronica Goodenough offered her services.

Committee.

Christopher Pratt (Chairman)

Diana Smith-Billard (Secretary)

John Chiverton (Treasurer)

Pam Chiverton (Membership and Ticket Secretary)

Andrew Dorman

Virginia Wheeler

Veronica Goodenough

There is no deputy chairman.

Meetings.

There have been four committee meetings since the AGM, all held at Diana Smith-Billard's house.

8th January 2025

19th March 2025

7th May 2025

20th August 2025

(There is also a meeting scheduled for 1st October 2025)

Financial situation.

The Charity's financial results were as follows-

Charitable income	£21,442
Expenditure	£22,971
Operational Loss	£1,529
Legacies	£10,000 (convert Operational Loss to
Surplus of	£8,471)
Charity's Unrestricted funds	£75,866

The substantial legacies that we have received recently are allowing us to sponsor more ambitious concerts.

Publicity.

We publish an annual printed brochure together with posters and flyers for each concert that are circulated to public libraries and community noticeboards. Andrew Dorman, who publishes our publicity material, annually faces a gargantuan task in preparing it. He also liaises with the Dorking Halls. Details of our concerts appear in the Halls' printed brochure, on their website and on the digital display screen outside the Halls. The Halls management has agreed to publicise and ticket any of our concerts which have to be held elsewhere because of the building disruption in 2026 (3rd Oct and 24th Oct)

Ian Codd writes almost all the 'copy' for our brochures and programmes. This is an enormous task for which we offer our profound thanks.

Alex Cissokho services the society's web site which provides basic information about the society and includes a link to the Dorking Halls' Box Office.

Dorking Halls.

We are extremely lucky to be able to use the Halls and its considerable publicity "machine" for our concerts. Their friendly team is a delight to work with and we thank them sincerely. They are as frustrated as we are by the "chopping and changing" of the building plans by Mole Valley.

Members of the public may also purchase tickets directly from the Halls' Box Office although in doing so they do not benefit from Concertgoers' Society membership discounts.

Concerts.

Our first concert of the 2024/25 season was held on 19th January 2025 in St. Martin's Church by kind permission of the new vicar, the Reverend Canon Dr Anthony Russtell. We were delighted to welcome him, his wife and family as members of the audience for what proved to be an overwhelmingly successful concert given by Owain Park and the Gesualdo 6. We were lucky that the Dorking Halls ticketed and publicised the concert for us and we were overwhelmed by the response. We sold 289 tickets (including 4 complimentary) out of a nominal capacity of 300 in the church. We could almost certainly have sold more and we could almost certainly have charged more for them (£20). However the uncomfortable seats, the vagaries of church heating and the inconvenience of the lavatory facilities made us err on the side of caution. The concert was delightful, an eclectic mixture of established choral favourites such as "If Ye Love Me" by Thomas Tallis and "The Silver Swan" by Orlando

Gibbons, with a range of lesser known and more modern pieces including "When Love Speaks" by Owain Park.

The CD sales table was "humming" after the concert, as was our temporary "bar" serving complimentary wine and soft drinks.

Our small committee was stretched to the limit by the organisation of this concert and we were relieved to return to the Martineau Hall with its comfortable seats, proper toilet facilities, a cafe/bar and stewarding staff for the rest of the season.

We understand, however, that St Martin's is about to undergo major works which will make mounting concerts there much easier. It is such a beautiful place to make music- particularly choral music.

In a season which had been so disrupted we were, however, relieved to return to normal and to welcome the internationally renowned Brodsky Quartet for our annual series of three string quartet concerts on 2nd Feb, 16th Feb and 2nd March. The Sunday afternoon concerts during the winter season are popular with our "core membership" and achieved an average attendance of 156/ 196 (cap.)(with 10 complimentary tickets).

The Brodsky Quartet has recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary and their playing reflects a deep knowledge of the repertoire and vast experience of performing together.

The linking feature of the three concerts was the arrangement of three of Bach's solo violin sonatas for string quartet by the quartet's founder member and viola player Paul Cassidy. These were remarkably effective.

Other highlights of the concerts were the performances of Dmitri Shostakovich's 3rd quartet, Beethoven's mighty Op130, including the Große Fuge, Debussy's uniquely expressive quartet in G minor and Schubert's ever popular "Death and the Maiden" quartet.

We had originally planned for Fiona Harrison to give a guitar recital in Autumn 2025 but she kindly agreed to bring her concert forward to April 5th before the planned second closure of the Dorking Halls (which didn't, of course, happen). She has a loyal following locally and is known for her teaching as well as her recital work. Her concert attracted an audience of 135/196(cap.). Like the Gesualdo 6, her eclectic programme included a wide range of composers and styles from Domenico Scarlatti to Keigo Fujii.

Looking ahead. (2025/26)

We had planned to organise a concert in St Martin's in the Autumn of 2025. We specifically researched a small chamber group which did not require the use of a piano and we engaged ChamberMusicBox who offer an interesting menu of different programmes and personnel. Then, of course, the Halls announced that they weren't going to close after all until Spring and Autumn 2026.

Mercifully- ChamberMusicBox have agreed to give their concert in the Martineau Hall. Oscar Perks and Ayaka Shigeno had to withdraw from their concert on Jan 17th for personal reasons.

ChamberMusicBox-(Saturday 25th Oct 2025, 19.30) - Martineau Hall

Grimethorpe Colliery Band-(Sunday 7th Dec 2025, 15.00) - Grand Hall

Thomas Carroll (Cello) and Nigel Hutchison (Piano)-(Saturday Jan 17th, 2026, 19.30) - Martineau Hall

English Chamber Orchestra-(Saturday 7th Feb 2026, 19.30) - Grand Hall

Carducci Quartet-(1st March 2026, 15th March 2026, 15.00) - Martineau Hall

Julian Bliss(clarinet) and friends and the Carducci Quartet-(18th April 2026, 19.30) - Grand Hall

Looking further ahead. (2026/27)

We've now organised two concerts in St Martin's Church in the Autumn of 2026 while the Halls are still closed.

Elin Manahan Thomas (soprano) and Elizabeth Kenny (lute) (Sat 3rd October 2026, 19.30) - St. Martin's Church

Jacopo Lazarotti (JKL Duo-guitar and flute)-(Sat 24th Oct 2026, 19.30) - St. Martin's Church

New London Orchestra-(Sat 16th Jan 2027, 19.30) - DH Grand Hall

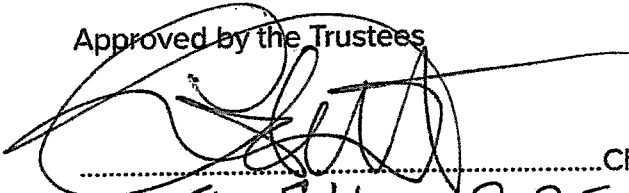
Sacconi Quartet-(Sun 7th Feb; Sun 28th Feb; Sun 21st March 2027, 15.00) - DH Martineau Hall

At the moment ,we are negotiating with the Cory Band for a concert in the early Spring of 2027 in the Grand Hall.

May I finally express my thanks to the members of the Committee of the Concertgoers for their unstinting hard work.

We are delighted to welcome Veronica Goodenough to the Committee but are acutely aware that if one or more of the principal officers were to be unable to continue it might call into question the ability of the Concertgoers' Society to carry on in its current form unless we are able to find replacements.

Approved by the Trustees



.....Christopher Pratt, Chairman, on behalf of the Trustees

Date 15th October 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Dorking Concertgoers Society for the year ended 30th June 2025.

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").

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts as required 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

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. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That 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 the 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.

..... *David Wheeler* David Wheeler – Independent Examiner

Dated..... *15 October 2025*

David Wheeler, FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill Surrey RH1 1RJ.

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Computer Equipment	2		0		0
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and Prepayments	3	6,145		2,964	
Cash at Bank		106,145		100,860	
Cash in Hand		60		60	
		<u>112,350</u>		<u>103,884</u>	
LIABILITIES: Amounts falling due within one year	4	(250)		(255)	
			<u>112,100</u>		<u>103,629</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>112,100</u>		<u>103,629</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>£112,100</u>		<u>£103,629</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Designated Funds			36,234		21,500
General Funds			75,866		82,129
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	5		<u>£112,100</u>		<u>£103,629</u>

NOTE: The notes on pages 9 and 10 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on

1st October, '25

Signed on their behalf



.....
John Chiverton
Honorary Treasurer

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025

		2025			2024	
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Concerts - sales of tickets and programmes			16,047		24,133	
CD sales			47		26	
Programme advertising			0		790	
Subscriptions			652		683	
Donations, gifts and similar income			2,623		3,946	
Grants and Support	6		0		2,950	
Bequests			10,000		13,002	
Bank interest receivable			1,475		1,446	
Gift Aid refunds			448		1,415	
Other income			150		0	
TOTAL INCOME			31,442		48,391	
EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES						
Concert costs	7	17,214			30,436	
Support costs	8	4,453			7,637	
			21,667		38,073	
OTHER EXPENDITURE						
Management and administration	9		1,304		1,830	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			22,971		39,903	
NET INCOME				£8,471	£8,488	
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:-						
Net Income			£8,471		£8,488	
Fund balances brought forward 1st July 2024			103,629		£95,141	
Fund balances carried forward 30th June 2025			£112,100		£103,629	

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025

1 Accounting Policies

- (a) **Basis of Accounting.** The statement of accounts has been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the provisions of the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to Charities (FRS102).
The Charity is a public benefit entity.
- (b) **Income.** Donations and legacies are accounted for when received by the Society. Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis as far as it is prudent to do so. Income is shown net of Value Added Tax.
- (c) **Grants receivable.** Revenue grants are credited to the income and expenditure account as received, unless related to a specific period, when they are placed in a restricted fund until used.
- (d) **Taxation.** As a registered charity the Society is generally exempt from Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax, but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.
- (e) **Depreciation** of tangible fixed assets is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Computer Equipment	20% pa, straight line
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- (f) All financial figures are reported exclusive of VAT.

2 Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment £
At cost	
Brought forward 1st July 2024	340
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
Carried forward 30th June 2025	£340
Depreciation	£
Brought forward 1st July 2024	340
Charge for the year at 20% SL	0
Depreciation on disposals	0
Carried forward 30th June 2025	£340
Net Book Value	
At 30th June 2025	£0
At 30th June 2024	£0

3 Debtors and Prepayments

	2025 £	2024 £
Debtors for advertisements	2,171	216
Other debtors	0	1,416
Prepayments	2,756	1,185
VAT	1,218	147
	£6,145	£2,964

4 Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	250	250
Trade Creditors	0	5
VAT liability	0	0
	£250	£255

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025

(Continued)

5	Unrestricted Funds		
	This represents the surplus income accumulated over the years.		
	The purpose of the Designated Funds is to meet committed expenditure.		
6	Grants and Support	2025	2024
		£	£
	Specific Concert Sponsorship - Personal	0	2,950
		<u>£0</u>	<u>£2,950</u>
7	Concert expenses	2025	2024
		£	£
	Artists' fees	11,652	17,661
	Hire of hall	3,356	5,645
	Instrument hire	0	4,292
	Commission, service charges and PRS	2,206	2,838
		<u>£17,214</u>	<u>£30,436</u>
8	Support Costs	2025	2024
		£	£
	Advertising, publicity, marketing and printing	3,306	4,619
	Making Music subscription including insurance	509	489
	Concert brochure	638	2,529
	Equipment costs	0	0
		<u>£4,453</u>	<u>£7,637</u>
9	Management and Administration	2025	2024
		£	£
	Telephone, postage and stationery	305	664
	Subscriptions	0	115
	Independent Examiner's Fee	250	250
	Bank Charges	0	0
	Other administration expenses	749	801
		<u>£1,304</u>	<u>£1,830</u>
10	The role of the Trustees is to manage all aspects of the Society's activity of promoting and presenting classical music concerts. They do so on a purely voluntary basis. There are no volunteers other than the Trustees. None of the Trustees received any remuneration; Trustees' expenses reimbursed totalled £437. Donations totalling £490 were received from the Trustees.		

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 295839

Accounts

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024

FOR

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY
TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024

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<u>Bankers</u>	National Westminster Bank 14 High Street Dorking Surrey RH4 1AX
<u>Independent Examiner</u>	David Wheeler, FCCA Cheeld Wheeler & Co Chartered Certified Accountants Redhill Chambers 2d High Street Redhill Surrey RH1 1RJ

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The 2023/24 Season has been one of the most successful of recent years. It is ironic, therefore, that much of our thinking and planning has been concerned with the devastating news that the Dorking Halls has been forced to shut for essential maintenance during the summers of 2024 and 2025. This has involved cancelling all the concerts in autumn 2024 and revising the whole schedule thereafter until 2026.

AGM.

The AGM was held on 23rd October 2023 in the Dorking Christian Centre. The Committee was, once again, very concerned that this season's AGM would not be quorate.

There were 15 members present.

There were 11 apologies for absence.

72 members were eligible to vote.

All the existing committee members except Susan Bixley were willing to stand again. We are very grateful to Susan for assuming the rôle of President.

Committee.

Christopher Pratt (Chairman)

Diana Smith-Billard (Secretary)

John Chiverton (Treasurer)

Pam Chiverton (Membership and Ticket Secretary)

Andrew Dorman

Virginia Wheeler

There is no acting deputy chairman.

At this point it is also important to mention people who, though not necessarily members of the committee, give us invaluable help.

Ian Codd writes almost all the 'copy' for our brochures and programmes. This is an enormous task for which we offer our profound thanks.

Alex Cissokho services the society's web site.

Meetings.

There have been five committee meetings since the AGM. Two of them have been by Zoom of which one, held on 4th June 2024, was an emergency meeting to discuss the Dorking Halls' closure.

The "non-Zoom" meetings were held at Barry and Penny Collins's house, to whom we also offer our thanks.

Financial situation.

The Charity's financial results were as follows-

Charitable income-	£ 35,388
Expenditure-	£ 39,903
Operational Loss	£ 4,514
Legacies	£13,002 convert net loss to surplus £8,488
Charity's Unrestricted funds	£103,629

Publicity.

We publish posters and flyers for each concert that are circulated to public libraries and community noticeboards. Andrew Dorman who publishes our publicity material has faced a gargantuan task in preparing our annual brochure, the posters and flyers because of the unexpected closure of the Dorking Halls.

We remain, nevertheless, extremely lucky to be able to use the Halls and its considerable publicity “machine” for our concerts. Their friendly team is a delight to work with and we thank them sincerely.

Details of our concerts appear in the Halls’ printed brochure, on their website and on the digital display screen outside the Halls. Members of the public may also purchase tickets directly from the Halls’ Box Office although in doing so they do not benefit from membership discounts.

Concerts.

Our first concert on 7th October 2023 was a piano recital by Nicholas McCarthy

It was part of the annual Mole Valley Arts Alive event.

There were 104/194 (hall capacity) audience members in the Martineau Hall. Nicholas was born without a right hand and has confounded expectations by establishing himself as a successful concert pianist both in the UK and abroad.

The second concert on 11th November was a recital by Hannah Condliffe, oboe and Mark Rogers, piano. The concert was supported by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust.

It attracted 155/194 audience members. The programme was shared between the players. We wish Hannah luck as she establishes a career as a soloist. Mark is an outstanding accompanist and soloist.

The third concert on 13th Jan 2024 was a recital by Oscar Perks, violin and his wife, Ayaka Shigeno, piano. Oscar is well known locally and has many local connections. The audience was nearly at capacity (187/194). They played a beautiful programme with a fine sense of ensemble.

Many members consider our annual string quartet series to be the high spot of the Concertgoers’ season.

This year we were forced into a last minute “re-think”. We had engaged the Jubilee Quartet for a return visit but they found that they could not honour two of the three dates. We decided to employ three different Quartets, the Piatti, the Carducci-(who, after their success in our previous season, kindly agreed to return), and the Jubilee who completed our series. Attendance was, respectively, 117/194, 187/194 and 123/194 an average attendance of 73%.

Our final concert of the season was the much anticipated visit by the ‘cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason and his pianist sister Isata. The programme looked daunting on paper for both performers and audience but this did not prevent a near capacity audience (640/645) from attending. Sheku’s ability to draw the listener in and to make us feel that he was playing for us personally was quite extraordinary.

Our most successful concerts were-

Firstly, those showing the power of celebrity- people would have come to Sheku and Isata’s concert whatever they played- an unique phenomenon. The Carducci Quartet also has a formidable reputation, demonstrated by the attendance numbers at their concert.

Secondly, “local interest” as in the case of Oscar and Ayaka.

We need also to mention a significant contribution to our audiences by members of the u3a who organised party bookings.

Our planned 2024/25 season was almost completely changed by the situation at the Dorking Halls.

It was originally finalized as follows-

The Jess Gillam Octet (19th Oct '24)-Cancelled

Ignas Maknickas (piano) (23rd Nov '24)-Cancelled

The London Philharmonic Orchestra (11th Jan '25)-Cancelled

The Brodsky Quartet (2nd Feb, 15.00, 16th Feb, 2nd March -2025)

The Grimethorpe Colliery Band (10th May '25)-Rescheduled

The revised schedule of **five** concerts in 2025 is as follow-

Owain Park and the Gesualdo 6-(19thJan 2025, 16.00) St Martin's Church

The Brodsky Quartet-(2nd Feb, 15.00, 16th Feb 16.00, 2nd March 15.00)

Martineau Hall

Fiona Harrison (guitar)- 5th April 2025, 19.30, Martineau Hall

Looking further ahead.(2025/26)

We hope to organize a concert in October or November 2025 in an alternative venue.

Grimethorpe Colliery Band- (Sunday 7th Dec 2025, 15.00) Grand Hall

English Chamber Orchestra- (Saturday 7th Feb 2026, 19.30) Grand Hall

Carducci Quartet- (1st March 2026, 15th March 2026, 15.00) Martineau Hall

Julian Bliss (clarinet) and friends and the Carducci Quartet- (18th April 2026, 19.30) Grand Hall

In addition to normal Membership, Friends' and Sponsors' subscriptions, we have received some substantial legacies that are allowing us to sponsor more ambitious concerts in future seasons.

A small number of people continue to support the Concertgoers by playing the Mole Valley Lottery. 50p of every £1 ticket purchased goes to the Society as a nominated "good cause".

May I finally express my thanks to the members of the Committee of the Concertgoers for their unstinting hard work.

I cannot but be concerned by its 'fragility

Our efforts to attract possible new members have, unfortunately, been unsuccessful.

Approved by the Trustees on the 28th October 2024



Christopher Pratt, Chairman, on behalf of the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Dorking Concertgoers Society for the year ended 30th June 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").

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts as required 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

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. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That 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 the 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.

Original signed by David Wheeler 29th October 2024

.....
David Wheeler – Independent Examiner

David Wheeler, FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill Surrey RH1 1RJ.
Dated 29th October 2024.....

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Computer Equipment	2		0		0
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and Prepayments	3	2,964		7,873	
Cash at Bank		100,860		88,177	
Cash in Hand		60		60	
			<u>103,884</u>	<u>96,110</u>	
LIABILITIES: Amounts falling due within one year	4	(255)		(969)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>103,629</u>		<u>95,141</u>
NET ASSETS			<u><u>£103,629</u></u>		<u><u>£95,141</u></u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Funds designated to meet committed expenditure			21,500		0
Unrestricted Funds	5		82,129		95,141
			<u>£103,629</u>		<u>£95,141</u>

NOTE: The notes on pages 8 and 9 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 28th October 2024

Signed on their behalf

Original signed by John Chiverton on 29th October 2024

.....
John Chiverton
Honorary Treasurer

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

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

		2024			2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Concerts - sales of tickets and programmes			24,133		27,722	
CD sales			26		29	
Programme advertising			790		610	
Subscriptions			683		753	
Donations, gifts and similar income			3,946		2,686	
Grants and Support	6		2,950		0	
Bequests			13,002		31,000	
Bank interest receivable			1,446		722	
Gift Aid refunds			1,415		736	
TOTAL INCOME			48,391		64,258	
EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES						
Concert costs	7	30,436		43,793		
Support costs	8	7,637		7,798		
			38,073		51,591	
OTHER EXPENDITURE						
Management and administration	9		1,830		1,727	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			39,903		53,318	
NET INCOME			£8,488		£10,940	
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:-						
Net Income			£8,488		£10,940	
Fund balances brought forward 1st July 2023			95,141		£84,201	
Fund balances carried forward 30th June 2024			£103,629		£95,141	

NOTE: Funds totalling £21,500 are designated to meet committed expenditure; the remaining funds, totalling £82,129 are Unrestricted.

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024 (Continued)

5 Unrestricted Funds

This represents the surplus income accumulated over the years.

6 Grants and Support

	2024	2023
	£	£
Specific Concert Sponsorship - Personal	2,950	0
Specific Concert Sponsorship - Corporate	0	0
	£2,950	£0

7 Concert expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Artists' fees	17,661	32,260
Hire of hall	5,645	6,315
Instrument hire	4,292	1,610
Commission, service charges and PRS	2,838	3,608
	£30,436	£43,793

8 Support Costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Advertising, publicity, marketing and printing	4,619	5,206
Making Music subscription including insurance	489	458
Concert brochure	2,529	2,134
Equipment costs	0	0
	£7,637	£7,798

9 Management and Administration

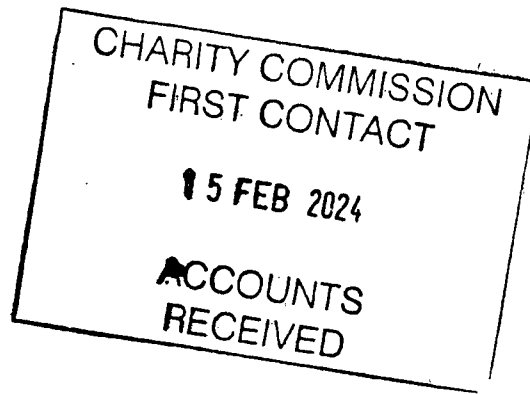
	2024	2023
	£	£
Telephone, postage and stationery	664	382
Subscriptions	115	20
Independent Examiner's Fee	250	250
Bank Charges	0	30
Other administration expenses	801	1,045
	£1,830	£1,727

10 The role of the Trustees is to manage all aspects of the Society's activity of promoting and presenting classical music concerts. They do so on a purely voluntary basis. There are no volunteers other than the Trustees. None of the Trustees received any remuneration; Trustees' expenses reimbursed totalled £571. One of the Trustees made a donation of £800 to the Society.

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 295839

Accounts



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023
FOR
THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY**

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY
TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

Address South Lodge
South Holmwood
Dorking
Surrey
RH5 4LZ

Registered Charity Number 295839

President The late James Bowman CBE (deceased 27th March 2023)

Trustees Christopher Pratt (Chairman)
Diana Smith-Billard (Hon Secretary)
John Chiverton (Hon Treasurer)
Susan Bixley
Pam Chiverton (Hon Ticket Secretary)
Andrew Dorman
Virginia Wheeler

Bankers National Westminster Bank
14 High Street
Dorking
Surrey RH4 1AX

Independent Examiner David Wheeler, FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey RH1 1RJ

Dorking Concertgoers Society

The Trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended 30th June 2023. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Society'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 Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102.

Structure and governance

The present Constitution of the Society was approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 26th October 2009

The managing body of the Society is a committee that is elected annually and is to be not more than twelve members including those holding the offices of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Membership and Ticket secretary. New Committee members may be recruited either by election at a General Meeting or by co-option.

The Society is a registered charity no. 295839 and the committee members are Trustees.

Members, Friends and Sponsors of the Society are those persons who pay an annual subscription fee at the rate determined by the committee. At the year's end, there were 21 Personal Sponsors, 24 Friends and 40 Members.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The purpose of the Society is to educate the public in the art and science of music and it seeks to fulfil this by promoting concerts and recitals. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Charity Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Charity Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- 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 that the Charity will continue.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity website.

James Bowman CBE, the internationally renowned countertenor, who had been the Concertgoers' President since 1994, sadly died on the 27th March this year. His great support was much appreciated by the Chairman and committee. He attended many of our concerts, came to our AGMs and showed a persistent interest in the society's affairs. We included an obituary for him in the programme for the concert on the 22nd April. We are delighted to announce that Susan Bixley has agreed to be our new President although we are sad that she has also decided to stand down from the Committee. Susan has served on the Committee for twenty-three years and as Chairman for the past thirteen. We are enormously grateful for all that she has done.

The **2021/22 AGM** was held at St.Martin's Church Christian Centre on 17th October, 2022.

The Committee was very concerned that this season's AGM would not be quorate. Attendance in recent years has been poor and the Covid pandemic seems merely to have reinforced this. We can only hope that, as memories of the pandemic recede, people attend once again. There were **14** members present. All the existing Committee members were willing to stand again and the group is now seven strong. There is no acting Deputy Chairman.

At the close of the 2022-23 season the Society had **85** Members eligible to vote. Thus far, for the coming season, there are only **61** Members eligible to vote. The Constitution only allows Members for the coming season to vote at the AGM and hitherto it is only those that have been notified of the coming AGM. It is suggested that we notify last season's Members as well as next season's in our attempt to boost attendance at the Meeting although, of course, they will not be able to vote until they have joined the Society for the coming season.

There will have been 6 Committee Meetings since the AGM. Three of the meetings of the winter months were held by Zoom. The "non-Zoom" meetings were held at Barry and Penny Collins's house, to whom we offer our thanks.

The Charity's financial results were as follows:-

"Trading Income" (ticket sales etc.) of £33,258

"Expenditure" (Artists' Fees, Hall Hire, etc.) of £53,318

This resulted in an Operational Loss of £20,060.

Although such a result is a matter of some concern, the receipt during the year of further legacies amounting to £31,000 converted the overall result to Net Surplus of £10,940, thus boosting the Charity's Unrestricted Funds to £95,141.

At this point it is also important to mention people who, though not members of the Committee, give us invaluable help.

Ian Codd writes almost all the "copy" for our brochures and programmes. This is an enormous task for which we also offer our profound thanks. His efforts, combined with those of Andrew Dorman (our longest-serving Committee member) who compiles and publishes our publicity material, have earned the Concertgoers an enviable reputation for professional publicity standards. Alex Cissokho services the Society's website.

The season was our first since the ravages of Covid and we were apprehensive about the long-term effects of the pandemic on our concert attendance.

Our first concert on 22nd October was given by the **Vienna Mozart Trio**. It was part of the annual Mole Valley Arts Alive event. There were 112/196 (Hall capacity) audience members in the Martineau Hall. The Trio consists of father, mother and son. They played two Piano Trios by Mozart and Mendelssohn's 2nd trio in C Minor. The concert was very well received not least because of the fascinating historical introductions to the music that Daniel, the young violinist, gave us and it also transpired that Diethard, his father, the 'cellist, had actually created some of the editions of the Mozart pieces that they played.

The second concert on 12th November was a Piano Recital by **duo blz'art**. This attracted the poorest audience of the season with only 82/196 tickets sold. The potential audience did not, perhaps, know what to expect. The name implies "bizarre" but the excellent music the duo played was anything but. Those members of the Concertgoers, and indeed the general public who decided to "pass on this one", missed an absolutely superb concert of duets – played by four hands on one piano. Geoffrey Baptiste and Andre Roe presented a fascinating evening of music including a version, specially arranged for the Concertgoers, of Vaughan Williams's "The Wasps" Overture in celebration of the composer's 150th anniversary, and a captivating rendition of Ravel's "Mother Goose Suite".

The third concert was a thrilling visit by the **Grimethorpe Colliery Band**. It is rare that we are able to report that a Grand Hall concert was a virtual sell-out, with 666/697 seats taken. Our current policy of offering free tickets to young people under 18 meant that there were also a lot of children in the audience. The world-famous band, conducted by Christopher Binns, who also acted as the Master of Ceremonies, presented a truly eclectic programme which ranged from music by Verdi, the "Force of Destiny Overture", through Errol Garner, "Misty", to Percy Granger, "Danny Boy". They finished with the "Overture to William Tell" by Rossini. The concert stimulated great interest beyond our core membership. Our Members bought only 67 tickets but the Dorking Halls Box Office sold 523. It was a truly multigenerational event and it was exciting to see whole families in the audience. It was also the only concert of the season to make a financial surplus and this obviously has clear implications for our future programme planning.

Many Members consider our annual string quartet series to be the high spot of the Concertgoers season. This year was no exception and we welcomed the **Carducci Quartet** – Matthew Denton (Violin), Michelle Fleming (Violin), Eoin Schmidt-Martin (Viola) and Emma Denton ('Cello). At the time of writing this Report, they have just appeared as part of this year's Proms season.

The three concerts on 12th February, 5th March and 2nd April all attracted good, if not capacity, audiences, with an average 79% attendance. It is invidious to single out individual programme items but the performance of Fanny Mendelssohn's String Quartet was of particular interest. Beethoven was well represented with performances of his Op. 59 No. 2 (Razumovsky) and Op. 127. Many audience members commented that they had never heard a finer performance of Beethoven's late masterpiece. We were treated, in the final concert, to performances of Dvorak's "American Quartet" and to the extraordinarily powerful 8th Quartet by Shostakovich. Matthew Denton spoke knowledgeably and very entertainingly about the music at each concert.

The final concert of the season was given by the Philharmonia Orchestra on April 22nd. The concert was dedicated to the memory of Mary and Ted Williams, who were long-standing members of the Dorking Concertgoers and former members of the Committee. It is because of the large legacy that we received from Mary Williams' s estate that we were able to sponsor the concert and are able to plan similar events in the future. It was originally scheduled for May 6th but King Charles' Coronation "intervened" and we were extremely fortunate that both the Dorking Halls and the Philharmonia were still available a fortnight previously. The concert was conducted by Rory Macdonald and Rainer Crassett was the soloist in Dvorak's 'cello concerto. The programme also included the "Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus" by Vaughan Williams and Brahms's 1st Symphony. The concert was enthusiastically received by a disappointingly small audience (386/697 55%). We sustained a financial loss of £15,609.36. This clearly raises issues about the timing, the choice of artists and the programming of our future concerts.

Our 2023/24 brochure, as always, looks very impressive. It is widely distributed throughout Surrey. We also produce posters and flyers for each concert that are circulated to public libraries and community noticeboards. We are affiliated to the Mole Valley "Arts Alive" programme. Our first concert falls under its auspices and benefits from its wide associated publicity. We also subscribe to Bachtrack, which is a national database of concerts. We are extremely lucky to be able to use the Dorking Halls for our concerts and to use its considerable publicity "machine". The friendly team at the Hall is a delight to deal with and we thank the members sincerely. Details of our concerts appear in the Halls' printed brochure, on their website and on the digital display screen outside the Halls. Members of the public may also purchase tickets directly from the Halls Box Office although in doing so they do not benefit from membership discounts.

The Concertgoers lost any form of public sponsorship some time ago. In addition to normal Membership, Friends' and Sponsors' subscriptions, we have, as already reported, received substantial legacies which are allowing us to sponsor more ambitious concerts in future seasons. A small number of people have agreed to support the Concertgoers by playing the Mole Valley Lottery. 50p of every £1 purchased goes to the Society as a nominated "good cause". There have been a number of winners and on almost every occasion the winner has donated their winnings back to the Concertgoers. At the moment, the Lottery is on target to raise over £338 this year on our behalf.

Our 2023/24 programme features:-

A recital by **Nicholas McCarthy** (Piano) (7/10/23).

Two chamber recitals:-

Hannah Condliffe (Oboe) and **Mark Rogers** (Piano) (11/11/23) (this concert is made possible by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust Recital Scheme).

Oscar Perks (Violin) and **Ayaka Shigeno** (Piano) (13/1/24).

Our string quartet series features return visits from the:-

Piatti Quartet (4/2/24)

Carducci Quartet (18/2/24)

Jubilee Quartet (17/3/24)

The season will end with an exciting visit from **Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason** ('Cello and Piano) (11/5/24).

Looking further ahead

It could be argued that what follows is irrelevant to this report. I think it is important, however, to emphasise just how far ahead the Committee has to plan.

Planning for our 2024/25 season is now nearly complete. It will feature :-

The Jess Gillam Octet (19/10/24)

Ignas Maknickas (Piano) (23/11/24)

The Philharmonia Orchestra (11/1/25)

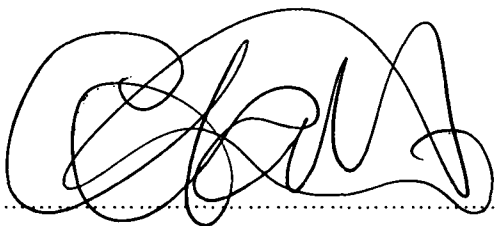
The Brodsky Quartet (2/2/25, 16/2/25, 2/3/25)

The Grimethorpe Colliery Band (10/5/25)

We shall be discussing the 2025/26 season very soon.

May I express my profound thanks to the members of the Committee of the Concertgoers for their unstinting hard work. I cannot but be concerned by its 'fragility'. Our current membership of seven is soon to be reduced to six and various overtures to possible new, younger members have, thus far, been unsuccessful. I can only hope that we may soon find some more volunteers to administer the exciting series of concerts that we are sponsoring.

Approved by the Trustees on 9th October 2023.



Christopher Pratt, Chairman, on behalf of the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Dorking Concertgoers Society for the year ended 30th June 2023.

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").

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts as required 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

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. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That 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 the 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.

David Wheeler
.....
David Wheeler – Independent Examiner

David Wheeler, FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill Surrey RH1 1RJ.

Dated:..... 12 October 2023

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Computer Equipment	2	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments	3	7,873	3,307
Cash at Bank		88,177	81,246
Cash in Hand		60	60
		<u>96,110</u>	<u>84,613</u>
LIABILITIES: Amounts falling due within one year	4	<u>(969)</u>	<u>(412)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>95,141</u>	<u>84,201</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>£95,141</u></u>	<u><u>£84,201</u></u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted Funds	5	<u><u>£95,141</u></u>	<u><u>£84,201</u></u>

NOTE: The notes on pages 8 and 9 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on

9th October 2023

Signed on their behalf



.....
John Chiverton
Honorary Treasurer

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

		2023			2022	
INCOME	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Concerts - sales of tickets and programmes			27,722		12,908	
CD sales			29		75	
Programme advertising			610		680	
Subscriptions			753		625	
Donations, gifts and similar income			2,686		2,312	
Grants and Support	6		0		2,256	
Bequests			31,000		65,000	
Bank interest receivable			722		23	
Gift Aid refunds			736		996	
Sundry Income			0		0	
TOTAL INCOME			64,258		84,875	
EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES						
Concert costs	7	43,793			16,534	
Support costs	8	7,798			4,444	
Cost of CD's		0			91	
			51,591		21,069	
OTHER EXPENDITURE						
Management and administration	9		1,727		1,613	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			53,318		22,682	
NET INCOME			£10,940		£62,193	
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:-						
Net Income			£10,940		£62,193	
Fund balances brought forward 1st July 2022			84,201		£22,008	
Fund balances carried forward 30th June 2023			£95,141		£84,201	

NOTE: All funds are unrestricted.

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

1 Accounting Policies

- (a) **Basis of Accounting.** The statement of accounts has been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the provisions of the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to Charities (FRS102).
- (b) **Income.** Donations and legacies are accounted for when received by the Society. Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis as far as it is prudent to do so. Income is shown net of Value Added Tax.
- (c) **Grants receivable.** Revenue grants are credited to the income and expenditure account as received, unless related to a specific period, when they are placed in a restricted fund until used.
- (d) **Taxation.** As a registered charity the Society is generally exempt from Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax, but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.
- (e) **Depreciation of tangible fixed assets** is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Computer Equipment	20% pa, straight line
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- (f) All financial figures are reported exclusive of VAT.

2 Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment £
At cost	
Brought forward 1st July 2022	340
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
Carried forward 30th June 2023	£340
Depreciation	£
Brought forward 1st July 2022	340
Charge for the year at 20% SL	0
Depreciation on disposals	0
Carried forward 30th June 2023	£340
Net Book Value	
At 30th June 2023	£0
At 30th June 2022	£0

3 Debtors and Prepayments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors for advertisements	168	667
Other debtors	736	871
Prepayments	3,903	1,769
VAT	3,066	0
	£7,873	£3,307

4 Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	969	250
Deferred Income	0	80
VAT liability	0	82
	£969	£412

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023

(Continued)

5 Unrestricted Funds

This represents the surplus income accumulated over the years.

6 Grants and Support

	2023	2022
	£	£
Specific Concert Sponsorship - Personal	0	2,256
Specific Concert Sponsorship - Corporate	0	0
Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust	0	0
	£0	£2,256

7 Concert expenses

	2023	2022
	£	£
Artists' fees	32,260	8,785
Hire of hall	6,315	5,125
Instrument hire	1,610	1,570
Commission, service charges and PRS	3,608	1,054
	£43,793	£16,534

8 Support Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Advertising, publicity, marketing and printing	5,207	2,095
Making Music subscription including insurance	458	452
Concert brochure	2,134	1,748
Equipment costs	0	149
	£7,799	£4,444

9 Management and Administration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Telephone, postage and stationery	382	532
Subscriptions	20	5
Independent Examiner's Fee	250	250
Bank Charges	30	22
Other administration expenses	1,045	803
	£1,727	£1,613

- 10 The role of the Trustees, who are the Society's only volunteers, is to manage all aspects of the Society's activity of promoting and presenting classical music concerts. None of the Trustees received any remuneration; Trustees' expenses reimbursed totalled £433.**

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 295839

Accounts

Dorking Concertgoers Society

The Trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended 30th June 2022. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Society'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 Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102.

Structure and governance

The present Constitution of the Society was approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 26th October 2009

The managing body of the Society is a committee that is elected annually and is to be not more than twelve members including those holding the offices of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Membership and Ticket secretary.

The Society is a registered charity no. 295839 and the committee members are Trustees.

The Society has as its President the distinguished counter-tenor, James Bowman CBE, whose great support is much appreciated by the Chairman and committee.

Members, Friends and Sponsors of the Society are those persons who pay an annual subscription fee at the rate determined by the committee. At the year's end, there were 33 Personal Sponsors, 11 Friends and 28 Members.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The purpose of the Society is to educate the public in the art and science of music and it seeks to fulfil this by promoting concerts and recitals. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Society's aims and objectives.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The Charity Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Charity Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- 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 that the Charity will continue.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity website.

Review of the year

The Dorking Concertgoers' 2021/2022 season began with a change of Chairmanship. Susan Bixley resigned at the AGM in October and I took on the rôle. Susan had guided the Concertgoers for thirteen years through some extremely difficult times including the loss of all local authority sponsorship, a shrinking membership and declining audience numbers "topped off" by the tribulations of the Covid pandemic. It is a huge tribute to her negotiating ability together with her shrewd appreciation of the opportunities presented by employing musicians sponsored by organisations such as the Countess of Munster Musical Trust that the Concertgoers continue to be able to organise concerts of the highest quality and, indeed, to be the principal sponsors of professional classical music in the Dorking Halls schedule.

The Committee of Trustees currently consists of only seven members and the post of Vice Chairman is vacant. Speaking personally, as the new Chairman, I have been consistently amazed by the amount of hard work undertaken by this small group but, as my own recent illness has demonstrated, we have no "strength in depth".

This season began as society began tentatively to emerge from the lockdowns and restrictions imposed as a result of Covid. Our audience and membership profile reflects an older demographic that is clearly more vulnerable to illness and members were understandably hesitant about attending public events. This was clearly reflected in our ticket sales over the whole season. We are hoping that membership and audience numbers will recover as society adjusts to a "new normal".

The first concert, held in the Martineau Hall, marked the welcome return of local guitarist Fiona Harrison. Fiona has a wide following locally that resulted, in spite of the Covid situation, in one of the largest audiences of the season. Her programme was an eclectic mix of ancient and modern pieces, including works by Dowland, Giuliani, Albeniz, Villa-Lobos, Gary Ryan and Domeniconi.

Many members consider the annual string quartet series to be a high spot of the Concertgoers' season. The young Jubilee Quartet had been engaged to play this series in the previous season but it had, of course, been cancelled. The Society was pleased to offer an "ex gratia" payment to the group by way of small compensation and they were reengaged for this season. The "Jubilees" more than justified our faith in them, giving three excellent concerts on Sunday afternoons in the Martineau Hall- in November held in memory of Jill Coton, January and February. The Sunday afternoon concerts, held at a

time when people are less inclined to venture forth on dark winter evenings, have proved popular with many of our members. The programmes were carefully chosen from the classical "canon" of Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert and Mendelssohn together with the interesting additions of Webern's "Langsamer Satz" and three pieces by Dvorák arranged from "The Cypresses". Their final concert included a riveting performance of Schubert's final, enigmatic, quartet D887. The audiences were charmed by the sensitive ensemble and musical awareness of this exceptional group and also their approachability and willingness to engage with audience members.

Our fifth concert in March was a celebrity piano recital given by Leon McCawley. He is a previous prize winner of the International Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna and also of the Leeds International Piano Competition. Celebrity is an overused word these days but as he piloted his audience through an engaging programme of Haydn, Mozart and Schubert Leon demonstrated none of the showiness often associated with "celebrity". He showed, instead, deep musical understanding and integrity. It was a privilege to be part of the audience.

The sixth concert was given by the quirky and idiosyncratic Chamber Philharmonic Europe orchestra. This was the only concert to take place in the Grand Hall and, unfortunately, attracted a much smaller audience than had been forecast. It nevertheless received a warm response. The programme consisted of works by Corelli, Neruda, Bach, Elgar, Rachmaninov and Mozart. There were, unfortunately, a number of last minute changes to the performers and the programme due to illness. The outstanding performer was the trumpet soloist Cyrill Gussaroff.

Concert clashes are inevitable however hard one tries to avoid them. Such was the case on 14th May when our concert in the Martineau Hall clashed with "An Evening With Giles Brandreth" in the Grand Hall. That had been rearranged because of Covid and, by their own admission, a number of our members who would have joined us went "next door". Our ticket sales were disappointing to say the least. However, we were entertained by two exciting young musicians sponsored by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust, Charlotte Saluste-Bridoux, violin, and Ariel Lanyi, piano. The concert included the delightful Romance for Violin and Piano by Amy Beach (a real discovery!) and Poulenc's quixotic Violin Sonata.

The Concertgoers lost any form of public sponsorship some time ago.

In addition to normal membership, friends' and sponsors' subscriptions, a number of our members have made significant recent financial contributions to particular concerts. Our thanks go to Anne Usher and to Chris and Sue Pratt for sponsoring the hire of pianos in March and May and also to Ian and Fiona Codd for sponsoring the Chamber Philharmonic Europe concert.

It is probably also worth mentioning that a number of people have agreed to support the Concertgoers by playing the Mole Valley Lottery. 50p of every £1 ticket purchased goes to the Society as a "good cause". At the moment the lottery is on target to raise over £400 this year on our behalf.

The Charity is currently in a very sound financial position with Unrestricted Funds standing at £84,201, largely due to the receipt, during the year, of two substantial legacies and personal sponsorships. With a full programme of seven concerts, total "trading" income of £19,875 was an increase of some £10,000 over 2021; total expenditure of £22,682 resulted in an operating loss of £2,807.

Looking ahead.

The 2022/23 programme looks very exciting. The season begins with a concert by the Vienna Mozart Trio, followed with a recital by the interestingly named Duo blz'art (four hands on one piano). Our string quartet series will be given by the celebrated Carducci Quartet.

There will be two Grand Hall concerts- a visit by the Grimethorpe Colliery Band in January 2023 and a concert by the Philharmonia Orchestra in May which has been made financially possible by our recent legacies.

When I joined the committee I found it disorientating that we were not just discussing concerts one year in advance but two years in advance and beyond.

The 2023/24 season will open with a piano recital given by Nicholas McCarthy, the world's only professional one-armed pianist. It is followed with a concert by Hannah Condliffe (oboe) and Dominic Doutney (piano), sponsored by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust. We are delighted also to announce that the Jubilee Quartet will visit once again for three concerts and our season finishes with a celebrity 'cello and piano recital by Sheku and Isata Kanneh-Mason.

Our brochure, as always, looks very impressive. It is widely distributed throughout Surrey. We also produce posters and flyers for each concert that are circulated to public libraries and community noticeboards.

We are affiliated to the Mole Valley "Arts Alive" programme and our first concert falls under its auspices and benefits from its wide associated publicity. We are also extremely lucky to be able to use the Dorking Halls for our concerts and to use its considerable publicity "machine". Details of our concerts appear in the Halls' printed brochure, on their website and on the digital display screen outside the Halls. Members of the public may also purchase tickets directly from the Halls Box Office although they do not benefit from membership discounts.

Our efforts to raise our public profile include the creation of a Facebook Group where people can also find details of forthcoming concerts and, if they affiliate to the group, post comments and suggestions. We control, totally, access to the group and thus avoid the more unpleasant aspects of Social Media.

We continue to produce an impressive printed programme for every concert and are most grateful to the businesses that continue to purchase advertising space. We must also thank Ian Codd for continuing to provide comprehensive programme notes.

The Covid crisis and the difficulties of using cash prompted us to stop charging for programmes. This will continue. We have, however, purchased a card reader to allow us to continue to sell CDs recorded by the evening's artists.

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May I express my profound thanks to members of the Committee of the Concertgoers for their unstinting hard work. We live in uncertain times. Many societies similar to ours face the same problems that we do but we can, I feel, face the future with great optimism.

Approved by the Trustees on 3rd October 2022

Christopher Pratt. Chairman on behalf of
the Trustees.

THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2022

(Continued)

5 Unrestricted Funds

This represents the surplus income accumulated over the years.

6 Grants and Support

	2022	2021
	£	£
Specific Concert Sponsorship - Personal	2,256	1,350
Specific Concert Sponsorship - Corporate	0	0
Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust	0	0
	£2,256	£1,350

7 Concert expenses

	2022	2021
	£	£
Artists' fees	8,785	2,332
Hire of hall	5,125	1,665
Instrument hire	1,570	1,465
Commission, service charges and PRS	1,054	280
	£16,534	£5,742

8 Support Costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Advertising, publicity, marketing and printing	2,095	371
Making Music subscription including insurance	452	447
Concert brochure	1,748	306
Equipment costs	149	
	£4,444	£1,124

9 Management and Administration

	2022	2021
	£	£
Telephone, postage and stationery	532	411
Subscriptions	5	(15)
Independent Examiner's Fee	250	250
Bank Charges	22	0
Other administration expenses	804	539
	£1,613	£1,185

- 10 The role of the Trustees, who are the Society's only volunteers, is to manage all aspects of the Society's activity of promoting and presenting classical music concerts. None of the Trustees received any remuneration; Trustees' expenses reimbursed totalled £745.**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Dorking Concertgoers Society for the year ended 30th June 2022.

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").

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts as required 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

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. That accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. That 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 the 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.

David Wheeler – Independent Examiner

David Wheeler, FCCA
Cheeld Wheeler & Co
Chartered Certified Accountants
Redhill Chambers
2d High Street
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 1RJ.

Dated:.....