

**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**

<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
<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

## **Dorking Concertgoers Society**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended 30th June 2024. 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 30 Personal Sponsors, 13 Friends and 15 members, making a total of 58.

### **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.

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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 (19<sup>th</sup> Oct '24)-Cancelled**

**Ignas Maknickas (piano) (23<sup>rd</sup> Nov '24)-Cancelled**

**The London Philharmonic Orchestra (11<sup>th</sup> Jan '25)-Cancelled**

**The Brodsky Quartet (2<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 15.00, 16<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2<sup>nd</sup> March -2025)**

**The Grimethorpe Colliery Band (10<sup>th</sup> May '25)-Rescheduled**

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

**Owain Park and the Gesualdo 6-(19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025, 16.00) St Martin's Church**

**The Brodsky Quartet-(2<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 15.00, 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 16.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 15.00)**

**Martineau Hall**

**Fiona Harrison (guitar)- 5<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025, 15.00) Grand Hall**

**English Chamber Orchestra- (Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026, 19.30) Grand Hall**

**Carducci Quartet- (1<sup>st</sup> March 2026, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 15.00) Martineau Hall**

**Julian Bliss (clarinet) and friends and the Carducci Quartet- (18<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024.....

# THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Computer Equipment	2		0		0
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors and Prepayments	3	2,964		7,873	
Cash at Bank		100,860		88,177	
Cash in Hand		60		60	
		103,884		96,110	
<b>LIABILITIES: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	4	(255)		(969)	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			103,629		95,141
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£103,629</u>		<u>£95,141</u>
<b>THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>					
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*

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John Chiverton  
Honorary Treasurer



# THE DORKING CONCERTGOERS SOCIETY

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

		2024			2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>						
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	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>				<b>48,391</b>		<b>64,258</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>						
Concert costs	7	30,436			43,793	
Support costs	8	7,637			7,798	
			<b>38,073</b>		<b>51,591</b>	
<b>OTHER EXPENDITURE</b>						
Management and administration	9		1,830		1,727	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>				<b>39,903</b>		<b>53,318</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>				<b>£8,488</b>		<b>£10,940</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:-</b>						
Net Income				£8,488		£10,940
Fund balances brought forward 1st July 2023				95,141		£84,201
Fund balances carried forward 30th June 2024				<b>£103,629</b>		<b>£95,141</b>

**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

### 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
- (f) All financial figures are reported exclusive of VAT.

### 2 Fixed Assets

At cost	Computer Equipment
	£
Brought forward 1st July 2023	340
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
	<hr/>
Carried forward 30th June 2024	£340
	<hr/>
Depreciation	£
Brought forward 1st July 2023	340
Charge for the year at 20% SL	0
Depreciation on disposals	0
	<hr/>
Carried forward 30th June 2024	£340
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Net Book Value	
<b>At 30th June 2024</b>	<b>£0</b>
<i>At 30th June 2023</i>	<i>£0</i>
	<hr/>

### 3 Debtors and Prepayments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Debtors for advertisements	216	168
Other debtors	1,416	736
Prepayments	1,185	3,903
VAT	147	3,066
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£2,964	£7,873
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 4 Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	250	969
Trade Creditors	5	0
VAT liability	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£255	£969
	<hr/>	<hr/>

# 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
		<b>£2,950</b>	<b>£0</b>
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
		<b>£30,436</b>	<b>£43,793</b>
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
		<b>£7,637</b>	<b>£7,798</b>
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
		<b>£1,830</b>	<b>£1,727</b>

- 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.