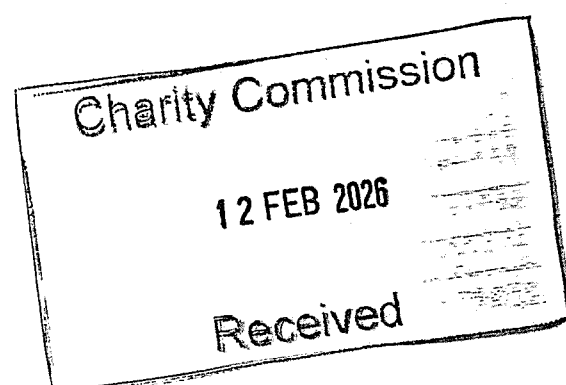


**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025

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 re-funds. 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

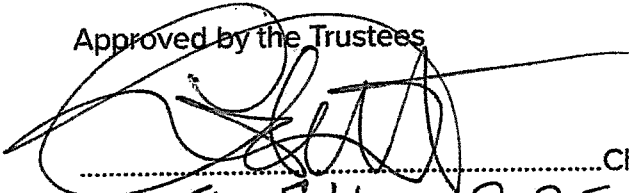
Sacconi Quartet-(Sun 7th Feb; Sun 28th Feb; Sun 21st March 2027, 15.00) - DH Martineau Hall

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			112,100		103,629
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
- (f) All financial figures are reported exclusive of VAT.

2 Fixed Assets

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

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
	<u>£6,145</u>	<u>£2,964</u>

4 Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals	250	250
Trade Creditors	0	5
VAT liability	0	0
	<u>£250</u>	<u>£255</u>

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.