



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **August 1st 2023** To **July 31st 2024**

Charity name: South Chiltern Choral Society

Charity registration number: 297583

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
	Para 1.17	To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and an appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts, recitals and workshops.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Training of the choir membership in choral singing. Public concert performances in December 2023, March 2024 and July 2024, including children from The Hill Primary School at the Christmas concert. Raising of funds for selected charities. Public workshop with a national composer in July 2024.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	YES

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The choir promotes signing in schools. In this financial year the choir granted £200 to The Hill Primary School.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All roles within the choir are voluntary, except for the Music Director, Accompanist and Soloists / Instrumentalists at concerts.

Other		N/A
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The singing has benefited our members both physically and mentally.</p> <p>We brought choral music to audiences of 100 to 200 members of the local community three times per year. We have also supported the Hill Primary School in their singing and some young instrumentalists in taking part in our supporting orchestras.</p> <p>We have loaned choral music to other choirs from our extensive library.</p> <p>We sing Christmas carols at Reading station in aid of Reading Homestart which supports young families in the town.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	See above
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The choir raised funds for a selected local charity at our Christmas concert.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the period the choir held £21,546 of assets of which £13042 was current cash. This is a much improved cash balance from year 2022-2023 and reflects significant efforts to strengthen our reserves Membership remains stable.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The choir aims to hold approximately 50% of the annual expenditure as reserve to support the operations. Our expenditure in 2023-2024 amounted to £ 28,000, meaning that we hold approximately 46% reserves.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£13042
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Membership subscriptions, concert income and fund-raising activities.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Like all amateur choirs, we rely on members subscriptions as their main source of income. We also require to raise funds from ticket sales to fund our public concerts. The choir has a vibrant and active membership and this risk is therefore minimal
Other		N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are elected at the annual AGM held in September each year. At each annual general meeting a third of the committee shall retire and be eligible for re-election up to a fixed number of three year terms.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	South Chiltern Choral Society
Other name the charity uses	SCCS
Registered charity number	297583
Charity's principal address	Braeburn, Goring Road, Woodcote Reading Oxon RG8 0QE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Larkin	Chair		
2	Mary Esslemont	Secretary		
3	Raymond Maguire	Treasurer		
4	Anne Farley	Membership Secretary		
5	Jane Pares	Publicity		
6	Sara Capaldi	Committee member		
7				
8				
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20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Financial Examiner	Richard Lonsdale	10, Longhurst Close Caversham Reading RG4 5ER

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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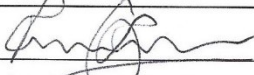
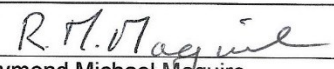
Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Richard George Larkin	Raymond Michael Maguire
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer

Date 16/12/24

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Designated	2024 Total	2023 Total
INCOME FROM:				
Voluntary Income				
Membership Subscriptions	11,657.00		11,657.00	10,803.24
Friends	185.00		185.00	279.00
Donations	20.00		20.00	5,774.04
Gift Aid	1,804.64		1,804.64	1,689.13
Charitable activities				
Concert tickets and programmes	8,656.34		8,656.34	7,393.84
Chilcott	1,748.24		1,748.24	330.00
Sundry income			0.00	0.00
Other activities				
Choir tour (1)			0.00	20,460.00
Fundraising activities	2,634.00		2,634.00	3,139.00
Sale & Hire of Music	1,490.41		1,490.41	755.60
TOTAL INCOME:	28,195.63	0.00	28,195.63	50,623.85
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Costs of raising voluntary income				
Raising funds			0.00	2,306.68
Charitable activities				
Aministration Fees and Insurance	809.75		809.75	994.23
Concert payments	9,934.43		9,934.43	16,503.36
Rehearsals	7,879.59		7,879.59	9,546.00
Donation	200.00		200.00	
Chilcott	1,954.91		1,954.91	
Other activities				
Choir tour			0.00	19,717.89
Purchase & Hire of Music	1,295.26		1,295.26	2,378.26
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	22,073.94	0.00	22,073.94	51,446.42
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE):	6,121.69	0.00	6,121.69	(822.57)
Reconciliation of Funds				
Total funds brought forward	16,897.39			19,498.30
Total funds carried forward	20,926.30			16,897.39

South Chiltern Choral Society

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of South Chiltern Choral Society ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:

Richard Lonsdale MAAT
10 Longhurst Close
Caversham
Reading
RG4 5ER
15th February 2024



South Chiltern Choral Society
For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

BALANCE SHEET

	2024	2023
FIXED ASSETS:		
Music Library	4,184.00	4,503.00
Equipment - Piano	3,000.00	4,000.00
Equipment - Staging	500.00	1,000.00
Equipment - Organ & Misc	750.00	1,000.00
Furniture & Fixtures	70.00	93.78
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS:	<u>8,504.00</u>	<u>10,596.78</u>
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Debtors	0.00	305.00
Cash	169.71	130.65
Bank account	12,872.49	10,913.30
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS:	<u>13,042.20</u>	<u>11,348.95</u>
TOTAL ASSETS:	21,546.20	21,945.73
LIABILITIES:		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	619.90	5,048.34
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES:	<u>619.90</u>	<u>5,048.34</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS:	<u>20,926.30</u>	<u>16,897.39</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY:		
Unrestricted Funds	20,926.30	16,897.39
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	<u>20,926.30</u>	<u>16,897.39</u>
Reconciliation of funds		
total brought forward	16897.39	19498.3
total funds carried forward	20926.3	16897.39

Richard Larkin - Chair

Raymond Maguire- Treasurer

The Examiner's report is on Page 2 of this report

Notes to the Accounts

1 Membership subscriptions

	2024	2023
Number of members paying subscriptions	83	82

Voluntary income:

Membership fees received	11,657.00	10,803.24
Friends fees received	185.00	279.00
Sub-total Voluntary income:	<u>11,842.00</u>	<u>11,082.24</u>

Charitable activities:

	income	expenditur	surplus	
Chilcott W/shop	1748.24	1954.91	(206.67)	330.00
donation		200	(200.00)	
			<u>(406.67)</u>	
			<u>11,435.33</u>	<u>11,412.24</u>

2 Donations

	2024	2023
General donations	20.00	5,774.04

3 Gift Aid

	2024	2023
Income Tax refunded	1,804.64	1,689.13



South Chiltern Choral Society

For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

Notes to the Accounts (contd)

4 Concert Income and Expenditure

	Xmas Concert	Spring Concert	Summer Concert	Total 2024	Total 2023
INCOME:	Charitable activities				
Tickets	3,606.88	3,042.49	1,430.04	8,079.41	7,393.84
Misc Sales	237.31	187.47	152.15	576.93	0.00
TOTAL INCOME:	3,844.19	3,229.96	1,582.19	8,656.34	7,393.84
EXPENDITURE:	Charitable activities				
Hall Hire	1,349.60	1,399.50	900.00	3,649.10	3,685.87
Staging / Lighting	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,587.38
Music Hire	0.00	335.00	37.85	372.85	1,865.14
Musical Director	500.00	500.00	500.00	1,500.00	1,800.00
Accompanist	350.00	350.00	350.00	1,050.00	1,125.00
Soloists/ orchestra	125.00	1,815.00	0.00	1,940.00	2,644.45
Piano Tuning / First Aid	160.00	90.00	90.00	340.00	410.00
Publicity/Programmes	224.00	174.00	156.00	554.00	553.00
Miscellaneous	55.74	21.00	21.00	97.74	0.00
Refreshments	265.50	89.84	75.40	430.74	832.52
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	3,029.84	4,774.34	2,130.25	9,934.43	16,503.36
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	814.35	(1,544.38)	(548.06)	(1,278.09)	(9,109.52)

Note 1

Programmes were free for Easter and Summer concerts.



South Chiltern Choral Society

For the Year Ended 31 July 2024

Notes to the Accounts (contd)

5 Fundraising	2024 Income	2024 Expenditure	2024 Surplus	2023 Surplus
quiz/barn			0.00	787.67
Promises	2,634.00	0.00	2,634.00	
Gifts				44.65
TOTAL	2,634.00	0.00	2,634.00	832.32

6 Sale and hire of music	2024 income	2024 expenditure	2024 surplus	2023
Income from sale and hire of music	1,490.41		1,490.41	755.60
Expenditure on purchase and hire of music		(1,295.26)	(1,295.26)	(2,378.26)
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	1,490.41	(1,295.26)	195.15	(1,622.66)

7 Choir Tour	2024	2023
		Bruges
Income	0.00	20,460.00
Expenditure	0.00	(19,717.89)
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	0.00	742.11

8 Administration Expenses	2024	2023
Publicity		51.07
Other (1)	98.34	355.82
General Overheads	711.41	587.34
TOTAL	809.75	994.23

Trustees are entitled to claim reasonable expenses for travel to committee meetings.

However, no payments were made in the year

9 Remuneration to trustees

No remunerations were made to trustees in the year

10 Cost of rehearsals	2024	2023
Rehearsal hall hire fees (2)	2,224.59	2,996.00
Music director's / voice training fees (2)	2,960.00	3,810.00
Accompanists's fees	2,540.00	2,660.00
Piano tuning	155.00	80.00
TOTAL	7,879.59	9,546.00

note 1 2023 Included a donation to Hills School. This year treated as charitable activity

note 2 the hall hire fees and MD charge include the voice training in 2022-3
Chilcott for this year has been treated as a charitable activity

South Chiltern Choral Society Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

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Richard Lonsdale MAAT
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Reading
RG4 5ER
20 September 2024