

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales · Charity number 500561

Details

Other names CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1970-11-24

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

Contact

Address 48 Queen Victoria Road
Sheffield
S17 4HT

Phone 01246 271558

Email secretary@chestphilchoir.org.uk

Website www.chestphilchoir.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE SOCIETY SHALL BE TO PROMOTE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN AND APPRECIATION OF THE ART AND SCIENCE OF CHORAL MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS.

Activities: The charity undertakes musical rehearsals and puts on public concerts and workshops of choral music.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CHESTERFIELD
- Derbyshire
- Nottinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£35,481	£33,846	-	-
2024-07-31	£30,359	£24,974	-	-
2023-07-31	£30,279	£33,286	-	-
2022-07-31	£25,134	£27,922	-	-
2021-07-31	£5,293	£8,859	-	-
2020-07-31	£30,250	£20,581	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Susan Catherine Walker	Chair	2021-10-20
ANGELA JUNE WALKER		
Alison Sykes		2016-10-13
Barbara White		2024-10-17
Carole Ann Gilby		2024-10-17
Dodie Rutherford		2014-01-14
Janet Anne Veronica Medforth		2021-01-28
LYNDA MITCHELL		
MARK JARVIS		
PETER WILLIAM EDWARD JONES		
STEVEN ROBERTS		

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 500561

Accounts

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The Annual Report of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir



The CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC Choir

1st August 2024 – 31st July 2025

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended
31 July 2025

CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT (PART 1)	Pages
Reference and administrative information	2
Structure, governance and management	3
Objectives of the Charity	3
Activities	3-4
Achievements and performance	4-5
Chair's statement	6
 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (PART 2)	
Financial Statement	
Reserves policy	7
Financial Performance	7-9
Independent examiner's report	10
Receipts and Payments account	11
Notes	12-13

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

ANNUAL REPORT (PART 1)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity name: The Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir.

Registered charity number: 500561.

Charity's principal address

Woodland Villas, 48 Queen Victoria Road, Sheffield, S17 4HT.

Trustees

The trustees listed below have served in office from the Annual General Meeting in October 2024, as stated below.

The Management Committee comprised the following members:

Chair	Susan Walker
Secretary/Deputy Chair	Angela Walker
Treasurer	Mark Jarvis
Musical Director	Steven Roberts
Choir Representative	Alison Sykes
Patrons' Secretary	Janet Medforth
Member	Peter Jones
Member	Lynda Mitchell
Member	Dodie Rutherford
Member	Liz Holloway
Member	Carole Gilby
Member	Barbara White
Co-opted Member	Miguel Cámara

Independent Examiner

Rachel Brougham, 86 Whitefield Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington, WA4 6NB

Bankers

CafBank Limited, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is regulated by the Order of 9th July 2002 made by the Charity Commission and the Constitution and Rules adopted on 11th July 2002, as last amended on 20th October 2021 and accepted by the Charity Commission.

Management of the Charity

The Management Committee

The Management Committee is the governing body of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir and consists of all the appointed trustees of the Charity which, under the constitution rules, must number at least six and no more than twelve. All trustees, with the exception of the Musical Director, are required to seek re-election each year at the Annual General Meeting.

Governance

The Trustees meet regularly in formal and informal meetings to ensure effective management of the charity. Four full Committee meetings were held during the year and continued to meet on Zoom to allow all Committee members to access the meetings. Operational policies are in place and subject to review from time to time.

Financial Management

The Committee reviews the financial position at each full Committee meeting when the Treasurer presents current assessments of the charity's finances and provides forecasts for the remainder of the year. Any issues arising are considered and discussed. Budget forecasts are usually based on a conservative estimate of prospective tickets sales and overheads. The Choir retains significant reserves and the finances remain sound.

The accounts are presented annually to the membership for discussion and ratification at the Annual General Meeting in October and following independent examination.

Risk Management

The Risk Management Strategy and Process is overseen by a subcommittee which meets when required to review and identify the various risks to the Charity on an ongoing basis and reports to the full Committee.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects of the Charity

The objects of the Charity, as set out in the Rules, shall be the rehearsal and public performance of a wide range of music in order to enhance the musical skills, knowledge and appreciation of members, participants and audiences.

The Membership: The Choir reconvened in September 2024 with a membership of approximately 80 members, of whom approximately 60 to 70 attend rehearsals regularly.

Activities of the Charity

In considering and agreeing the activities of the Choir, the Trustees seek to follow the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Choir welcomes enquiries from anyone interested in choral music. Subject to a successful audition with the Musical Director, membership of the Choir is open to all.

The Choir rehearses weekly between September and July, combining technical exercises to

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

enhance vocal skills with the learning of parts for the chosen concert pieces, and refining these to concert performance level.

The Choir has maintained its role as 'Concert Choir in Residence' at our main performance venue, St. Mary and All Saints Parish Church [the 'Crooked Spire'].

Concert programmes are devised by the Musical Director to challenge the members of the Choir, engage with the audience and to develop and educate them through the choice and combination of music performed. This is enhanced by detailed programme notes and introductions to the individual pieces by the Musical Director and the professional musicians who perform with us.

During the 2024/25 season, the Choir presented four core concerts which took place in November, December, April and July. Additional performances included:

- Two Christmas concerts at Bolsover Castle [at the invitation of English Heritage];
- A very successful annual Choral Day in June; and
- Participation in the Crooked Spire's second Summer Solstice Music Day, also in June.

We continue to present afternoon concerts during the winter months to take account of inclement weather and public transport timetables.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Concerts. Our Autumn Season began with a challenging but magnificent concert in November 2024. The first half included a number of favourites – Eric Whitaker's gentle *Seal Lullaby* and the Fanshawe version of the Lord's Prayer, followed by Stephens' *Gloria* and the popular *Adiemus* by Karl Jenkins, and supported by amazing orchestral percussion. We then participated in a stunning presentation of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with orchestra and soloists.

In December we performed our regular three Christmas concerts, which included the Choir's Carol Concert on 15th December and two concerts at Bolsover Castle at the request of English Heritage. Despite the wintry conditions, the Riding Hall at the Castle always has a unique atmosphere.

Rossini's *Petite Messe Solonnelle* was the main item of our Spring concert and provided a real contrast to our November presentation. We were supported by our own recently appointed Choir President, Jonathan Scott, on the organ and Tracy Smurthwaite playing her flute.

The Phil's popular Choral Day took place on Saturday 7th June when we welcomed 140 singers to Chesterfield. We enjoyed learning or "refreshing" the moving Faure's Requiem. The free evening concert with orchestra raised over £800 in donations for the Alzheimer's Society. The evening was rounded off by a social event, including the Choir's famous buffet.

For the second year in succession we attended the Crooked Spire's Summer Solstice event on 21st June, joining many other local choirs to demonstrate the variety of singing groups in and around Chesterfield. The Choirs joined together for an eclectic mix of songs to conclude the day. The Phil gave the audience a taster of our summer Brahms' concert, together with two old favourites – Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* and Faure's *Cantique de Jean Racine*.

The principal items of that concert were the Brahms choral waltzes – *Lieberslieder* and *Neues Liebeslieder* – to complete a music-packed month for the Choir.

Our rehearsals take place each Thursday evening at Central Methodist Church in Saltergate which is fully accessible. We always welcome new members and hold two Open Rehearsals [September and January] specifically to invite anyone with an interest in singing to a "no obligation" evening rehearsal. There are invariably home-made cakes on offer too!

We also held an informal social gathering in March.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Annual General Meeting [AGM]. Our AGM takes place in October and in 2024 we made the decision to increase our subscriptions in order to address an anticipated financial deficit, so that we could continue to offer a variety of choral works with appropriate musicians and soloists. However, individual fees are always tailored to reflect levels of income and/or personal circumstances.

Miguel Camara retired from organising the Choral Day after 25 years but remains as a co-opted member of the Choir Committee. We also recognised George Freeman's long service as our Front of House manager. We thank them both for their extensive and dedicated service.

The Choir Committee continued to support our Musical Director and the Choir with five meetings during the season. We are very grateful to the Committee and to all who volunteer in many roles. The Committee has reviewed various procedures and policy documents including fire arrangements, financial reserves, publicity, social media, equality, concert dress and safeguarding for children and vulnerable adults. We will review further policies during 2025/26, including our welcome document and risk assessments. This is an ongoing procedure.

As ever, the Choir remains indebted to the energy and commitment of our Musical Director Steven Roberts and our regular accompanist, Kath Hesford.

Acknowledgements. We pay tribute to all those who volunteer their time to support the successful running of the Choir but would like to identify those who made a significant contribution during 2023/24. Members of the Choir can nominate individuals for some of the Jim Goldsmith Awards [see below].

Promotion of the Choir: We are very grateful to David Oliver who keeps the Choir website up to date. He records current news, concert information and events, including videos and photographs of our activities. We also pay tribute to Liz Holloway our former Publicity Manager. Concerts are advertised with posters, handouts and additional social media outlets. The Choir intends to monitor its social media presence and continues to explore the use of video and audio technology.

The Jim Goldsmith Annual Awards - presented at the Choir's AGM in October 2024.

- **Musical contribution:** Awarded by the Musical Director for outstanding musical contribution throughout the year. This was presented to Miguel Camara.
- **Members' member:** Awarded by the members' individual votes to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Choir. This was presented to Christine Richardson who quietly prepares excellent Programme Notes about the music and their composers before each Choir concert.
- **Choir Ambassador:** Awarded by the Committee to the member who has represented and raised the profile of the Choir. This was presented to Liz Holloway for her professional support and excellent work in managing the Choir's publicity.

Life Membership Award. Awarded to Alison Sykes for her significant and ongoing work as Concert Secretary.

Benefit and detriment. The Charity Commission requires the Choir to balance the benefits of the Charity against any detriment or harm that might arise in carrying out its aims. Arrangements for rehearsals were relaxed in the post-Covid period, but we continue to monitor the running of the organisation by means of a risk assessment sub-committee and appropriate policies. Issues arising from the membership can be channelled anonymously through the Choir representative on the Committee. However at present the Committee is not aware of any major concerns.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Chair's statement

This report is prepared on behalf of the Trustees to outline the Choir's activities and achievements during the 2024/25 season and how these have met the aims and objectives of the Constitution and our Charitable status. It is addressed to the Choir Members and the public at large. The fulfilment of strategic objectives are clearly demonstrated in the activities reported this year.

The Committee recognises the need to continually review and update the Choir's policies and procedures during the coming year and will address this in a timely manner. We also encourage the participation of new members onto the Committee.

We recognise and are grateful for the ongoing commitment and professional excellence of our Musical Director Steven Roberts and our accompanist Kath Hesford, without whom the society could not function.

Sue Walker, Chair - March 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Walker', with a small dot at the end.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (PART 2)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The Trustees maintain a Reserves Policy which provides a framework for managing the charity's finances and planned expenditure through seeking to:

- ensure financial continuity in the event of a large variation in income.
- maintain a positive cash flow, particularly before concerts.
- meet standing contractual forward commitments, including notice periods for the Musical Director and the accompanist.
- cover specific future projects as they are agreed. Such projects may be high profile, high-cost concerts, or other activities the trustees (committee) choose to undertake to raise the profile of the choir.

The policy was reviewed in 2025 and following consideration by the Committee it was agreed that no changes were required. Whilst some costs have risen effective budget forecasting has ensured that average planned expenditure for concerts has not increased significantly since the policy was last reviewed. The current baseline financial levels that we aim to maintain are sufficient to meet the four criteria set out above, including increased payments to the Musical Director and accompanist. The next review will be undertaken no earlier than 2027.

Currently we set a minimum reserve level of £8,500 at the end of each financial year. Where a concert programme with greater than average costs is planned in the following season, or a single higher cost concert is planned early in the season, before annual membership fees have been collected, we may set a higher level temporarily. Prior to any concert or major expense, the reserve level should be sufficient to cover the costs of the concert or activity without income from ticket sales, as well as on-going contractual payments. The policy also identifies actions for the trustees to ensure that it is adhered to.

Initial budget forecasts for the year are used to plan concert expenditure and the impact of actual income and expenditure for each concert on forecasts is considered at each committee meeting when adjustments to plans can be made.

Financial Performance

The charity has ended this financial year with assets of £32,562, reflecting an in-year surplus of £1,635. This was a better outcome than the forecast of a loss of £1.5k following agreement by the AGM to increase voluntary membership fees. Income was recorded of £35,481 and outgoings of £33,846. We received bank interest on funds of £599.

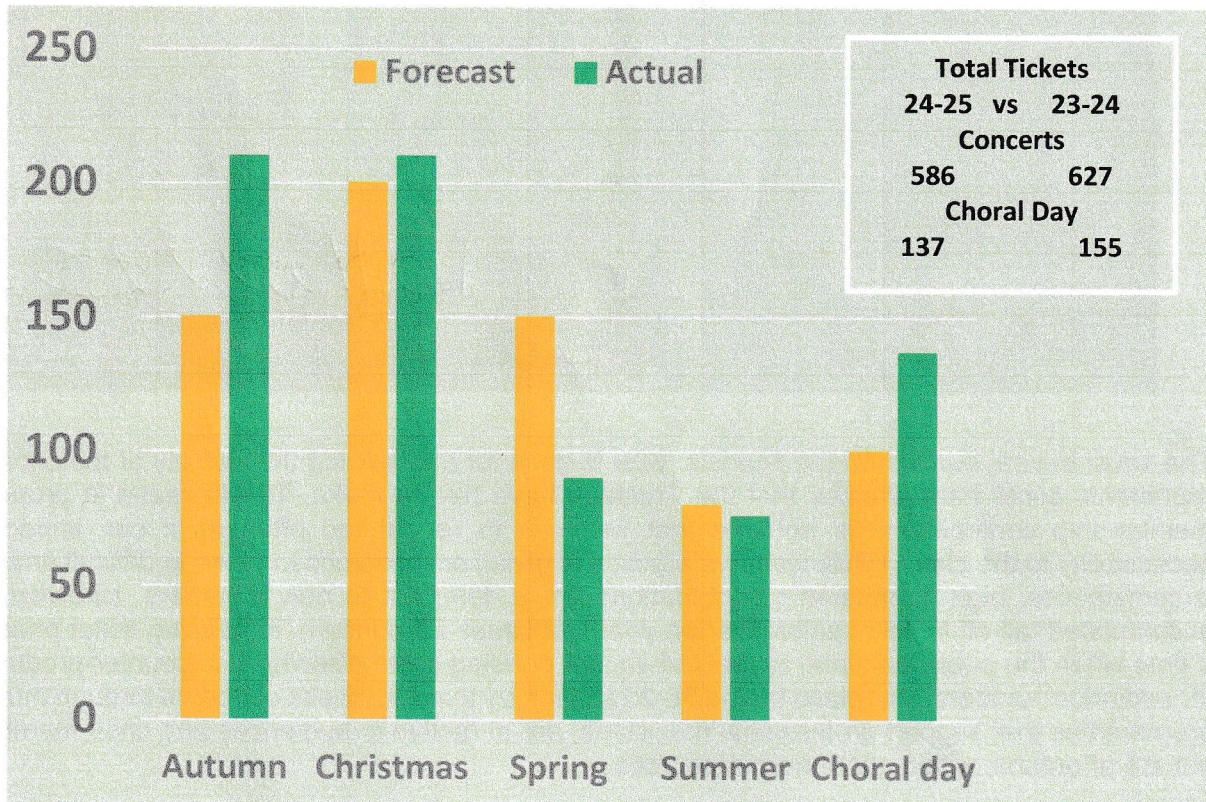
Income As in previous years around half of the Charity's income is raised through our charitable activities, putting on concerts, (including two carol concerts for English Heritage at Bolsover Castle), a choral workshop day and members contribution to the costs of singing training from our musical director (tuition fees). Ticket sales and the English Heritage fee represent 80% of this income. The other half of our income arises from voluntary membership contributions, gift-aid, hiring out music scores owned by us and regular fundraising activities, including monthly raffles, refreshments and book sales at rehearsals. All these activities are vital elements in ensuring we can maintain a healthy financial position and put on high-quality events that benefit the local community.

Income was higher than 2023-24 because of an increase in the average concert ticket price and increased membership contributions which were agreed at the AGM. Overall membership numbers

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

remained static, but concert ticket sales fell to 586 (around 6%) continuing a trend from the previous two years. Both the Spring and Summer concerts had disappointing audiences of below 100 which puts increased pressure on budget management. The Trustees are now considering whether this trend needs to be addressed by a reshaping of our concert schedule, to reflect the increased more lucrative activity around Christmas and the fall off in summer. We have however, maintained the success of the Choral Workshop with near capacity attendee numbers and a healthy surplus, that subsidises our concert programme.

Ticket Sales by Concert 2024-25



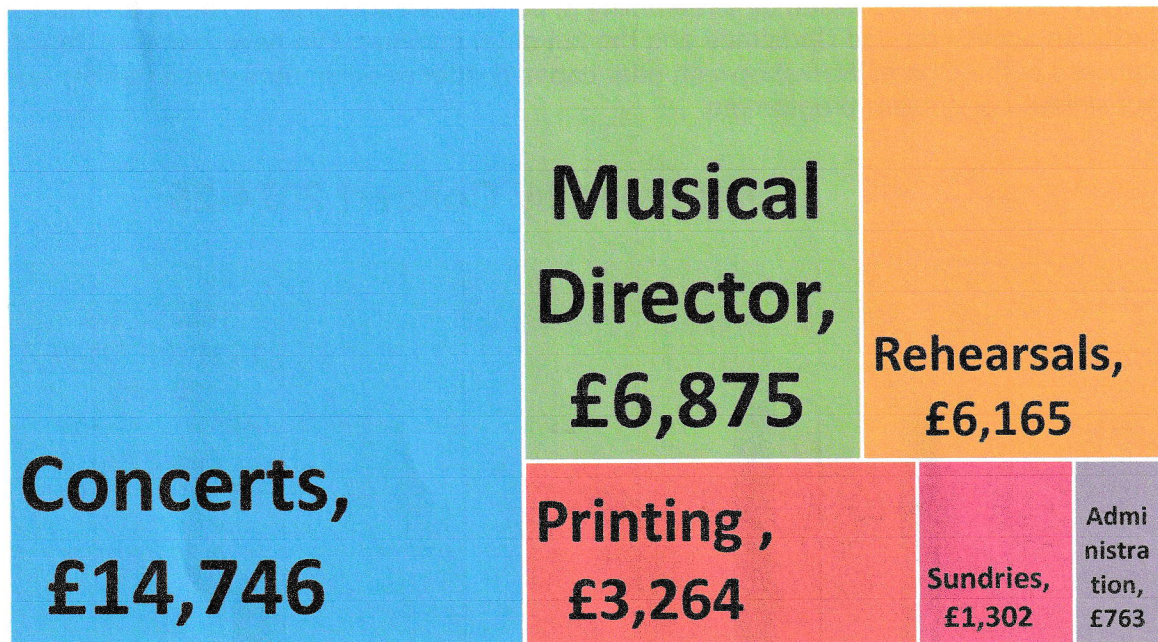
Expenditure this year was 36% higher than in 23-24. This was a planned approach that facilitated engaging a greater number of professional artists, both vocal and instrumental for concerts. The Trustees were concerned that in the previous year expenditure on professional artists was much reduced and meant that we were not fully supporting our objective to encourage professional musicians. 98% of total expenditure supports our charitable activities directly.

The Trustees maintained close control of administration costs, which did not increase year on year. Amounting to around 2% of all other costs, both those on delivering concerts and our other charitable events and activities, and those associated with fundraising and promotional activities. A further 2% of total expenditure is on non-charitable costs. Maintaining such small amounts spent on administration is an important signal to the membership and supporters that their increased contributions are highly valued by the Trustees and are being put to the best use in supporting our charitable objectives.

Steven Roberts, our Musical Director who is also a trustee received fees of £6,875 during the year to cover the costs of delivering rehearsals and concerts, including an inflation linked increase. No other trustees received any payments except in repayment of costs incurred for purchases.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Expenditure on Charitable Activities 2024-25



The small in-year surplus on the financial year is good for maintaining the viability of the choir but represents some hard choices that the Trustees have had to make. The increase in proposed membership contributions is not one that we wish to repeat too often as it can impact on accessibility to the choir. While we have a policy of giving concessions to those in difficult financial circumstances, high membership contributions are a deterrent to new members. Likewise, the accumulated fall off in ticket sales year on year is a cause for concern. Increasing ticket prices at a time when the public continue to feel the impact of rising costs elsewhere is counter-productive for audience numbers. Our plans for the 25-26 season try to reflect these concerns through musical programmes that support professional musicians, are attractive to audiences and choir members, but are affordable within our current resources.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

to the Trustees of
Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir for the year ended 31st July 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Charity Commission requirements and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145 (5) (b) of the Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiners statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 Trust 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.

RABrougham

Rachel Brougham
86 Whitefield Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington, WA4 6NB

26 May 2026

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 July 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Receipts	2		
Receipts from generated funds			
Voluntary Income	2.1	14,536	11,382
Activities for Generating Funds	2.2	2,976	3,313
Investment Income		599	564
Receipts from charitable activities	2.3	17,370	15,100
Total receipts		35,481	30,359
Payments	5		
Costs of generating funds			
Costs of generating voluntary income	5.1	42	224
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	5.2	689	252
Charitable activities	5.3	33,115	24,498
Total payments		33,846	24,974
Excess of receipts over payments		1,635	5,385
 Total funds brought forward		 30,927	 25,542
Total funds carried forward		32,562	30,927

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds			
Bank Current Account		2,405	6,464
Bank Savings Account		30,156	24,453
Cash		1	10
		32,562	30,927

Approved by the management committee of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir
and signed on its behalf on 28 May 2026 by



Sue Walker, Chair

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2025

1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis, in accordance with:

- * Accounting Standards;
- * and with the Charities Act 1993.

2 Analysis of incoming resources

	2025	2024
	£	£
2.1 Voluntary income		
Subscriptions	11,575	8,280
Grants	0	0
Donations and bequests	841	1,561
Income Tax repaid	2,120	1,541
	<u>14,536</u>	<u>11,382</u>
2.2 Activities for generating funds		
Sale and hire of music	414	282
Fundraising inc raffles	1,379	1,452
Sale of Uniforms	5	65
Advertising and sundry income	1,178	1,514
	<u>2,976</u>	<u>3,313</u>
2.3 Charitable Activities		
Sales of tickets and programmes	13,857	11,689
Members tuition fees	2,870	3,010
Refreshments	168	89
Donations	0	0
Sundry income	475	312
	<u>17,370</u>	<u>15,100</u>

3 Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds received in 2025 and 2024

4 Endowments

There were no endowments in 2025 and 2024

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

5 Analysis of resources expended

5.1 Costs of generating voluntary income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Administration	24	224
Sundries	18	0
	42	224

5.2 Fundraising trading costs

Administration	142	128
Purchases	89	124
Social	458	0
Uniforms	0	0
	689	252

5.3 Charitable Activities

Administration	763	863
Concerts	14,746	9,412
Donations	985	100
Rehearsals	6,165	3,947
Musical Director and Deputy	6,875	6,130
Printing	3,264	3,488
Sundries	317	558
	33,115	24,498

6 Governance costs

There were no charges for Governance costs as all services are provided by trustees and members free of charge. Independent inspection of the accounts is also provided free of charge.

7 Payments to Trustees

Remuneration *	6,875	6,130
Expenses	0	0
Total	6,875	6,130

* Fees were paid to Steven Roberts, a trustee

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 500561

Accounts

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The Annual Report of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir



The CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC Choir

1 August 2023 – 31 July 2024

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended
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CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT (PART 1)	Pages
Reference and administrative information	2
Structure, governance and management	3
Objectives of the Charity	3
Activities	3-4
Achievements and performance	4-5
Chair's statement	5
 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (PART 2)	
Financial Statement	
Reserves policy	6
Financial Performance	6-8
Independent examiner's report	9
Receipts and Payments account	10
Notes	11-12

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Patrons' Secretary	Mrs. Janet Medforth
Member	Prof. Miguel Cámara
Member	Mr. Peter Jones
Member	Mrs. Lynda Mitchell
Member	Mrs. Dodie Rutherford
Member	Mr. Neil Abdy

Independent Examiner

Mr. Nick Whitworth, 6 Pear Tree Close, Hollingwood, Chesterfield S43 2LU

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CafBank Limited, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

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CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

concert performance level.

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Concert programmes are devised by the Musical Director to challenge the members of the Choir, engage with the audience and to develop and educate them through the choice and combination of music performed. This is enhanced by detailed programme notes and introductions to the individual pieces by the Musical Director and the professional musicians who perform with us.

The Choir presented four core concerts which took place in November, December, April and July. Additional performances included:

- Supporting the Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Brass Band's autumn concert at the Winding Wheel, Chesterfield;
- Two Christmas concerts at Bolsover Castle [at the invitation of English Heritage];
- A very successful 25th anniversary Choral Day in June; and
- Participation in the Crooked Spire's first Summer Solstice Music Day;

We continued to present afternoon concerts during the winter months to take account of inclement weather and public transport timetables.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Concerts. Our November concert at St. Thomas' Church, Brampton included the popular Rutter *Requiem*, *The Rose* by Gjeilo and Morten Lauridsen's *Sure on this Shining Night*. The principal piece was Will Todd's *Jazz Miss Brevis* – a challenging modern work, supported by a jazz trio.

Our pre-Christmas visits to the Riding Stables of Bolsover Castle were recorded by English Heritage and by Yorkshire TV's Calendar programme.

Christmas with the Phil saw a packed Chesterfield Parish Church and the Choir shared the platform with the charming Dronfield Junior School Choir.

In April we welcomed Jonathan Scott [the Choir's Vice-President] to perform on the historic organ at the Crooked Spire church. The music reflected the recent Coronation of King Charles III and a tribute to Sir Edward Elgar. These included his *Coronation Ode* and *The Music Makers*, which was the first work performed by the Choir's antecedent, the Grassmoor Choral Union in 1924.

25th Annual Choral Day. In early June 2024 we welcomed numerous singers from the Chesterfield area and further afield to learn and participate in a presentation of the Mozart *Requiem*. We had 155 participants and were strongly supported by the Chesterfield Symphony Orchestra and professional soloists. The Choral Day concluded with a free-of-charge concert but we were able to donate £700 to Sheffield Hospital Charities.

On 20th June we joined a significant number of other local singing groups to perform in an informal open air event outside the Crooked Spire. Each choir presented examples of its own repertoire and then came together to sing several pieces as a large combined choir.

Our final concert of the 2023-24 season was a virtual tour of Europe with a selection of choruses from *European Sacred Music*.

Social activities. We concluded the year with a light-hearted social event in which Choir members made individual contributions to the entertainment. During the year we also paid tribute to Gwen and Tony Hallam who celebrated 60 years of singing with the Choir and to Zena Botham for her 41 years of Choir membership.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Acknowledgements. We pay tribute to all those who volunteer their time to support the successful running of the Choir but would like to identify those who made a significant contribution during 2023/24. Members of the Choir can nominate individuals for some of the Jim Goldsmith Awards [see below].

Promotion of the Choir: We are very grateful to David Oliver who keeps the Choir website up to date. He records current news, concert information and events, including videos and photographs of our activities. We also pay tribute to Liz Holloway our Publicity Manager; concerts are advertised with posters, handouts and additional social media outlets. The Choir intends to review and enhance its social media presence and continue to explore the use of video and audio technology.

The Jim Goldsmith Annual Awards - presented at the Choir's AGM in October 2024.

- **Musical contribution:** Awarded by the Musical Director for outstanding musical contribution throughout the year. This was presented to David Humphrey.
- **Members' member:** Awarded by the members' individual votes to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Choir. This was presented to Jean Maddox for her contribution to Choir fundraising. .
- **Choir Ambassador:** Awarded by the Committee to the member who has represented and raised the profile of the Choir. This was presented to our long serving Secretary Angela Walker who assumed temporary financial responsibility in the absence of our Treasurer.
- **Life Membership.** Awarded to both Lynda Mitchell and Peter Jones for their many years of service - Peter as Staging Manager and Lynda as Membership Secretary and duties relating to Choir dress.

Benefit and detriment. The Charity Commission requires the Choir to balance the benefits of the Charity against any detriment or harm that might arise in carrying out its aims. Arrangements for rehearsals have been relaxed in the post-Covid world but we continue to monitor the running of the organisation by means of a risk assessment sub-committee and appropriate policies. Issues arising from the membership can be channelled anonymously through the Choir representative on the Management Committee; at present the Committee is not aware of any major concerns.

Chair's statement

This report is prepared on behalf of the Trustees to outline the Choir's activities and achievements during 2023/24 and how these have met the aims and objectives of the Constitution and our Charitable status. It is addressed to the Choir Members and the public at large. The fulfilment of the objects and strategic objectives are clearly demonstrated in the activities reported this year.

The Committee recognises the need to review and update the Choir's policies and procedures during the coming year and will address this in a timely manner. It will also encourage new members of the Committee from the membership.

We recognise and are grateful for the ongoing commitment and professional excellence of our Musical Director Steven Roberts and piano accompanist Kath Hesford, without whom the society could not function.



Sue Walker, Chair - March 2025

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (PART 2)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The Trustees maintain a Reserves Policy which provides a framework for managing the charity's finances and planned expenditure through seeking to:

- ensure financial continuity in the event of a large variation in income.
- maintain a positive cash flow, particularly before concerts.
- meet standing contractual forward commitments, including notice periods for the Musical Director and the accompanist.
- cover specific future projects as they are agreed. Such projects may be high profile, high-cost concerts, or other activities the trustees (committee) choose to undertake to raise the profile of the choir.

We aim to maintain a minimum reserve level of £8,500 at the end of each financial year. Where a concert programme with greater than average costs is planned in the following season, or a single higher cost concert is planned early in the season, before annual membership fees have been collected, we may set a higher level temporarily. Prior to any concert or major expense, the reserve level should be sufficient to cover the costs of the concert or activity without income from ticket sales, as well as on-going contractual payments. The policy also identifies actions for the trustees to ensure that it is adhered to. The policy is currently under review to reflect recent increases in costs and fees paid.

Initial budget forecasts for the year were used to plan concert expenditure and the impact of actual income and expenditure for each concert on forecasts was considered at each committee meeting.

Financial Performance

This year the charity's income of £30,359 is the same level as the previous year, reflecting a continued drop off in audience numbers since the Covid-19 pandemic. However, it was set against much reduced outgoings of £24,974, resulting in a surplus of £5,385 on the year. The reduced outgoings primarily reflect the planned use of smaller ensembles and fewer soloists. Our income included a welcome legacy of £1,500 from the estate of Mr. Robertshaw, the husband of a deceased long standing choir member. We have ended the year with cash assets of £30,928, some £4k higher than forecast.

Around half of the Charity's income is raised through putting on concerts and costs to members of singing training from our musical director. £11,689 (77%) of this was through ticket sales. The other half of our income comes through voluntary membership contributions, donations and gift aid, placing a significant emphasis on members contributions to maintain the viability of the Charity. Memberships numbers and income has remained at usual levels this year. We have also boosted our internal fundraising income by 30% (£353) following agreement with our rehearsal venue on the activities we can undertake on their premises, including book sales, a monthly raffle for members and refreshments. Thank you to all those who make this happen.

Expenditure is almost exclusively on providing concerts and other charitable events and activities, with less than £900 (3.5%) spent on administering these (see figure over). A further 2% of total expenditure is on non-charitable costs. Maintaining such small amounts spent on administration is an important signal to the membership and supporters that their membership and fund raising contributions are highly valued by the Trustees and are being put to the best use in supporting our charitable objectives.

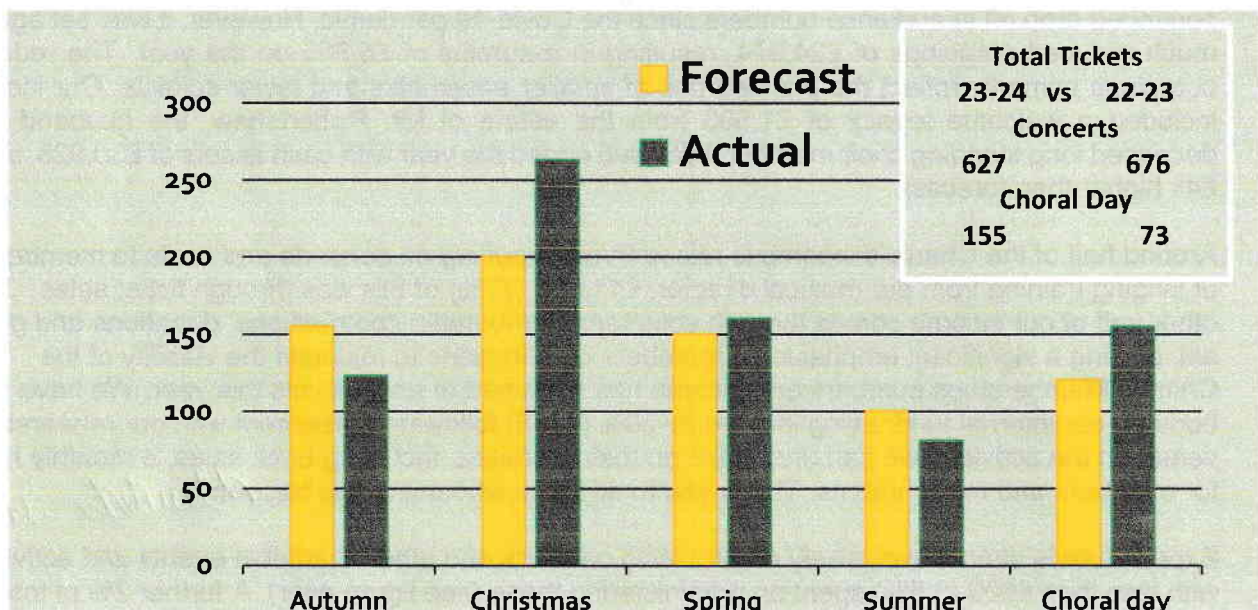
CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Expenditure on Charitable Activities 2023-24



The fall off in the concert ticket sales (see figure below) observed last year continued, with 627 issued, compared to 676 in the 2022-23 season. Attendance at both the Autumn and Summer concerts was disappointing, and below the conservative numbers used for budgeting. Christmas showed a welcome success with over 250 tickets issued, however a quarter of these were provided free to our Primary School choir guests' family members. We hope that initiatives like this will encourage future attendance at others of our concerts. A shining light was the success of our 25th Choral Workshop with a capacity 155 tickets sold, compared with 73 the previous year. Not only did the additional income from this mitigate the poorer concert sales, but it has also acted as an incentive to replicate similar success in the forthcoming season.

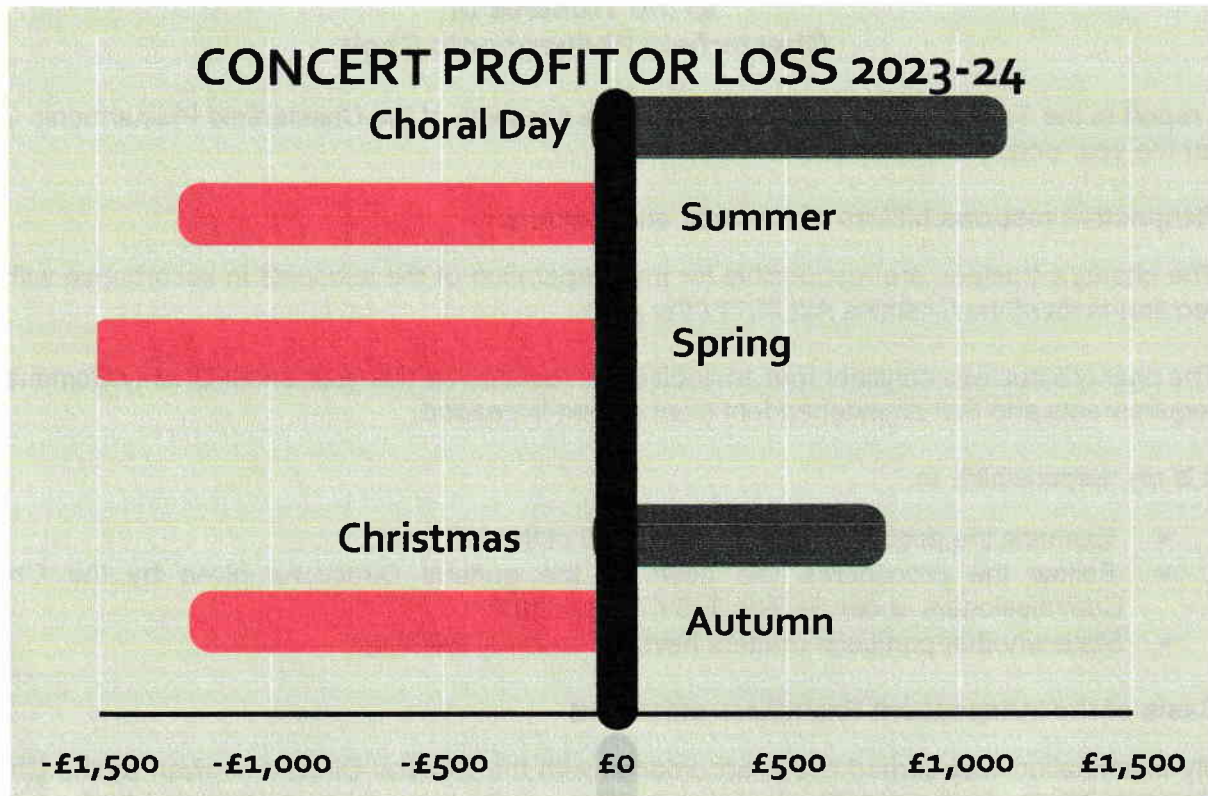
Ticket Sales by Concert 2023-24



The lower ticket sales and increasing numbers of concerts which operate at a loss are a concern. The next figure shows that only one concert and the choral day covered costs, despite the reduced use of professional soloists across the season. In total the shortfall on our concerts and the Choral

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Day was £2,046. This was offset to some extent by the two Christmas carol concerts we were contracted to provide at Bolsover Castle which raised £700 after costs.



Steven Roberts, our Musical Director who is also a trustee received fees of £6,130 during the year to cover the costs of delivering rehearsals and concerts, including an inflation linked increase. No other trustees received any payments except in repayment of costs incurred for purchases.

While the in-year surplus is a bonus it is a direct consequence of reducing our expenditure on professional musicians for concerts from £12k last year to £6k this. The Trustees do not believe this is a sustainable approach, or in line with our charitable objectives. Financial planning for the 2024-25 season shows a potentially significant shortfall, which needs to be met. The Trustees have considered a range of options, including raising ticket prices, increasing fundraising, and generating sponsorship, or reducing concert and other costs further. There is limited scope to reduce costs further without impacting the quality of our performances and raising additional money as proposed is unreliable. They have concluded that the way forward is to raise membership contributions in line with inflation since they were last reset in 2017-18. In essence this will amount to £1 per week per member. Through this approach we expect to continue to deliver quality musical experiences to people living in and around Chesterfield.

We remain committed to ensuring open access to all and where the new level of membership fee is an impediment to anybody wishing to sing with us, we will continue to offer reduced fees to accommodate them.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

to the Trustees of
Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir for the year ended 31st July 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Charity Commission requirements and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145 (5) (b) of the Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiners statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 Trust 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.

NC Whitworth

Mr N Whitworth
6 Pear Tree Close,
Hollingwood,
Chesterfield S43 2LU

15th May 2025

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 July 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Receipts	2		
Receipts from generated funds			
Voluntary Income	2.1	11,382	9,982
Activities for Generating Funds	2.2	3,313	4,235
Investment Income		564	254
Receipts from charitable activities	2.3	15,100	15,808
Total receipts		30,359	30,279
Payments	5		
Costs of generating funds			
Costs of generating voluntary income	5.1	224	1,112
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	5.2	252	1,830
Charitable activities	5.3	24,498	30,344
Total payments		24,974	33,286
Excess of receipts over payments		5,385	-3,007
Total funds brought forward		25,542	28,549
Total funds carried forward		30,927	25,542

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds			
Bank Current Account		6,464	2,677
Bank Savings Account		24,453	22,865
Cash		10	0
		30,927	25,542

Approved by the management committee of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir
and signed on its behalf on 15th May 2025 by



Sue Walker, Chair

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2024

1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis, in accordance with:

- * Accounting Standards;
- * and with the Charities Act 1993.

2 Analysis of incoming resources

	2024	2023
	£	£
2.1 Voluntary income		
Subscriptions	8,280	7,685
Grants	0	0
Donations and bequests	1,561	899
Income Tax repaid	1,541	1,398
	11,382	9,982
2.2 Activities for generating funds		
Sale and hire of music	282	488
Fundraising inc raffles	1,452	1,298
Sale of Uniforms	65	155
Advertising and sundry income	1,514	2,294
	3,313	4,235
2.3 Charitable Activities		
Sales of tickets and programmes	11,689	11,368
Members tuition fees	3,010	2,920
Refreshments	89	44
Donations	0	0
Sundry income	312	1,476
	15,100	15,808

3 Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds received in 2024 and 2023

4 Endowments

There were no endowments in 2024 and 2023

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

5 Analysis of resources expended

5.1 Costs of generating voluntary income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Administration	224	232
Sundries	0	880
	224	1,112

5.2 Fundraising trading costs

Administration	128	99
Purchases	124	51
Social	0	1,680
Uniforms	0	0
	252	1,830

5.3 Charitable Activities

Administration	863	775
Concerts	9,412	15,288
Donations	100	0
Rehearsals	3,947	4,225
Musical Director and Deputy	6,130	5,770
Printing	3,488	3,156
Sundries	558	1,130
	24,498	30,344

6 Governance costs

There were no charges for Governance costs as all services are provided by trustees and members free of charge. Independent inspection of the accounts is also provided free of charge.

7 Payments to Trustees

Remuneration *	6,130	5,770
Expenses	0	0
Total	6,130	5,770

* Fees were paid to Steven Roberts, a trustee

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 500561

Accounts

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The Annual Report of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir



The CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC Choir

1 August 2022 – 31 July 2023

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended
31 July 2023

CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT (PART 1)	Page
Reference and administrative information	2
Structure, governance and management	3
Objectives of the Charity	3
Activities	4
Achievements and performance	4-5
Chair's statement	5
 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (PART 2)	
Financial Statement	
Reserves policy	6
Financial Performance	6-8
Independent examiner's report	9
Receipts and Payments account	10
Notes	11-12

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

ANNUAL REPORT (PART 1)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity name: The Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir.

Registered charity number: 500561.

Charity's principal address

Woodland Villas, 48 Queen Victoria Road, Sheffield, S17 4HT

Trustees

The trustees listed below have served in office from the Annual General Meeting in October 2022, as stated below.

The Management Committee comprised the following members:

Chair	Mrs. Susan Walker
Secretary/Deputy Chair	Mrs. Angela Walker
Minutes Secretary	Mrs. Susan Myatt
Treasurer	Dr. Mark Jarvis
Musical Director	Mr. Steven Roberts
Choir Representative	Mrs. Alison Sykes
Member	Prof. Miguel Cámara
Member	Mr. Peter Jones
Member	Mrs. Lynda Mitchell
Member	Mrs. Dodie Rutherford
Member	Mr. Neil Abdy
Member	Mrs. Janet Medforth

Independent Examiner

Mr. Paul Timperley, 15, The Grange, Ashgate, Chesterfield S42 7PS

Bankers

CafBank Limited, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is regulated by the Order of 9th July 2002 made by the Charity Commission and the Constitution and Rules adopted on 11th July 2002, as amended on 13th October 2016 and accepted by the Charity Commission.

Management of the Charity

The Management Committee

The management committee is the governing body of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir and consists of all the appointed trustees of the Charity, which, under the constitution rules, must number at least six and no more than twelve. All trustees, with the exception of the Musical Director, seek election / re-election each year at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee has functioned as a cohesive and hardworking team throughout the year, leading the Choir back from Covid restrictions to full rehearsals and performances in a safe environment while remaining Covid aware.

Governance

The Trustees work throughout the year to ensure the Choir's smooth functioning, with regular formal and informal meetings to ensure continuing effective management of the charity. Three full Committee meetings were held between September 2022 and August 2023. The Committee continued to meet on Zoom to allow all Committee members to access the meetings.

Financial Management

The Committee review financial matters at each full Committee meeting when the Treasurer presents the current state of the charity's finances and provides a financial forecast for the remainder of the year, with the implications being considered and discussed. Budget forecasts are normally made on a conservative estimate of likely tickets sales and overheads to ensure financial viability. The Choir finances remain sound and it retains significant reserves.

The accounts are presented annually to the membership for discussion at the Annual General Meeting, and are ratified following an independent examination.

Risk Management

When our previous rehearsal venue became unavailable during COVID, the Choir moved its Thursday evening practices to Central Methodist Church in Saltergate, Chesterfield. We worked with the Church's Property Manager and its guidelines to minimise COVID risks, especially in view of the average age of the Choir membership. After preparing an analysis of the two rehearsal venues and consulting the membership, the decision was taken to remain at Saltergate.

The Risk Management Strategy and Process is overseen by a subcommittee which identifies and manages the various risks to the Charity on an ongoing basis, including any ongoing COVID issues.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects of the Charity

The objects of the Charity, as set out in the Rules, shall be the rehearsal and public performance of a wide range of music in order to enhance the musical skills, knowledge and appreciation of members, participants and audiences.

The Membership: The Choir reconvened in September 2022 with a membership averaging 85.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Activities of the Charity

In considering and agreeing the activities of the choir, the Trustees are mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Subject to a successful audition with the Musical Director, membership of the Choir is open to all. We identified the need to update our policies, including the Diversity policy.

The Choir rehearses weekly between September and the beginning of July, combining technical exercises to enhance vocal skills with learning parts for the chosen concert pieces, and refining these to concert performance level.

Concert programmes are devised by the Musical Director to challenge the members of the Choir, engage with the audience and to develop and educate them through the choice and combination of music performed. This is enhanced by detailed programme notes and introductions to the individual pieces by the Musical Director and the professional musicians who perform with us. The Choir presented a total of six concerts which included three at Christmas time. We continued to present afternoon concerts during the winter months to take account of inclement weather and public transport timetables.

The Choir continues to be the 'Concert Choir in Residence' at our main performance venue, St. Mary and All Saints Parish Church, [the 'Crooked Spire' church]. This maintains a positive relationship with the Church, built up over many years.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCES

Concerts. On 5th November 2022 the Choir performed a lively rendition of choruses from the Gilbert and Sullivan comic operas to an appreciative audience at St John's Church, Walton.

As indicated above, we participated in three Christmas concerts. On 10th December we were guests of the Honley Male Voice Choir [HMVC] in the magnificent Huddersfield Town Hall with the support of Carlton Main Frickley Brass Band. HMVC returned the compliment by performing as our guests at our Christmas concert the following day in Chesterfield Crooked Spire Church. Our third concert took place in the Riding Stables of Bolsover Castle at the invitation of English Heritage.

"From Baroque to Classical" was the title of our 2023 Spring concert when we performed Bach's Magnificat in D and the Mozart Requiem. We were ably supported by the excellent musicians of Derbyshire Sinfonia.

24th Annual Choral Day. In June 2023 we welcomed numerous singers from the Chesterfield area and further afield to learn and participate in a presentation of Sir Karl Jenkins' "The Peace Makers". We were delighted to see old friends who support the Choral Day and join us for a post-concert buffet. Donations from the audience and singers at this event are donated to charity and we were pleased to present £300 to Neurocare Sheffield.

Our final concert of the 2022-23 season was a stunning and varied selection of opera choruses, with organ accompaniment arranged by our eminent organist and vice-president Jonathan Scott.

We closed the season with a Choir dinner at the Chesterfield Football Stadium where we shared in an excellent meal and some home grown entertainment.

Piano accompanist. We were very sorry to lose the services of Liz Heath but very grateful to Jim Schar for stepping in whenever he was available. However the Choir was delighted to welcome a new but very experienced accompanist, Kath Hesford. She made an immediate and significant contribution to our rehearsals and performances.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Long service: We were unable to mark our Musical Director's 25th Anniversary with the Choir during the COVID pandemic. We celebrated Steven Roberts' birthday and 25 years plus in June 2023. A suitable tribute was made by long standing member Tony Hallam who was on the interview panel for his appointment.

Promotion of the Choir: The Choir website continues to be kept up to date by David Oliver who records current news, concert information and events, including videos and photographs of our activities. We are very grateful to him for that service. Concerts are advertised with posters, handouts and additional social media outlets. We were pleased to appoint Liz Holloway as our new Publicity Manager.

The Jim Goldsmith Awards: Subsequently presented at the Choir's AGM in October 2023.

Musical contribution: Awarded by the Musical Director for outstanding musical contribution throughout the year. This was presented once again to Jim Schar for his musical support and willingness to act as a temporary accompanist.

Members' member: Awarded by the members' individual votes to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Choir. This was presented to Trish Duckett for her practical support and encouragement to new members of the Sopranos.

Choir Ambassador: Awarded by the Committee to the member who has represented and raised the profile of the choir. This was presented to Mark Jarvis for his diligence with the Choir's finances.

Life Membership - None awarded this year.

Benefit and detriment

The Charity Commission requires the Choir to balance the benefits of the Charity against any detriment or harm that might arise in carrying out our aims. The Choir can be proud of the positive steps taken to re-establish its regular rehearsals and performances following the very serious pandemic.

Chair's statement

This report is prepared on behalf of the Trustees to outline the Choir's activities and achievements and how these have met the aims and objectives of the Constitution and our Charitable status. It is addressed to the Choir Members and the public at large. The fulfilment of the objects and strategic objectives are amply demonstrated in the activities reported this year and as we continue to emerge from the pandemic.

During the 2023/24 season we plan to mark 100 years of choral music in Chesterfield [which began with the founding of our predecessor choir, the Grassmoor Choral Union]. We will also be exploring an updated publicity video to advertise and demonstrate our activities and performances.

On behalf of the Choir, we remain indebted to our Musical Director Steven Roberts for facilitating and leading our weekly rehearsals. His enthusiasm and wide-ranging professional skills and personality enthuse and drive the concert preparation and the high standard of performance for which the choir is rightly known. The Choir members experience a real sense of achievement and enjoyment at every concert performance.

In addition to our Musical Director, we are fortunate to have an experienced, efficient and hardworking Committee who bring considerable knowledge and skills from their current and previous professional roles to the Choir and its management. Thanks are due to all those who contribute in any way to the successful running of the Choir.

Sue Walker, Chair - February 2024



CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (PART 2)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The Trustees maintain a Reserves Policy which was reviewed and updated in 2018-19. The policy provides a framework for managing the charity's finances and planned expenditure through seeking to:

- ensure financial continuity in the event of a large variation in income.
- maintain a positive cash flow, particularly before concerts.
- meet standing contractual forward commitments, including notice periods for the Musical Director and the accompanist.
- cover specific future projects as they are agreed. Such projects may be high profile, high-cost concerts, or other activities the trustees (committee) choose to undertake to raise the profile of the choir.

We aim to maintain a minimum reserve level of £8,500 at the end of each financial year. Where a concert programme with greater than average costs is planned in the following season, or a single higher cost concert is planned early in the season, before annual membership fees have been collected, we may set a higher level temporarily. Prior to any concert or major expense, the reserve level should be sufficient to cover the costs of the concert or activity without income from ticket sales, as well as on-going contractual payments. The policy also identifies actions for the trustees to ensure that it is adhered to. The next review is planned in a year.

Initial budget forecasts for the year were used to plan concert expenditure and the impact of actual income and expenditure for each concert on forecasts was considered at each committee meeting.

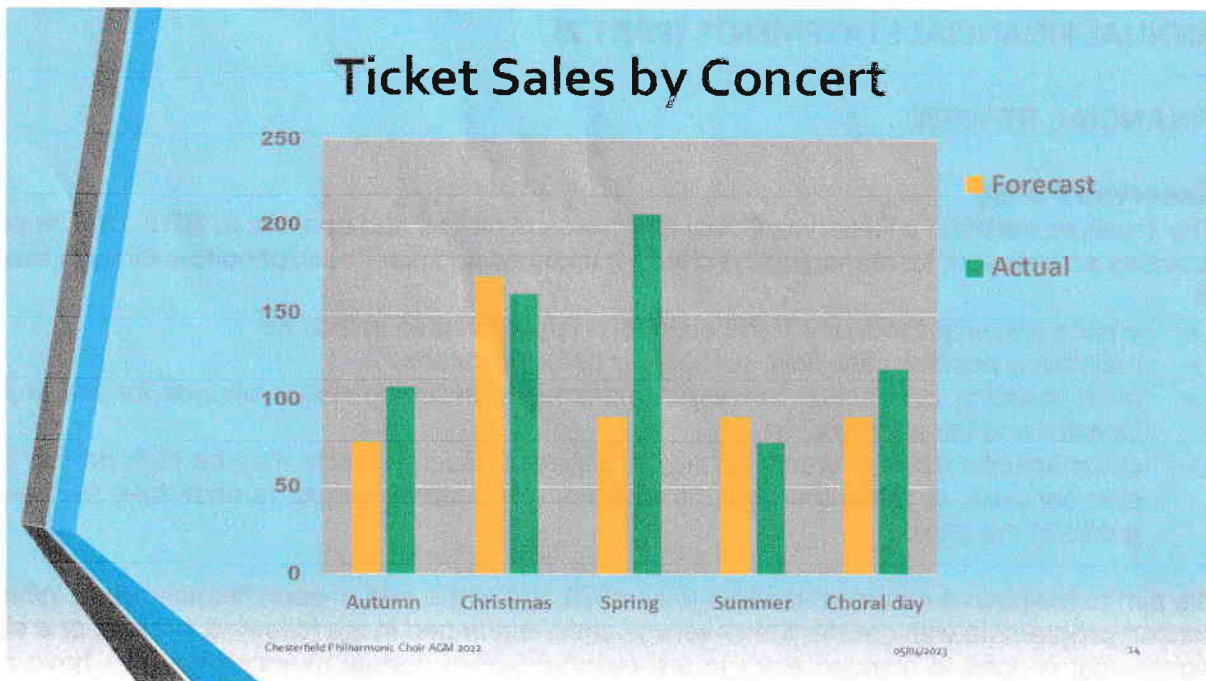
Financial Performance

The charity has now returned to its traditional concert and event programme following the transition from the limitations created by the Covid-19 pandemic. Audience numbers have picked up to near pre-pandemic levels and in some concerts surpassed expectations. Consequently, the charity has generated income of £30,279 set against expenditure of £33,286, representing a shortfall of £3,007. We have ended the year with cash assets of £25,542.

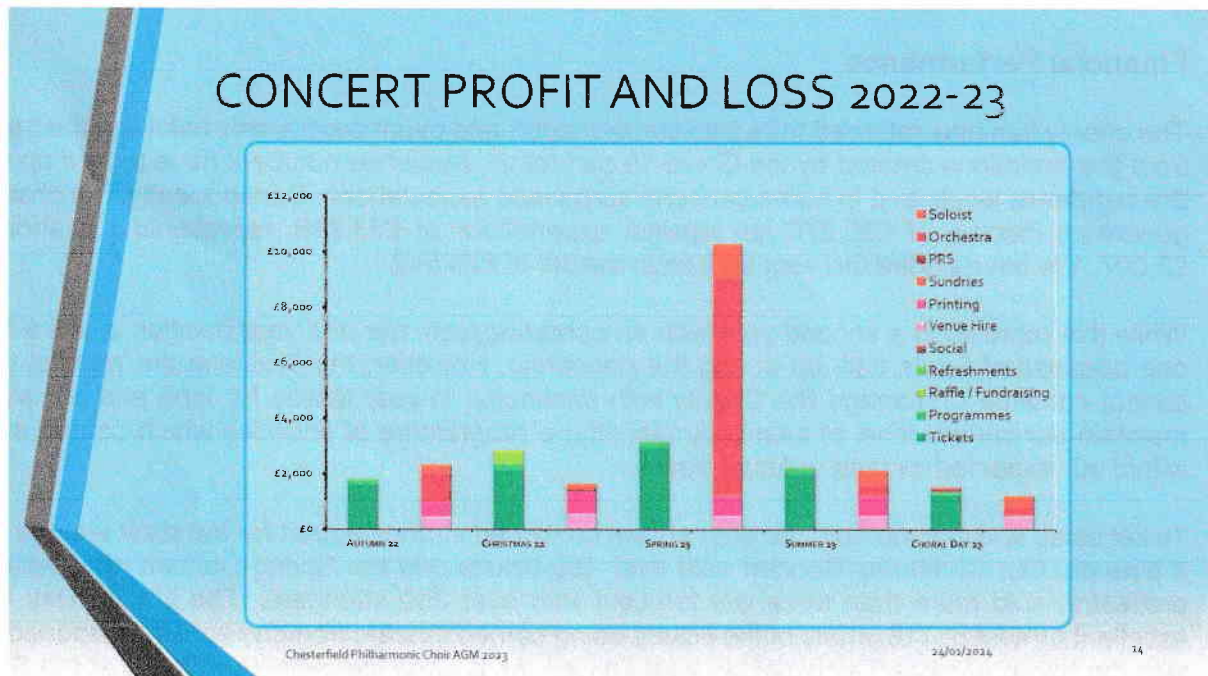
While this represents a second year with an operating loss, our end year position is still a healthy one because of funds built up during the pandemic. However, the Trustees are mindful that we cannot continue to manage the Charity with continuing in-year losses for long and our aim is to maintain our current level of assets by planning a programme of activities which can be afforded within our expected income in future years.

Ticket sales and income from the year shows continued strong support for the choir and the events it puts on. Our Christmas Concert sold over 160 tickets and the Spring Concert of Messiah with orchestra, sold more than twice our forecast with over 200 attendees. The Choral Day had an excellent turnout of 118, many of the tickets being carried forward from the earlier postponed dates, with the bonus of extra tickets sold in year as well. As is often the case attendance at the Summer Concert was disappointing, although not unexpected.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR



While only one concert and the Choral day made surpluses, the overall shortfall on concerts was £5,051. This was a good result when considering the cost of soloists and orchestra for Spring alone amounted to £5,700. Membership income was also healthy with most members returning once face to face rehearsals restarted in October.



A significant part of our income previously has included fund raising through sales of books, rehearsal interval refreshments and raffles. This activity has been curtailed while our new rehearsal venue, Saltergate Methodist Church, has decided what it is appropriate for hiring organisations to do on Church premises. For future they have agreed that we can restart these activities and they will be a welcome boost to our income alongside a continuing small flow of funds from hiring out music and our staging. We have also benefited from their support as we emerged from the pandemic restrictions and the lower hire costs than our previous venue. We received £500 from English Heritage for a concert in Bolsover Castle. This has proved so popular that they have asked us next year to do two concerts, doubling our potential income from this source. These are all

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

welcome developments to our income streams.

Steven Roberts, our Musical Director who is also a trustee received fees of £5,570 during the year to cover the costs of delivering rehearsals and concerts, including a small inflation linked increase from January. No other trustees received any payments except in repayment of costs incurred for purchases.

We continue to keep a strong grip on administration charges and overheads. Total costs of this kind including commission on ticket sales through third parties total £1,000. This is 3% of total expenditure and is primarily related to the costs of concerts. Over 90% of our expenditure is directly on charitable activities, primarily concerts and the Choral Day. While there are some small costs associated with raising funds for the choir, through music hire (raised £488), refreshments etc. at rehearsals these are easily outweighed by the income they generate. Our monthly raffles in rehearsal and at the Christmas concert are all provided by choir member contributions at no cost. These raised over £700 between them.

Our end year position remains a strong one and will allow us to approach the next year, when we will be celebrating 100 years of choral singing in Chesterfield and our 25th Choral Day, with paid soloists with confidence. During the pandemic we were able to build up additional funds due to reduced overhead costs and the additional income from concert performances can offset the threat of increased costs due to rising energy prices and inflation. For the present we plan to maintain membership fees, but it will be an option to increase them in future if costs increase. They have been at the current level for some years to protect membership numbers.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

**to the Trustees of
Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir for the year ended 31st July 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Charity Commission requirements and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145 (5) (b) of the Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiners statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 Trust 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.



Mr P Timperley
15 The Grange
Ashgate
Chesterfield
Derbyshire
S42 7PS

9th April 2024

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 July 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Receipts	2		
Receipts from generated funds			
Voluntary Income	2.1	9,982	9,997
Activities for Generating Funds	2.2	4,235	2,198
Investment Income		254	18
Receipts from charitable activities	2.3	15,808	12,921
Total receipts		30,279	25,134
Payments	5		
Costs of generating funds			
Costs of generating voluntary income	5.1	1,112	175
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	5.2	1,830	659
Charitable activities	5.3	30,344	27,088
Total payments		33,286	27,922
Excess of receipts over payments		-3,007	-2,788
 Total funds brought forward		 28,549	 31,337
Total funds carried forward		25,542	28,549

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds			
Bank Current Account		2,677	1,326
Bank Savings Account		22,865	27,223
Cash		0	0
		25,542	28,549

Approved by the management committee of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir
and signed on its behalf on 15th April 2024 by



Sue Walker, Chair

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2023

1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis, in accordance with:

- * Accounting Standards;
- * and with the Charities Act 1993.

2 Analysis of incoming resources

	2023	2022
	£	£
2.1 Voluntary income		
Subscriptions	7,685	8,260
Grants	0	0
Donations and bequests	899	210
Income Tax repaid	1,398	1,527
	<u>9,982</u>	<u>9,997</u>
2.2 Activities for generating funds		
Sale and hire of music	488	916
Fundraising inc raffles	1,298	472
Sale of Uniforms	155	490
Advertising and sundry income	2,294	320
	<u>4,235</u>	<u>2,198</u>
2.3 Charitable Activities		
Sales of tickets and programmes	11,368	7,090
Members tuition fees	2,920	3,035
Refreshments	44	59
Donations	0	0
Sundry income	1,476	2,737
	<u>15,808</u>	<u>12,921</u>

3 Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds received in 2023 and 2022

4 Endowments

There were no endowments in 2023 and 2022

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

5 Analysis of resources expended

5.1 Costs of generating voluntary income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Administration	232	141
Sundries	880	34
	<u>1112</u>	<u>175</u>

5.2 Fundraising trading costs

Administration	99	148
Purchases	51	71
Social	1,680	0
Uniforms	0	440
	<u>1,830</u>	<u>659</u>

5.3 Charitable Activities

Administration	775	446
Concerts	15,288	10,906
Donations	0	1,022
Rehearsals	4,225	3,265
Musical Director and Deputy	5,770	6,260
Printing	3,156	2,421
Sundries	1,130	2,768
	<u>30,344</u>	<u>27,088</u>

6 Governance costs

There were no charges for Governance costs as all services are provided by trustees and members free of charge. Independent inspection of the accounts is also provided free of charge.

7 Payments to Trustees

Remuneration *	5,770	5,760
Expenses	0	0
Total	<u>5,770</u>	<u>5,760</u>

* Fees were paid to Steven Roberts, a trustee

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 500561

Accounts

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir



The CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC Choir

1 August 2021 – 31 July 2022

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended
31 July 2022

CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT	Page
Reference and administrative information	2
Structure, governance and management	3
Objectives of the Charity	3
Activities	4
Achievements and performance	4-5
Chair's statement	5
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Financial Statement	
Presentation of Accounts	6
Reserves policy	6
Financial Performance	6-8
Independent examiner's report	9
Receipts and Payments Account	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	10
Notes	11-12

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

ANNUAL REPORT

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity name: The Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir.

Registered charity number: 500561.

Charity's principal address

Woodland Villas, 48 Queen Victoria Road, Sheffield, S17 4HT

Trustees

The trustees listed below have served in office from the Annual General Meeting in October 2021, as stated below.

The Management Committee comprised the following members:

Chair	Mrs. Angela Walker
Secretary	Mrs. Susan Myatt
Treasurer	Dr. Mark Jarvis
Musical Director	Mr. Steven Roberts
Choir Representative	Mrs. Janet Medforth
Member	Prof. Miguel Cámara
Member	Mr. Peter Jones
Member	Mrs. Lynda Mitchell
Member	Mrs. Dodie Rutherford
Member	Mr. Neil Abdy
Member	Mrs. Alison Sykes
Member	Mrs. Susan Walker (Deputy Chair)

Independent Examiner

Mr. Paul Timperley, 15, The Grange, Ashgate, Chesterfield S42 7PS

Bankers

CafCash Limited, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is regulated by the Order of 9th July 2002 made by the Charity Commission and the Constitution and Rules adopted on 11th July 2002, as amended on 13th October 2016 and accepted by the Charity Commission.

Management of the Charity

The Management Committee

The management committee is the governing body of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir and consists of all the appointed trustees of the Charity, which, under the constitution rules, must number at least six and no more than twelve. All trustees, with the exception of the Musical Director, seek election / re-election each year at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee has functioned as a cohesive and hardworking team throughout the year, leading the Choir back from Covid restrictions to full rehearsals and performances in a safe environment while remaining Covid aware.

Governance

The Trustees worked throughout the year to ensure the Choir's smooth functioning, with regular formal and informal meetings to ensure continuing effective management of the charity. Four full Committee meetings were held between September 2021 and August 2022. The Committee decided to continue to meet on Zoom, resulting in all members being able to access it.

Financial Management

The Committee reviewed financial matters at each full Committee meeting, when the Treasurer presented the current state of the charity's finances and provided a financial forecast for the remainder of the year, with the implications being considered and discussed. Budget forecasts are normally made on a conservative estimate of likely tickets sales and overheads to ensure financial viability. Fortunately, the Choir finances remain sound and the return to rehearsals and concert performance was achieved smoothly and effectively.

The accounts are presented annually to the membership for discussion at the Annual General Meeting, and are ratified following independent examination.

Risk Management

The Risk Management Strategy and Process is overseen by a subcommittee which identifies and manages the various risks to the Charity on an ongoing basis. Whilst the formal group did not meet in person during the reporting year, it continued to monitor events. The return of the Members was underpinned by Covid awareness, with a robust approach being taken to mitigating the risks; most of the Members being over 60 and in the increased risk group. The Committee worked in partnership with the rehearsal venue and its own Covid guidelines. The proactive strategy to mitigate risk of infection continued in all rehearsals, with any members not feeling well or testing Covid positive asked not to attend, maintaining good ventilation of the rehearsal room and with increased space between the seats.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects of the Charity

The objects of the Charity, as set out in the Rules, shall be the rehearsal and public performance of a wide range of music in order to enhance the musical skills, knowledge and appreciation of members, participants and audiences.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Activities of the Charity

In considering and agreeing the activities of the choir, the Trustees are mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Subject to a successful audition with the Musical Director, membership of the Choir is open to all.

The Choir rehearses weekly between September and the beginning of July, combining technical exercises to enhance vocal skills with learning various parts for the chosen concert pieces, and refining these to concert performance level.

In September 2021, approximately three-quarters of the members returned to weekly rehearsals and this number gradually increased as members became more confident about post-Covid arrangements. By January 2022 we were almost back to full attendance and by July 2022 there were 90 members on the books. The initial emphasis was on re-establishing singing voices and being able to hear and blend in with the other parts. The lively chatter before and after rehearsal and at coffee break conveyed that members were glad to be back together and really appreciated the social aspects of choir membership as well as the singing.

Concert programmes are devised by the Musical Director to challenge the choir, engage with the audience and to develop and educate them through the choice and combination of music performed. This educational activity is enhanced through programme notes and introductions to the individual pieces by the Musical Director and professional musicians who perform with us.

The choir officially became the Concert Choir in Residence at our main performance venue, St. Mary and All Saints Parish Church, [the 'Crooked Spire' church]. This further cements a positive relationship with the Church, built up over many years.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCES

The 2020 Choral Day, postponed until June 2022, welcomed over 100 participants with many familiar faces and friends meeting up again. A key factor in the continuing success of the choir is the strong sense of community, which was particularly important during the national Covid lockdowns. The positive aspects of belonging to a choir are well documented in published research. Re-establishing the community and friendships within the Choir, caring for and supporting each other, especially our more vulnerable members, continued as we returned to meeting in person.

This year four very different concerts were delivered this year in Chesterfield, showcasing the choir's versatility and a wide range of musical genres, reached out to new audiences; the timing of winter afternoon concerts in November and December proved to be popular. In July 2022 the Choir performed at Bridlington Priory which extended into a weekend away for 45 choir members, very much enjoyed by all who went.

The Choir Committee recognised that the public might be anxious about attending concerts post-Covid. The Choir's November charity concert "Hear our Song" was the first performance for 18 months and was aimed at encouraging regular concert goers to return to live music. The cost of entry was limited to £5 with all ticket proceeds being donated to a local Charity Ashgate Hospice in need of funds, resulting in a donation of £600.

Another significant milestone was the performance of Handel's Messiah with a professional orchestra in Spring 2022 to a packed audience. In view of international events, the evening started with the singing of "Prayer for Ukraine" in their own language.

Long service: Some participants have been members for a good number of years. We recognised and subsequently celebrated Gwen and Tony Hallam's 60 years of membership and their significant contribution to the Choir.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Promotion of the Choir: The Choir website is kept up to date by David Oliver who records current news, concert information and events, including videos and photographs of our activities. We are very grateful to him for that service. Concerts are advertised with posters, handouts and additional social media outlets. We still need a publicity manager to take on the wider specialist role.

The Jim Goldsmith Awards: Presented at the Annual General Meeting in October 2021.

Musical contribution: Awarded by the Musical Director for outstanding musical contribution throughout the year. This was presented to Jim Schar for his willingness to fill in as an exemplary temporary accompanist at short notice.

Members' member: Awarded by the members' individual votes to the person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Choir. This was presented to Neil Abdy for his commitment and support to fellow choir members during the Pandemic, including regular shopping in all weathers for those unable to leave their homes.

Choir Ambassador: Awarded by the Committee to the member who has represented and raised the profile of the choir. This was presented to Kate Hale who designed and made unique Christmas decorations on a different theme every year for the Choir's display at the local Christmas Tree Festival, which attracted over 16,000 visitors in two weeks.

Life Membership - None awarded this year.

Benefit and detriment

The Charity Commission requires the Choir to balance the benefits of the Charity against any detriment or harm that might arise in carrying out our aims. The Choir can be proud of the positive steps taken to re-establish its regular rehearsals and performances following the very serious pandemic. The Trustees have not been able to identify any detriment or harm.

Chair's statement

This report is prepared on behalf of the Trustees to outline the Choir's activities and achievements and how these have met the aims and objectives of the Constitution and our Charitable status. It is addressed to the Choir Members and the public at large. The fulfilment of the objects and strategic objectives are amply demonstrated in the activities reported this year and as we emerged from the pandemic.

On behalf of the Choir, I wish to record a very special 'thank you' to our Musical Director Steven Roberts for facilitating and leading our weekly rehearsals. His enthusiasm and wide-ranging professional skills and personality enthuse and drive the concert preparation and the high standard of performance for which the choir is rightly known. It gives Choir members a real sense of achievement and enjoyment at every concert performance. His role was particularly challenging towards the end of the season when our accompanist was absent through ill health and subsequently needed to resign, and Steven was obliged to lead the Choir from the piano for most of the rehearsals.

In addition to our Musical Director, we are fortunate to have an experienced, efficient and hardworking Committee who bring considerable knowledge and skills from their current and previous professional roles to the Choir and its management. Thanks are due to all those who contribute in any way to the successful running of the Choir.



Sue Walker, Chair - 9th May 2023

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Presentation of Accounts

In previous years the accounts have been presented on an accruals basis following the latest SORP set out by the Charity Commission. Accounts set out on this basis need to have an independent assessment carried out by a suitably qualified individual. Regrettably our usual independent assessor has been unable to continue in this role and the alternative we have appointed is not qualified to assess accruals accounts. Accordingly, the accounts this year have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis which allows for the chosen individual to undertake the assessment. The 2020-21 figures have been re-presented as income and expenditure to allow for direct comparison.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees maintain a Reserves Policy which was reviewed and updated in 2018-19. The policy provides a framework for managing the charity's finances and planned expenditure through seeking to:

- ensure financial continuity in the event of a large variation in income.
- maintain a positive cash flow, particularly before concerts.
- meet standing contractual forward commitments, including notice periods for the Musical Director and the accompanist.
- cover specific future projects as they are agreed. Such projects may be high profile, high-cost concerts, or other activities the trustees (committee) choose to undertake to raise the profile of the choir.

We aim to maintain a minimum reserve level of £8,500 at the end of each financial year. Where a concert programme with greater than average costs is planned in the following season, or a single higher cost concert is planned early in the season, before annual membership fees have been collected, we may set a higher level temporarily. Prior to any concert or major expense, the reserve level should be sufficient to cover the costs of the concert or activity without income from ticket sales, as well as on-going contractual payments. The policy also identifies actions for the trustees to ensure that it is adhered to. The next review is planned in a year.

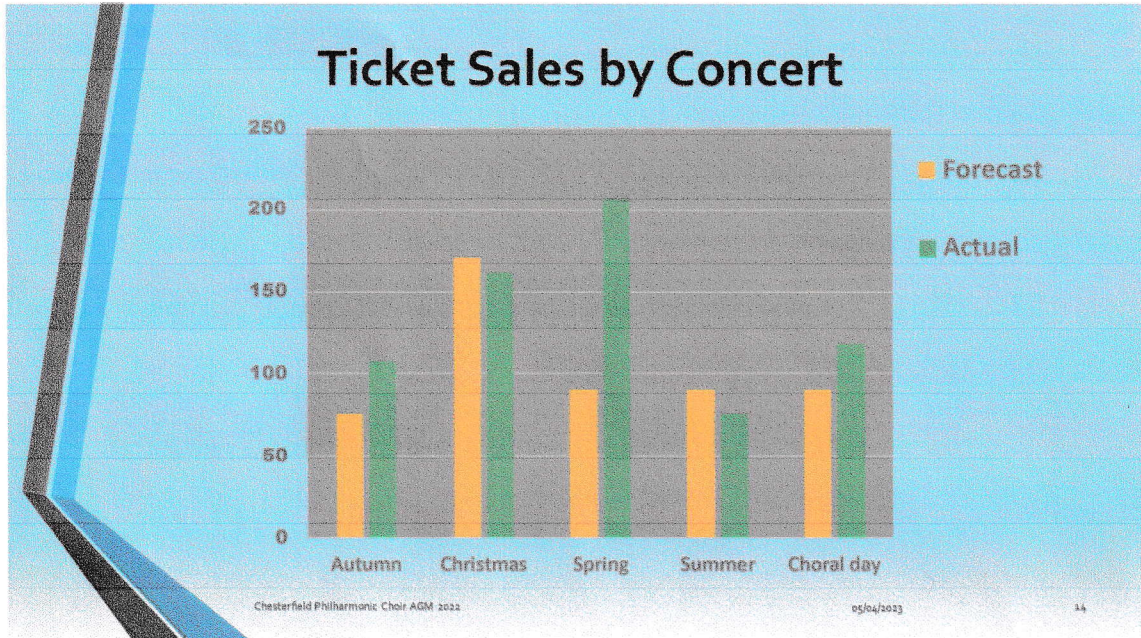
Initial budget forecasts for the year were used to plan concert expenditure and the impact of actual income and expenditure for each concert on forecasts was considered at each committee meeting.

Financial Performance

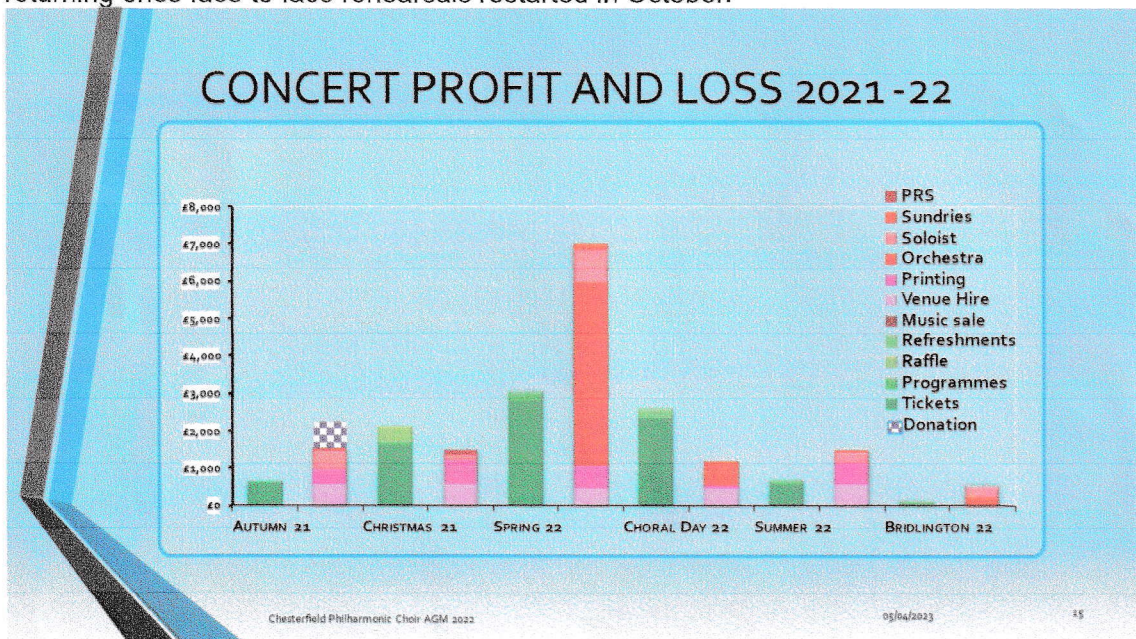
This financial year represents a return to a more usual programme of performances and consequently financial activity, following the return to normal activities as the Covid-19 pandemic has receded. Overall, the charity has seen income of £25,134 set against expenditure of £27,921.63, representing a shortfall of £2,788. We have ended the year with £28,549 in the bank.

In returning to singing and a full programme of concerts the Trustees recognised the importance of encouraging our audience and members to return, while there was still uncertainty about the risk of further infection from attending large gatherings. For our first concert we chose to charge a flat rate £5 for entrance, which was then donated in full to a local charity, Ashgate Hospice, with our charity meeting all costs (£1,551) out of our own funds. The concert raised £640 for the Hospice at a time when it was crying out for much needed funds.

Ticket sales and income from the year shows continued strong support for the choir and the events it puts on. Our Christmas Concert sold over 160 tickets and the Spring Concert of Messiah with orchestra, sold more than twice our forecast with over 200 attendees. The Choral Day had an excellent turnout of 118, many of the tickets being carried forward from the earlier postponed dates, with the bonus of extra tickets sold in year as well. As is often the case attendance at the Summer Concert was disappointing, although not unexpected.



While only one concert and the Choral day made surpluses, the overall shortfall on concerts was £5,051. This was a good result when considering the cost of soloists and orchestra for Spring alone amounted to £5,700. Membership income was also healthy with most members returning once face to face rehearsals restarted in October.



A significant part of our income previously has included fund raising through sales of books,

rehearsal interval refreshments and raffles. This activity has been curtailed while our new rehearsal venue, Saltergate Methodist Church, has decided what it is appropriate for hiring organisations to do on Church premises. We have however benefited from their support as we emerged from the pandemic restrictions and the lower hire costs than our previous venue.

Steven Roberts, our Musical Director who is also a trustee received fees of £5,760 during the year to cover the costs of delivering rehearsals and concerts, including a fee for directing the choir's performance at Bridlington Priory and a small inflation linked increase. No other trustees received any payments except in repayment of costs incurred for purchases.

Our end year position is still a strong one and will allow us to approach the next year with confidence and the financial headroom to put on another concert with full orchestra. The outlay for this kind of event is always significant and always requires a considerable subsidy from choir funds. During the pandemic we were able to build up additional funds due to reduced overhead costs, which we are now able to put back into the local Chesterfield and NE Derbyshire community through offering a strong programme of music from which they will benefit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Walker', written in a cursive style.

Sue Walker, Chair - 9th May 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

to the Trustees of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir, Charity Number 500561 for the year ended 31st July 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Charity Commission requirements and that an independent examination is needed.

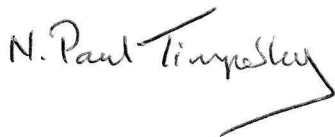
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 Trust 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.



Mr P Timperley
15 The Grange
Ashgate
Chesterfield
Derbyshire S42 7PS

16 May 2023

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 July 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Receipts	2		
Receipts from generated funds			
Voluntary Income	2.1	9,997	2,469
Activities for Generating Funds	2.2	2,198	101
Investment Income		18	3
Receipts from charitable activities	2.3	12,921	2,720
Total receipts		<u>25,134</u>	<u>5,293</u>
Payments	5		
Costs of generating funds			
Costs of generating voluntary income	5.1	175	141
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	5.2	659	122
Charitable activities	5.3	27,088	8,596
Total payments		<u>27,922</u>	<u>8,859</u>
Excess of receipts over payments		-2,788	-3,566
 Total funds brought forward		 31,337	 34,903
Total funds carried forward		<u>28,549</u>	<u>31,337</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds			
Bank Current Account		1,326	1,657
Bank Savings Account		27,223	29,678
Cash		0	2
		<u>28,549</u>	<u>31,337</u>

Approved by the management committee of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir
and signed on its behalf on 9 May 2023 by



Sue Walker, Chair

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2022

1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis, in accordance with:

- * Accounting Standards;
- * and with the Charities Act 1993.

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

Previous years' accounts have been prepared on an accrual basis. This change has been necessitated due to the lack of availability of an Independent Assessor qualified to assess accrual accounts.

1.3 Change to previous accounts

The previous year's account has been re-presented here on an income and expenditure basis to allow direct comparison.

2 Analysis of incoming resources

	2022	2021
	£	£
2.1 Voluntary income		
Subscriptions	8,260	425
Grants	0	0
Donations and bequests	210	1,789
Income Tax repaid	<u>1,527</u>	<u>255</u>
	<u><u>9,997</u></u>	<u><u>2,469</u></u>
2.2 Activities for generating funds		
Sale and hire of music	916	74
Fundraising inc raffles	472	0
Sale of Uniforms	490	0
Advertising and sundry income	<u>320</u>	<u>27</u>
	<u><u>2,198</u></u>	<u><u>101</u></u>
2.3 Charitable Activities		
Sales of tickets and programmes	7,090	32
Members tuition fees	3,035	2,660
Refreshments	59	0
Donations	0	0
Sundry income	<u>2,737</u>	<u>28</u>
	<u><u>12,921</u></u>	<u><u>2,720</u></u>

3 Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds received in 2022 and 2021

4 Endowments

There were no endowments in 2022 and 2021

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

5 Analysis of resources expended

5.1 Costs of generating voluntary income	2022 £	2021 £
Administration	141	41
Sundries	34	100
	<u>175</u>	<u>141</u>

5.2 Fundraising trading costs

Administration	148	122
Purchases	71	0
Social	0	0
Uniforms	440	0
	<u>659</u>	<u>122</u>

5.3 Charitable Activities

Administration	446	538
Concerts	10,906	16
Donations	1,022	100
Rehearsals	3,265	2,406
Musical Director and Deputy	6,260	5,490
Printing	2,421	0
Sundries	2,768	46
	<u>27,088</u>	<u>8,596</u>

6 Governance costs

There were no charges for Governance costs as all services are provided by trustees and members free of charge. Independent inspection of the accounts is also provided free of charge.

7 Payments to Trustees

Remuneration *	5,760	4,990
Expenses	0	0
Total	<u>5,760</u>	<u>4,990</u>

* Fees were paid to Steven Roberts, a trustee

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Presentation of Accounts

In previous years the accounts have been presented on an accruals basis following the latest SORP set out by the Charity Commission. Accounts set out on this basis need to have an independent assessment carried out by a suitably qualified individual. Regrettably our usual independent assessor has been unable to continue in this role and the alternative we have appointed is not qualified to assess accruals accounts. Accordingly, the accounts this year have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis which allows for the chosen individual to undertake the assessment. The 2020-21 figures have been re-presented as income and expenditure to allow for direct comparison.

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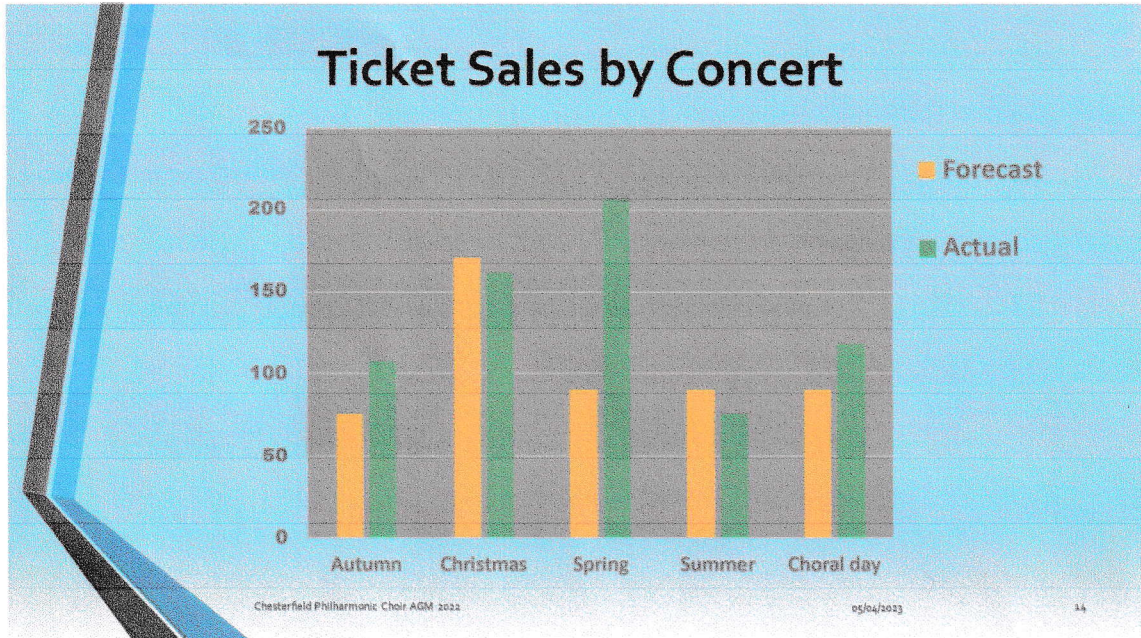
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Financial Performance

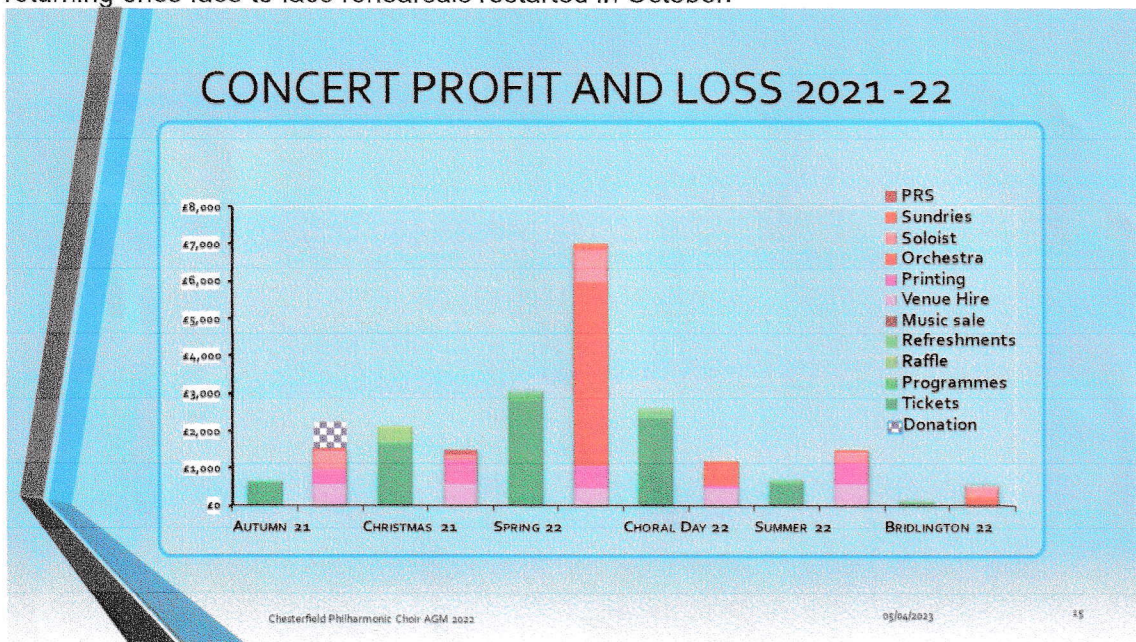
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In returning to singing and a full programme of concerts the Trustees recognised the importance of encouraging our audience and members to return, while there was still uncertainty about the risk of further infection from attending large gatherings. For our first concert we chose to charge a flat rate £5 for entrance, which was then donated in full to a local charity, Ashgate Hospice, with our charity meeting all costs (£1,551) out of our own funds. The concert raised £640 for the Hospice at a time when it was crying out for much needed funds.

Ticket sales and income from the year shows continued strong support for the choir and the events it puts on. Our Christmas Concert sold over 160 tickets and the Spring Concert of Messiah with orchestra, sold more than twice our forecast with over 200 attendees. The Choral Day had an excellent turnout of 118, many of the tickets being carried forward from the earlier postponed dates, with the bonus of extra tickets sold in year as well. As is often the case attendance at the Summer Concert was disappointing, although not unexpected.



While only one concert and the Choral day made surpluses, the overall shortfall on concerts was £5,051. This was a good result when considering the cost of soloists and orchestra for Spring alone amounted to £5,700. Membership income was also healthy with most members returning once face to face rehearsals restarted in October.



A significant part of our income previously has included fund raising through sales of books,

rehearsal interval refreshments and raffles. This activity has been curtailed while our new rehearsal venue, Saltergate Methodist Church, has decided what it is appropriate for hiring organisations to do on Church premises. We have however benefited from their support as we emerged from the pandemic restrictions and the lower hire costs than our previous venue.

Steven Roberts, our Musical Director who is also a trustee received fees of £5,760 during the year to cover the costs of delivering rehearsals and concerts, including a fee for directing the choir's performance at Bridlington Priory and a small inflation linked increase. No other trustees received any payments except in repayment of costs incurred for purchases.

Our end year position is still a strong one and will allow us to approach the next year with confidence and the financial headroom to put on another concert with full orchestra. The outlay for this kind of event is always significant and always requires a considerable subsidy from choir funds. During the pandemic we were able to build up additional funds due to reduced overhead costs, which we are now able to put back into the local Chesterfield and NE Derbyshire community through offering a strong programme of music from which they will benefit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Walker', written in a cursive style.

Sue Walker, Chair - 9th May 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

to the Trustees of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir, Charity Number 500561 for the year ended 31st July 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Charity Commission requirements and that an independent examination is needed.

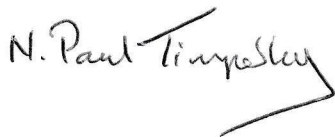
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 Trust 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.



Mr P Timperley
15 The Grange
Ashgate
Chesterfield
Derbyshire S42 7PS

16 May 2023

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 July 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Receipts	2		
Receipts from generated funds			
Voluntary Income	2.1	9,997	2,469
Activities for Generating Funds	2.2	2,198	101
Investment Income		18	3
Receipts from charitable activities	2.3	12,921	2,720
Total receipts		<u>25,134</u>	<u>5,293</u>
Payments	5		
Costs of generating funds			
Costs of generating voluntary income	5.1	175	141
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	5.2	659	122
Charitable activities	5.3	27,088	8,596
Total payments		<u>27,922</u>	<u>8,859</u>
Excess of receipts over payments		-2,788	-3,566
 Total funds brought forward		 31,337	 34,903
Total funds carried forward		<u>28,549</u>	<u>31,337</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds			
Bank Current Account		1,326	1,657
Bank Savings Account		27,223	29,678
Cash		0	2
		<u>28,549</u>	<u>31,337</u>

Approved by the management committee of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir
and signed on its behalf on 9 May 2023 by



Sue Walker, Chair

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2022

1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis, in accordance with:

- * Accounting Standards;
- * and with the Charities Act 1993.

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

Previous years' accounts have been prepared on an accrual basis. This change has been necessitated due to the lack of availability of an Independent Assessor qualified to assess accrual accounts.

1.3 Change to previous accounts

The previous year's account has been re-presented here on an income and expenditure basis to allow direct comparison.

2 Analysis of incoming resources

	2022	2021
	£	£
2.1 Voluntary income		
Subscriptions	8,260	425
Grants	0	0
Donations and bequests	210	1,789
Income Tax repaid	<u>1,527</u>	<u>255</u>
	<u><u>9,997</u></u>	<u><u>2,469</u></u>
2.2 Activities for generating funds		
Sale and hire of music	916	74
Fundraising inc raffles	472	0
Sale of Uniforms	490	0
Advertising and sundry income	<u>320</u>	<u>27</u>
	<u><u>2,198</u></u>	<u><u>101</u></u>
2.3 Charitable Activities		
Sales of tickets and programmes	7,090	32
Members tuition fees	3,035	2,660
Refreshments	59	0
Donations	0	0
Sundry income	<u>2,737</u>	<u>28</u>
	<u><u>12,921</u></u>	<u><u>2,720</u></u>

3 Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds received in 2022 and 2021

4 Endowments

There were no endowments in 2022 and 2021

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

5 Analysis of resources expended

5.1 Costs of generating voluntary income	2022 £	2021 £
Administration	141	41
Sundries	34	100
	<u>175</u>	<u>141</u>

5.2 Fundraising trading costs

Administration	148	122
Purchases	71	0
Social	0	0
Uniforms	440	0
	<u>659</u>	<u>122</u>

5.3 Charitable Activities

Administration	446	538
Concerts	10,906	16
Donations	1,022	100
Rehearsals	3,265	2,406
Musical Director and Deputy	6,260	5,490
Printing	2,421	0
Sundries	2,768	46
	<u>27,088</u>	<u>8,596</u>

6 Governance costs

There were no charges for Governance costs as all services are provided by trustees and members free of charge. Independent inspection of the accounts is also provided free of charge.

7 Payments to Trustees

Remuneration *	5,760	4,990
Expenses	0	0
Total	<u>5,760</u>	<u>4,990</u>

* Fees were paid to Steven Roberts, a trustee

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

England & Wales - Charity number 500561

Accounts

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The Annual Report of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir



The CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC Choir

1 August 2019 – 31 July 2020

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended
31 July 2020

CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT	Page
Reference and administrative information	2
Structure, governance and management	3
Objectives and activities	4
Achievements and performance	4
Financial review	10
Reserves policy	10
Financial Performance	11
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Independent examiner's report	13
Statement of financial activities	14
Balance sheet	15
Notes	16

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity name: The Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir.

Registered charity number: 500561.

Charity's principal address

Woodland Villas, 48 Queen Victoria Road, Sheffield, S17 4HT

Trustees

The trustees listed below have served in office from the Annual General Meeting in October 2019, as stated below.

The Management Committee comprises the following members:

Chairman	Mrs. Angela Walker
Secretary	Mrs. Brenda Penney
Treasurer	Dr. Mark Jarvis
Musical Director	Mr. Steven Roberts
Choir Representative	Mrs. Denise Phelps
Member	Prof. Miguel Cámara
Member	Mr. Peter Jones
Member	Mrs. Lynda Mitchell
Member	Mrs. Dodie Rutherford
Member	Mr. Neil Abdy
Member	Mrs. Alison Sykes
Member	Miss Suzanne Ganderton (resigned May 2020)

Independent Examiner

Mrs. Deborah Bancroft, 34 Pennine Way, Loundsley Green, Chesterfield, S40 4ND

Bankers

CafCash Limited, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is regulated by the Order of 9th July 2002 made by the Charity Commission and the Constitution and Rules adopted on 11th July 2002, as amended on 13th October 2016 and accepted by the Charity Commission.

Management of the Charity

The Management Committee

The management committee is the governing body of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir and consists of all the appointed trustees of the Charity, which, under the constitution rules must number at least six and no more than twelve. All trustees, with the exception of the Musical Director, seek election / re-election each year at the Annual General Meeting. At the Annual General Meeting on 17th October 2019, all the previous committee members stood for re-election and were re-appointed unopposed, with no new nominations. The committee has functioned as a cohesive and hardworking team throughout the year; however, Suzanne Ganderton found it necessary to resign in May 2020.

Five full committee meetings were held between September 2019 and July 2020. From March 2020 all meetings have been held on Zoom, with all members being able to access this medium. Attendance at these meetings was as follows: A. Walker (Chairman) 4/5; M. Jarvis (Treasurer) 5/5; B. Penney (Secretary) 4/5; S. Roberts (Musical Director) 5/5; D. Phelps (Choir Representative) 4/5; N. Abdy 4/5; M. Cámara 4/5; P. Jones 3/5; L Mitchell 4/5; D. Rutherford 3/5; A. Sykes 5/5, At the beginning of the pandemic, in particular, a core management group of the Chairman, Treasurer and Musical Director met at least monthly via Zoom to discuss the current and foreseeable future, issues and opportunities, financial implications, rearranging concerts and other important issues, undertook key pieces of work and reported to and involved the remainder of the committee in regular meetings. This proactive strategy worked well and the choir has been kept going, both in singing and in social contact throughout the spring and summer period and beyond the end of this report year.

Financial Management

The committee reviewed financial matters at each full committee meeting. At each meeting the Treasurer presented the current state of the charity's finances and a financial forecast for the remainder of the year to the Trustees and the implications were considered and discussed. Budget forecasts are made on a conservative estimate of likely tickets sales and costs to ensure financial viability. This year the emphasis changed once we ceased in person rehearsals in March 2020, as can be seen from the financial report. The committee considers the Reserves Policy when determining the programme plans and consequent expenditure implications throughout the year, taking into account ongoing cash flow and that around concert events. Whilst not able to meet in person attention to the change in emphasis of the financial management this year is evident in the financial report.

The accounts are presented annually to the membership for discussion at the Annual General meeting and are ratified following independent examination.

Risk Management

The Risk Management Strategy and Process is overseen by a subcommittee, to identify and manage the various risks to the Charity on an ongoing basis. The risks are grouped under Concert and Choral Day, Rehearsal, and Business Management and reported to the whole committee at formal meetings for discussion and appropriate action. Each committee member receives a copy of the updated log following the group meetings. The process uses an established model to identify individual risks, their probability and impact, countermeasures, progress and position and contingency planning.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The sub-committee met formally on one occasion this year and undertook a complete review and updated all risks, revising impact and probability as appropriate.

In 2019-20 members and attendance were: Neil Abdy (Chair) 1/1, Angela Walker 1/1, Mark Jarvis 0/1, Lynda Mitchell 1/1 and Peter Jones 1/1.

Importantly, when considering a possible return to limited number in person rehearsals from September 2020 onwards, a separate risk assessment was undertaken and coordinated with the rehearsal venue risk assessment. At the time of reporting, we have not yet been able to start in person rehearsals, but this risk assessment is a live document and will be reviewed and revised, as necessary, dependent on current conditions locally and nationally relevant to Covid-19, when in person rehearsals are able to resume.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects of the Charity

The objects of the Charity, as set out in the Rules, shall be the rehearsal and public performance of a wide range of music in order to enhance the musical skills, knowledge and appreciation of members, participants and audiences.

Activities of the Charity

In considering and agreeing the activities of the choir, the trustees are mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

This year has been a tale of two halves: the first six months as normal then a radical change in March 2020, when activities became mainly online and via the weekly newsletter, requiring very different skills and ways of communicating, completely new to the majority of members. The choir normally delivers four concerts and a choral workshop each year in the Chesterfield area. In this reporting year we managed to give the Autumn and Christmas concerts as normal and were within two weeks of performing the Spring concert when the first national lockdown happened. Further concerts are performed by invitation, both locally and elsewhere when we give an 'away' concert, this year at Bolsover Castle for English Heritage again, attracting their biggest ever Christmas concert audience. Twelve choir members also undertook a video recorded recital of Christmas Carols in Bolsover Castle for English Heritage, which is on their national website and YouTube channel. All in person rehearsals and concerts from March 2020 were postponed / cancelled and the Choral Day postponed until June 2021.

The concert programme developed by the Musical Director for the current reporting year was both exciting and challenging for the choir and audience, but only two concerts were achieved. The educational activity for the audience is delivered through programme notes and introduction to the pieces during the concerts by the Musical Director and guest professional musicians. These contributions and the range of music is appreciated by audience members and choir alike and very much adds to the enjoyment of the concert. The audience at the Bolsover Castle Christmas Concert, in particular, engaged enthusiastically in discussion with the Musical Director.

We normally rehearse weekly between September and the beginning of July, mixing technical exercises to enhance vocal skills with learning vocal parts for the chosen concert pieces, and refining these to concert performance standard. When we do eventually return to in person singing as a choir there will have to be a lot of work on re-establishing singing voices again. Singing on Zoom, whilst a worthwhile weekly activity to socially keep the choir members together as well as singing to ourselves on mute, is just not the same as hearing and blending with other voices around us.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Chairman's Statement

53rd Season

This report is, as always, addressed to members of the Choir and the general public. It is made on behalf of the trustees, and its purpose is to set out how the activities of the Choir over the last year met the objectives of its constitution and the requirements to maintain the Choir's charitable status.

The fulfilment of the objects and strategic objectives is amply demonstrated in the activities reported this year, despite the Covid -19 pandemic.

Identifiable Benefits. The three concerts undertaken between September and December 2019 demonstrate a wide range of music rehearsed and performed to a high standard, as usual. In March 2020 very few had even heard of Zoom. We ceased meeting as a whole choir before the national lockdown was announced and two weeks before our Spring concert, when it was clear which way things were heading and with the health and safety of our (mainly aged over 60) membership paramount. The March concert was postponed until November, but by the end of July this was looking increasingly doubtful and in the end was cancelled. The Choral Day was postponed until June 2021 and the 80+ participants already registered were informed and given the choice of retaining their booking for the following year, donating their fee to the named charity or having a refund. We ended up with 65 members looking forward to coming in 2021 to sing Brahms 'Requiem', chosen by the participants at last year's Choral Day. At the time of reporting at the end of July we were looking forward to taking our music to our community by carol singing in town at Christmas and giving our Christmas concert at Bolsover Castle again,

A key factor in the continuing success of the choir is the strong sense of community, with members from many walks of life and from a wide geographical area and this has been particularly important during the first national Covid lockdown. Although the majority are over 60, we do have younger members. For some older members, this may be the only occasion when they get out and socialise each week. When the pandemic hit in March 2020, preserving the community and friendship within the choir and supporting our more vulnerable members became my priority, in conjunction with the Musical Director and Treasurer, in particular, and the whole committee. The potential mental and physical health benefits of choral singing and belonging to a choir are well researched and documented in the academic literature and clear in the strong sense of community and caring for each other evident in the choir: we had to act quickly and be proactive in keeping the choir together and to manage the choir business in this unprecedented situation.

The challenge encountered was one of rearranging existing concerts, the choral day and other commitments in a fast moving, largely unpredictable situation, never encountered before and in continuing choir activities by a variety of means to ensure we had contact with everyone. The initial key work was done by the Chairman, Musical Director and Treasurer, meeting fortnightly then monthly on Zoom and in regular discussion with the full committee. This was invaluable in reaching key decisions, trying to keep up with the everchanging reports and research regarding amateur choral singing, attending Making Music webinars on a variety of key pandemic related amateur music making topics, DCMS guidance etc. and planning to move forward. We also made the key decision at the outset to continue to pay our MD, deputy MD and accompanist.

Zoom quickly became part of our lives for committee and weekly choir meetings and has been very well used. We can also see its potential in future for committee meetings, rehearsing when the winter weather precludes us from travelling and meeting etc. Initially, we continued to rehearse the Rutter 'Requiem' and Jenkins 'Stabat Mater', thinking that we would perform it later in the year, but it soon became clear that this would not be the case, we needed a change and the focus changed

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

to new music, some known, some unknown, that could be rehearsed and sung in one or two evenings alongside a recording of it. Between 30 and 40 members have joined the weekly Zoom meetings, when we have not only sung, but chatted, shared news, laughed a lot and had a couple of quiz nights. Apart from the benefits of meeting and chatting together, we are getting to know each other so much better, across the choir and not just in our immediate section. It has also enabled the Musical Director and Accompanist to get to know us better and vice versa.

A very special 'thank you' to Steven, our Musical Director, for facilitating and leading the weekly gatherings. His enthusiasm and wide-ranging professional skills and personality and weekly Corona Chronicles blog have been key in leading the choir through the first four months of the pandemic.

Not everyone wants to or is able to join in the Zoom; four of the ninety members do not have internet access. The Membership Secretary has kept in regular contact with those we do not see on Zoom, as have other members. For those members who do not have internet access, four members who live nearby have volunteered to print off and take the weekly notices and information, Steven's blog / Corona Chronicles and other contributions to both keep them in touch with the choir and also check on them and have a socially distanced chat. The weekly notices / newsletter has gone out to all members by email and has been much appreciated from the regular positive feedback and thanks received. This will continue as long as it needs to in the forthcoming season.

Special mention must be made of the community spirit shown by some of our members. Firstly, Neil Abdy, one of the committee members, who offered to shop for anyone who needed it and he went weekly to the supermarket to queue, shop and deliver for elderly, vulnerable members during the lockdown. Secondly, David and Bronwen Humphrey, Christine Richardson, Kate Hale and Nina Nelson for weekly printing the choir newsletter, musical director's blog and other information and visiting our four elderly members who do not have internet access.

The membership: This year we have again recruited new members. In order to maintain and enhance the quality of performance, the informal, individual audition policy is maintained and is the only criteria for choir membership. Rehearsing in a school for children with special needs ensures that the facilities are wheelchair friendly. The total membership stood at 92 in July 2020 an increase of three since the previous report. Sadly, we also have to record the death of retired long standing member, past Chairman and Patron, Joyce Davey.

It will be interesting to see whether the pandemic has any positive or negative effect on the numbers who eventually return or decide to join us. To date there are three potential new members who have joined us on Zoom each week. Keeping the membership engaged is going to be a challenge if this situation goes on for very long, which is seeming increasingly likely at the time of reporting.

Non-singing involvement of supporters is a vital element of choir presentation to the public, specifically in the concert Front of House Team, in website management, photography and help with erecting and dismantling the choir's staging for concerts. This team working is important in the effort for putting on concerts and other events and all work efficiently. Clearly, these roles have not been in such high demand this year, but our website manager has kept the website up to date.

Promotion of the Choir: The wider public includes all those who attend our concerts, informal singing events and choral day. From a civic perspective the current Mayor and Mayoress / Consort are invited to every concert and are able to attend most, which promotes the choir and our quality of performance at the highest level locally. We actively market and promote our concerts, principally in the catchment area of those within reasonable travelling distance, with attractive and eye-catching flyers and posters, produced by a local business at a reduced cost. A regular display is mounted in the Main Library foyer for a month prior to each concert, to advertise our concerts and activities in an area which has a high footfall. Promoting the choir in the local newspaper and free magazines, widely distributed to households in and around the town, is important in letting the

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

townsfolk know of our existence. Our website is kept up to date with news, latest concerts and events, videos and photographs of our activities and we are very grateful to David Oliver for that service. Other choirs and singers from across the UK and beyond use the website, not least to access our library of music to hire.

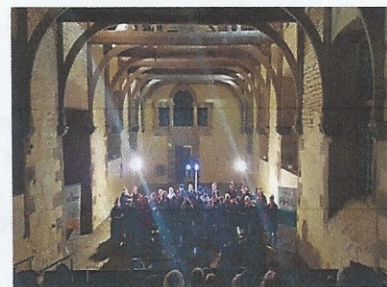
All this requires high quality marketing and publicity. In assessing priorities in this regard, the focus at the end of this year and for the forthcoming season is on social media; Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, widely used by all ages. Whilst we have appointed a willing volunteer committee member to the role, there is a real challenge in maintaining and developing the wider publicity, through a team approach. This social media focus is ongoing and only just really starting.

Setting ticket prices at a level we consider to be competitive is a challenge and, whilst a concert is rarely self-funding, our objective is to cover as much of the cost as we can with income from ticket sales. The advance sale of tickets helps significantly in forecasting attendance numbers which, in turn, allows us to forecast programme numbers, thereby minimising unnecessary costs. However, cancellation of the final two concerts of the season means that season ticket holders will be able to use the season ticket for the next two concerts, when concerts are once again permissible.

External Promotion: as already discussed above, the choir membership is largely derived from the local community in and around Chesterfield and it is vital that the choir effectively engages with the local community and other projects that raise the choir's profile. Christmas is always a popular time to engage with community activities and formed much of our additional activity this year.

We again participated in the sixth annual Chesterfield Parish Church Christmas Tree Festival for two weeks in late November 2019, alongside many other trees presented by over one hundred and twenty different organisations within the community; this is always an ideal opportunity to promote the choir in an entirely different context and, in effect, is free publicity for us, with over 16,000 visitors to the church in two weeks. Prime position in front of the pulpit made our tree visible along the length of the nave as well as close up. A donation to the Church in recognition of the work that goes into the Festival has been made. The tree was again decorated by Kate Hale with a theme and decorations of her own design and making.

45 members once again performed a Christmas concert for English Heritage in the Stables at Bolsover Castle on December 19th 2019. It was cold, but a very enjoyable evening, with the audience number being the most ever and we have been invited back again this year, which we are also looking forward to. Prior to the concert, as a promotion tool, 12 members of the choir with MD Steven Roberts, were invited to record a video of Christmas carols for the English Heritage YouTube site in the Great Hall of the castle and we were very pleased with the final production.



As discussed last year, the choir recorded choral contributions for 'We Persuade Ourselves We Are Immortal' with Garry Cobain of Amorphous Androgynous, a complex undertaking in a musical genre completely new to us and are still waiting to hear the finished production and how our contributions fit in with the whole work. We are keen to find out and experience the sense of achievement in another first for the choir, as well as it being an excellent way of publicising the range of music participated in and performed.

Another casualty of the pandemic was Altrincham Choral Society's 75th anniversary concert, Elgar's 'Dream of Gerontius' in The Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, in July, in which the choir was due to participate.

On a more positive note, the choir has long been associated with Chesterfield Parish Church, commonly known as the church with the Crooked Spire and performed there many times over the past 50 years. The choir attracts many visitors from all over the world, with its historic heritage and

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

famous twisted spire. In April 2020 the choir was invited to become the Choir in Residence for a period of three years, a prestigious honour and excellent publicity, but to date we have not been able to perform because of Covid restrictions.

Performance

Somewhat curtailed this season, with only two main concerts performed, the expected high standard of performance was achieved at the Autumn and Christmas concerts and the Christmas Concert for English Heritage at Bolsover Castle after much hard and dedicated work by both the Musical Director and the choir. There has been a small increase in the overall numbers of members, so essential to giving the choir confidence in performance and in tackling challenging works.

The Autumn concert was entitled 'The Heavens are Telling', a selection of well-known and not so well-known choruses, including works by Bach, Brahms, Handel, Parry and Mozart. Well known and loved pieces such as 'Zadok the Priest', 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring', 'How lovely is thy dwelling place', 'Laudate Dominum' and 'The heavens are Telling' were interspersed with lesser known and new pieces to choir and audience alike, culminating in a concert which was both much enjoyed and educational in introducing new works. In the rehearsal time available there was much hard work in learning new music and perfecting it to concert standard, with a real sense of satisfaction on the evening.

As is now our established pattern for a family friendly and public transport accessible concert, the Sunday afternoon Christmas Concert featured the choir, accompanied by our regular accompanist, Liz Heath, with the traditional audience participation carols accompanied by Dr. Paul Nash on the organ. This concert attracted a good audience, but not as many as usual, perhaps because this year we did not have a guest choir, which, in itself, brings additional audience members. However, this was a much-enjoyed afternoon. attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Chesterfield.

Summary

All in all, a remarkable season, in which the committee and choir members have worked together to achieve success, albeit for half the year in circumstances totally unexpected and unprecedented. As always, members have been generous with their time and commitment to the choir, not least in supporting other members. We have recruited new members but need to attract more, mainly to perform those choral works with orchestra, which require a bigger choir. Despite being proactive in keeping in touch with all members we do not know the outcome after the pandemic of how many will return: our hope and expectation is that any loss of membership will be minimal after the considerable effort made by the Musical Director and committee to lead the choir through the pandemic to date.

Benefit and detriment

The Charity Commission require that we must balance the benefit against any detriment or harm that might arise from our organisation carrying out our aims. The trustees have not been able to identify any detriment or harm, only benefit as demonstrated in the report.

Governance

The trustees have worked hard this year to ensure the Choir's smooth running for face-to-face rehearsals and concerts and more recently online through Zoom, with regular formal and informal meetings to ensure continuing effective management of the charity. Since the beginning of the pandemic disruption, in particular, a great deal of work behind the scenes has ensured Choir members can rehearse and meet together and be kept in touch via weekly newsletters, on Zoom, phone calls and visits to those members not on the internet. At the end of the season the emphasis is on developing a new risk management tool for when return to Covid secure in person rehearsals is possible and further developing our social media presence in innovative ways. Most significantly we had to delay the holding of our planned Annual General Meeting at which these reports are

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

presented from October 2020 to 28th January 2021. Whilst not ideal, we had initially hoped a short delay would allow us to meet face-to face, but the introduction of the second national lockdown prevented that and the AGM was held via Zoom with 55 members attending. Considering the circumstances this was an exceptional turnout and showed the strength of support for the Charity and its activities.

Sincere Thanks

Sincere thanks go to our Musical Director, accompanist, committee members, Front of House team, website manager and photographers for their continued support. We are fortunate to have a hardworking, efficient and experienced committee, not only in the experience of committee roles, but in the transferable knowledge and skills brought from current and previous professional roles for the benefit of the choir. The work goes on continuously behind the scenes, with many voluntary hours put in to ensure effective choir management. Sincere thanks also to the choir members who support the committee and each other.

Steven brings a wide range of experience in a range of musical genres and musical theatre and skilfully encourages us in rehearsal to not only learn but to believe in our ability to perform to a high standard. That comes to fruition in all concerts, in the programming and design of each concert, all very different, and showcasing the choir at its best, from skilled musical leadership of the highest quality. This year has included the skills of leading rehearsals on Zoom from home, so that members can fully participate in singing and other activities. The resultant enthusiasm and keeping that weekly presence and engagement is one of the cornerstones of strategic development as we manage the disruption of the pandemic.

Thank you all

Awards

The Jim Goldsmith Awards: the committee decided that these would not be awarded this year.

Life Membership - None awarded this year.

Looking Ahead

All the Trustees, Choir Members, Front of House team and other supporters must take pleasure and accept recognition of their contribution to a successful part season of concerts. The choir has risen to the occasion for every concert and given generously of their time and commitment. We continue to build upon the real sense of community that has been so evident again this year. Having said that, every member knows the significant challenges always ahead of us and the need to address them as individual and as a whole choir and I am confident that the strong sense of community, enjoying our music making, pride in what we are and can achieve between us will enable us to reach our goals and exceed our expectations.

COVID – 19 Update: April 2021

The above report was written in January 2021 prior to our AGM. The devastation of Covid-19 in the spring of 2020 has had a significant impact, causing cancellation of rehearsals, postponement and rearrangement of both the spring and summer concerts and Choral Day, which will then have an impact on the following season. Considerable effort and video meeting time has been put in by the Chairman, Treasurer and Musical Director in managing the present and future, although the future of when we can begin meeting together, singing, rehearsing and performing is still very uncertain at this stage. We must be flexible and follow government guidance. When we begin to meet again as a whole choir will also depend on government guidance and, crucially, when individual members feel safe and confident to meet again, as the majority are over 60 and an estimated 50% over 70. A survey of members has indicated that all but two are wishing to return

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

when it is safe to do so, all are fully or partly vaccinated, except the two not yet eligible, but they soon will be, which gives added confidence to our risk assessment and management and confidence to other members. There are also financial implications, which the Treasurer has made reference to in the Financial Review below.

The most important aspect as far as the members are concerned is missing the weekly singing and the community of the choir and friendships; the psychological and emotional aspects of being a choir member. We are trying to address those issues with a weekly newsletter, suggestions of resources to try, the musical directors blog, musical quizzes, items submitted by choir members, suggestions of music to listen to etc. Jonathan Scott, our Vice President and exceptionally gifted pianist and organist, is giving fortnightly YouTube concerts, either from his home or from venues such as the Bridgewater Hall, to lift our spirits. The committee is meeting via internet video link and we are undertaking online chats, weekly rehearsals led by the MD and accompanist and vocal technique training sessions for the choir with the Deputy MD, all via Zoom. Four older, more vulnerable members not on the internet are being kept informed by other younger members living near them, by printing things out and taking to them weekly, which also enables them to chat and check they are well. Offers to do shopping etc since April last year have been taken up and, again, a way of keeping a check and communicating with our elderly and more vulnerable members. We didn't see this coming but are rising to the challenge as a whole choir. I am confident that the strength of the choir community, the bonds of friendship and the love of singing will see us emerge even stronger in the future.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The Trustees maintain a Reserves Policy which was reviewed and updated in 2018-19. The policy provides a framework for managing the charity's finances and planned expenditure through seeking to:

- ensure financial continuity in the event of a large variation in income.
- maintain a positive cash flow, particularly before concerts.
- meet standing contractual forward commitments, including notice periods for the Musical Director and the accompanist.
- cover specific future projects as they are agreed. Such projects may be high profile, high-cost concerts, or other activities the trustees (committee) choose to undertake to raise the profile of the choir.

We aim to maintain a minimum reserve level of £8,500 at the end of each financial year. Where a concert programme with greater than average costs is planned in the following season, or a single higher cost concert is planned early in the season, before annual membership fees have been collected, we may set a higher level temporarily. Prior to any concert or major expense, the reserve level should be sufficient to cover the costs of the concert or activity without income from ticket sales, as well as on-going contractual payments. The policy also identifies actions for the trustees to ensure that it is adhered to. The next review is planned in a year.

Initial budget forecasts for the year were used to plan concert expenditure and the impact of actual income and expenditure for each concert on forecasts was considered at each committee meeting.

Financial Performance

This year has been unique in the changes to our planned activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic, impacting significantly on both expenditure and income. However, the timing of restrictions, the need to cancel concerts and the choral day in the second half of the year has not had a major impact on our end year position; forecast originally at £33,900, we ended the year with cash funds of £34,819.

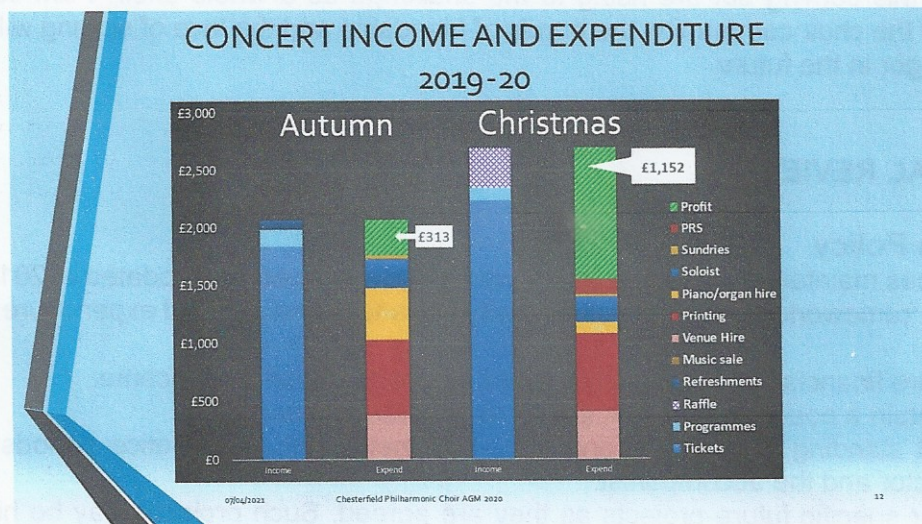
CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

Set against this we now have creditors of £1,416 representing tickets sold for our Choral Day and season ticket holders, who have paid for events that we have not been able to hold. While we originally hoped that these creditors would get the benefit from their tickets during 2020-21, it is now possible that we will have to defer them a further year due to the continuing pandemic.

With the benefit of £775 prepayments carried forward from deferred concert venue deposits and hire our net worth at the end of the year was £34,178, representing a surplus of £9,586.

Our income for the year was £30,250 and our expenditure £20,664. Income was boosted by ticket income from our very profitable Lesley Garratt concert in late June 2019, received in August. We also collected full membership fees before our activities were curtailed by the pandemic.

Of our four planned concerts, only two were delivered: Autumn and Christmas. Both showed a surplus: Autumn generating £313 and Christmas £1,152, including £350 from the raffle of our ever-popular Christmas hampers filled with donations from choir members. A summary of the income and expenditure for each of these events is shown below. We also received £500 for making a promotional Christmas video for English Heritage, with a further £500 for a Christmas Concert in Bolsover Castle.



Covid-19 Response

The start of national lockdown from the third week in March 2020 meant that we were not able to hold our Spring concert. Fortunately, most of our tickets sales are taken on the door, and prior sales had been paid by cheques that had not been presented and were destroyed, this meant that we had no need to refund anybody. However, we had paid in advance for the hire of the venue, a sum of £675 retained by the venue to be used against future concerts, along with deposits for future concerts that have been cancelled. The late notice for cancelling the concert meant that we had incurred some other unrecoverable costs, including printing of publicity posters and orchestral music hire. Totalling £1,176 these costs have been absorbed and are offset by other savings.

Advance ticket sales for our Choral Day needed more direct action. Everyone was offered the opportunity for a refund, to have their ticket carried over to the next year or to offer the ticket fee as a donation to the Brain Tumour Trust, our chosen charity for the Choral Day. In the event over 80% of registered participants (69 individuals) carried their tickets forward, £76 was offered as donations, £104 was refunded and £116 of unpresented cheques were destroyed.

The committee also recognised that season ticket holders who had paid for four concerts, would not get full value from their tickets. We agreed that all season tickets should be honoured against two future concerts when they were held. The outstanding value of these tickets of £228 has been included with the advance ticket sales from the Choral Day as creditors totalling £1,416.

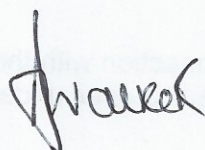
CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

There have been some positive financial benefits from not meeting face to face from April. Hire of our rehearsal venue (£980) was waived for the summer term, and the predicted loss on the cancelled summer concert of £900 was avoided. Offset against this are some small additional costs from taking out a Zoom Licence for our accompanist so that on-line rehearsals could take place more effectively.

Throughout lockdown we continued to pay our accompanist and meet the fees of our Musical Director and newly appointed deputy Musical Director while they continued to provide services supporting the choir to meet through on-line rehearsals and events. Steven Roberts, our Musical Director who is also a trustee received fees of £5,120 during the year to cover the costs of delivering rehearsals and concerts, this included a fee for managing the English Heritage recording and a small inflation linked increase. No other trustees received any payments except in repayment of costs incurred for purchases.

Despite the curtailment of our year, we have still received considerable other income through our patrons and other donations (£1,300), fundraising through coffee and tea sales, book sales and monthly raffles (£1,004) and gift aid on a proportion of our membership charge (£1,838).

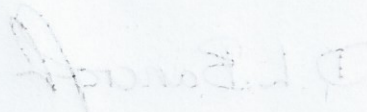
Notwithstanding all the difficulties and changes we have ended the year in a strong financial position, with our cash funds slightly higher than forecast at the beginning. This has given us a sound platform to continue delivering a full programme of face-to-face rehearsals and concerts once the pandemic has receded and we are once again allowed to meet. In the interim we continue to make payments to our Musical Director, deputy musical director and accompanists while delivering on-line rehearsals and recordings. With the likelihood of at best one concert in the next financial year, limited rehearsal costs, other than Zoom licences, and a small number of rehearsals in an alternative venue that will allow for social distancing we expect to be in a similar position at the end of next year ready to start afresh with renewed vigour and more than enough resources to support an ambitious and educational programme for the benefit of the residents of Chesterfield and NE Derbyshire.



Mrs. Angela Walker,

Chairman

9 September 2021



CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

**to the Trustees of
Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir for the year ended 31 July 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

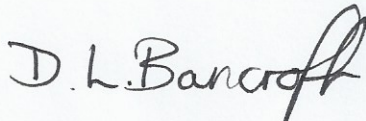
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mrs D Bancroft
34 Pennine Way
Loundsley Green
Chesterfield
Derbyshire
S40 4ND

9 September 2021

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 July 2020

	Notes	2020	2019
		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES	3		
Unrestricted Funds			
Incoming Resources from generated funds			
Voluntary Income	3.1	11,774	14,215
Activities for Generating Funds	3.2	1,391	3,767
Investment Income	3.3	37	20
Incoming Resources from charitable activities	3.4	17,048	21,152
Total Unrestricted Funds		30,250	39,154
Restricted Funds	4	0	0
Endowment Funds	5	0	0
Total incoming resources		30,250	39,154
 RESOURCES EXPENDED	 6		
Costs of generating funds			
Costs of generating voluntary income	6.1	162	129
Fundraising trading: costs of goods sold and other costs	6.2	99	899
Charitable activities	6.3	20,320	33,054
Governance costs	8	0	0
Total resources expended		20,581	34,082
 Net incoming/outgoing resources		9,669	5,072
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	 12		
Total funds brought forward		24,592	19,520
Total funds carried forward		34,261	24,592

All amounts derive from continuing activities

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the year

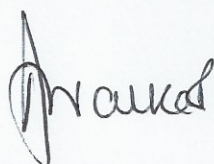
CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

BALANCE SHEET

at 31 July 2020

	Note	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	2, 7		<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
Current assets					
Cash at Bank and in hand		34,819		24,492	
Prepayments	10	<u>858</u>		<u>100</u>	
		35,677		24,592	
Net Current assets			<u>35,677</u>		<u>24,592</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8		1,416		0
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>34,261</u>		<u>24,592</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year			0		0
Provisions for liabilities and charges			0		0
Net assets			<u>34,261</u>		<u>24,592</u>
Funds of the Charity					
Restricted Funds	4		0		0
Endowment Funds	5		0		0
Unrestricted funds					
Accumulated fund	12		<u>34,261</u>		<u>24,592</u>
Total charity funds			<u>34,261</u>		<u>24,592</u>

Approved by the management committee of Chesterfield Philharmonic Choir and signed on its behalf on 9 September 2021 by



Angela Walker (Chairman)

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2020

1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

- * Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005);
- * and with Accounting Standards;
- * and with the Charities Act 1993.

1.2 Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3 Change to previous accounts

There has been no change to accounts for previous years.

2 Accounting Policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- * the charity becomes entitled to the resources
- * the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- * the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

Incoming resources with related expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised.

Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

Investment Income

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT, which cannot be recovered.

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is assessed on a straight line basis over the lifetime of the asset

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and market value.

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2020

3 Analysis of incoming resources

3.1 Voluntary income

	2020 £	2019 £
Subscriptions	9,338	8,606
Grants	0	0
Donations and bequests	598	4,042
Income Tax repaid	1,838	1,567
	<u>11,774</u>	<u>14,215</u>

3.2 Activities for generating funds

Sale and hire of music	212	938
Fundraising inc raffles	1,004	1,622
Sale of Uniforms	75	571
Advertising and sundry income	100	636
	<u>1,391</u>	<u>3,767</u>

3.3 Investment Income

Bank interest received	37	20
	<u>37</u>	<u>20</u>

3.4 Charitable Activities

Sales of tickets and programmes	12,526	15,470
Members tuition fees	3,215	3,000
Refreshments	81	84
Donations	0	0
Sundry income	1,226	2,328
	<u>17,048</u>	<u>21,152</u>

4 Restricted Funds

There were no restricted funds received in 2020 and 2019

5 Endowments

There were no endowments in 2020 and 2019

6 Analysis of resources expended

6.1 Costs of generating voluntary income

	2020 £	2019 £
Administration	154	34
Sundries	8	95
	<u>162</u>	<u>129</u>

Fundraising trading costs

Administration	99	167
Purchases	0	5
Social	0	0
Uniforms	0	727
	<u>99</u>	<u>899</u>

CHESTERFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 July 2020

6.3	Charitable Activities	2020 £	2019 £
	Administration	2,042	1,262
	Concerts	6,215	15,638
	Donations	101	125
	Rehearsals	3,882	6,087
	Musical Director and Deputy	5,620	5,350
	Printing	1,930	3,884
	Sundries	530	708
		<u>20,320</u>	<u>33,054</u>
7	Fixed assets		
	There are no fixed assets with any residual value		
8	Creditors due within one year	2020 £	2019 £
	Ticket sales carried forward due to Covid-19 cancellations	<u>1,416</u>	<u>0</u>
9	Governance costs		
	There were no charges for Governance costs as all services are provided by trustees and members free of charge. Independent inspection of the accounts is also provided free of charge.		
10	Prepayments	2020 £	2019 £
	Concert Hall Hire	775	100
	Overpayment of website costs to D.Oliver	83	0
		<u>858</u>	<u>100</u>
11	Payments to Trustees	2020 £	2019 £
	Remuneration *	5,120	5,350
	Expenses	0	0
	Total	<u>5,120</u>	<u>5,350</u>
	* Fees were paid to Steven Roberts, a trustee		
12	Accumulated Fund	2020 £	2019 £
	01 August 2019	24,592	19,520.00
	Net incoming resources for the year	9,669	5,072.00
	31 July 2020	<u>34,261</u>	<u>24,592.00</u>