

# ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 500729

## Details

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**Other names** ACS

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1971-03-30

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

## Contact

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**Address** 15 Brunswick Road  
Manchester  
M20 4QB

**Phone** 07962264946

**Email** [secretary@altrinchamchoral.co.uk](mailto:secretary@altrinchamchoral.co.uk)

**Website** <http://www.altrinchamchoral.co.uk>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS.

**Activities:** ACS presents 3-4 concerts a year at prestigious Manchester venues and local churches. Our members are amateur singers who have the opportunity to perform choral works across a wide repertoire with professional orchestras and soloists. We also hold introductory singing events for the general public. We provide enjoyable, musical learning experiences for members, audience, and the public.

## Classification

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- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Cheshire East
- Cheshire West & Chester
- Manchester City
- Trafford

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£39,487	£37,362	-	-
2024-07-31	£60,396	£64,369	-	-
2023-07-31	£42,168	£35,843	-	-
2022-08-31	£23,085	£27,534	-	-
2021-08-31	£3,945	£11,740	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Dr ANDREW JOHN MCWILLIAM</b>	Chair	2020-06-08
Anthony Robinson		2023-01-01
Eleanor Reeves		2018-10-15
Eleanor Ruth Tobi		2025-11-24
Francis Julian Mustoe		2019-10-14
Imogen Gornall		2023-01-01
Julia Rosamund Williamson		2018-10-15
Melanie Owen		2023-01-01
Neil Brougham		2024-10-21
Stephen Paul Campbell		2018-10-15
Timothy Peter Lowe		2025-03-03

**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 500729

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# Accounts

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**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 1/8/2024  
To 31/7/2025**

**Period start date  
Period end date**

**Charity name: Altrincham Choral Society**

**Charity registration number: 500729**

### **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The purposes of the society are to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of the art and science of music in all its aspects including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>Para 1.17 and 1.19</p>	<p>In pursuing the objectives of the Society as regards the public benefit, the choir aims to impact people's lives in two ways. Firstly Singing Members participate in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational and social activity, providing regular rehearsals and performances in four concerts each year, with the opportunity to develop vocal technique and extend knowledge of choral repertoire supported by the inspiring leadership of respected and professional musicians. The Committee of Trustees is conscious that the choir's activities should be both affordable and open to all who successfully apply to be a Member. Full-time students and under 21s benefit from a reduced membership subscription rate, with reduced subscription arrangements available to any member with financial difficulties. (this can be privately discussed with the Membership Secretary, to be agreed in confidence by the Committee.) Secondly, for audiences, the choir presents exciting, innovative and high-quality performances at varied established local venues, offering a positive and educational cultural experience aiming to extend musical knowledge through diverse repertoire. Pricing of concert tickets is carefully considered to promote attendance by a wide audience. Tickets are competitively but affordably priced with significant concessions for accompanied children and are available through a variety of sources - venue box offices, online, via the choir website or in person via members of the Society.</p> <p>In support of the Society's objectives the choir has regular Open Rehearsals and an annual Singing Day which offer opportunities for enthusiastic members of the public to experience how rehearsals operate and to sing a variety of repertoire. The choir also takes opportunities to sing in community events where possible and to support a local charity each year.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>Para 1.18</p>	<p>The committee (Trustees) have complied with the duty in section 4 of the charities act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity.</p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>All 108 members of the Choir support the aims of the society by giving their time and efforts to the rehearsals and public performances.</p> <p>Over the course of the year 30-40 members of the society and their friends and family volunteer their time to ensure the smooth running of rehearsals and concerts in the following roles;</p> <p>Main Committee - Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Minutes Secretary, 4 Voice Reps, Fundraiser, Membership Secretary, Concert Manager.</p> <p>Music Sub Committee - including choice of programmes, contracting of soloists and instrumentalists, liaising with local venues.</p> <p>Librarians - sourcing and hiring music for performances.</p> <p>Publicity Team including design and production of programmes, tickets and posters alongside management of social media and ticket sales.</p> <p>Other roles include Fire Officers, First Aid Officers, concert door ticket sales, coach organisers, presentation of flowers to soloists, looking after guests, serving interval refreshments.</p>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>Concerts 2024/25 Season</p> <p>"Ain't Misbehavin" 16th November 2024, St Peter's Church, Hale. Embracing the style of the 1920's Music Hall, with songs from Cole Porter to Gershwin, alongside music to lift the spirit by Hess, Rutter (Feel the Spirit) and Gjeilo, accompanied by the wonderful Sospiri Wind Quintet, trumpet soloist Seb Williams and mezzo-soprano Sophie Clarke</p> <p>A Christmas Concert 24th December 2024 at St George's Church, Altrincham. This new larger venue provided the opportunity for a wider audience to join in with a programme of traditional carols and hear new favourites by John Williams and Rutter amongst others. Donations for mince pies and fruit punch raised money for the local Hope Centre Charity.</p> <p>"Let us go in Peace" 25th March 2025, back at St George's Church, Altrincham. A varied programme of quietly powerful and reflective music in the spirit of peace across the world, with guest accompanist Kathleen Hesford. Tracey Smurthwaite added colour and contrast with her beautiful flute playing.</p> <p>"Make a Joyful Noise" July 5th 2025, St Mary's Church, Sale. Choral Gems by Andrew Lloyd Webber, Eric Whitacre, Saint-Saens and John Rutter amongst others – enhanced by solos from mezzo soprano returning guest Sophie Clarke. This concert benefitted from the support of Jean Oglesby CBE.</p> <p>28th July 2025 - 45 members of the choir travelled to Durham Cathedral to perform a short lunchtime concert in this magnificent building experiencing the amazing acoustics. This was well received by supporting family members and also a large audience of cathedral visitors.</p>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	<p>The planned concert programme was fulfilled and the repertoire successfully performed.</p> <p>The Committee continued to look at a range of options to find ongoing patrons and sponsorship to support the choir's activities.</p> <p>The Choir sustained a membership of over 100 throughout the year, but continues to actively seek Tenor and Bass voices to ensure a balanced choir and ensure a wide range of choral repertoire is accessible for performance.</p>
<p>Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Investment performance against objectives</p>	<p>Para 1.41</p>	
<p>Other</p>		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Overall, the Society had a small surplus of around £2000 on income of £40,000. The expenditure included approximately £1,500 from the Florence Matthews fund, deployed in accordance with the terms of that bequest. The reserves held are approximately equal to a year's operating costs.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held in accordance with the terms of the Society's Reserves Policy. That policy requires a minimum of 50% of annual General Fund expenditure to be held in Unrestricted Reserves. Reserves ensure that all current and future financial commitments can be met from existing funds. In turn, this ensures that in the unlikely event of winding up the charity, the Trustees will bear no financial liability.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	The Society had Current Unrestricted Assets of £35,000 at 31/07/2025.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The Trustees remain confident that the charity will continue as a going concern.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The two main sources of revenue are membership subscription and ticket sales, In addition the Society occasionally bene
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<p>Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted</p>	<p>Para 1.46</p>	<p>The Society does not rely significantly on revenue from investment returns. The Society's funds are held across 3 bank accounts, providing a modest level of interest, and appropriate access terms.</p>
<p>A description of the principal risks facing the charity</p>	<p>Para 1.46</p>	<p>The cost of staging high-calibre concerts is increasing at least as fast as the cost of living. The Society works hard to sustain or grow its membership level to secure increasing subscription income, whilst keeping rises to the subscription fee modest.</p> <p>Likewise, ticket pricing is kept under constant review to optimize revenue. The Society has started using one new local concert venue with a larger audience capacity, hence potentially increasing ticket revenue.</p> <p>Future plans include an intent to increase fundraising revenue.</p>
<p>Other</p>		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Officers and Ordinary Committee Members are elected by and out of the Society's membership at the AGM and shall normally be Trustees.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

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

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Altrincham Choral Society
Other name the charity uses	

Registered charity number	500729
Charity's principal address	15 Brunswick Road Manchester M20 4QB

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Andrew McWilliam	Chair	Wef Oct 2024 AGM (previously Vice Chair, Bass Voice Rep and Trustee)	
2	Neil Brougham	Vice Chair	Wef Oct 2024 AGM	
3	Imogen Gornall	Secretary		
4	Eleanor Reeves	Minutes Secretary / Voice Rep (Altos)		
5	Stephen Campbell	Treasurer		
6	Julia Williamson	Membership Secretary		
7	Anthony Robinson	Concert Manager		
8	Kath Whyte	Librarian		
9	Melanie Owen	Voice Rep (Sopranos)		
10	Julian Mustoe	Voice Rep (Tenors)		
11	Timothy Lowe	Voice Rep (Basses)	Wef Oct 2024 AGM	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				



**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

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

**Additional information (optional)**

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

**Type of adviser      Name      Address**


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

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**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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**Other optional information**

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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

A. J. McWilliam

Full name(s)

Andrew John McWilliam

Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Date

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY  
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2024-25**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>This year £</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>This year £</b>	<b>Last year</b>
<b>CONCERTS</b>			<b>CONCERTS</b>		
Autumn	3,593.19	5,558.00	Autumn	5,224.82	8,662.08
Xmas	2,355.00	2,698.00	Xmas	2,281.31	2,824.22
Spring	3,193.15	3,957.50	Spring	2,660.55	3,814.64
Summer	3,126.20	7,959.55	Summer	4,921.95	21,754.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,267.54</b>	<b>20,173.05</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15,088.63</b>	<b>37,055.36</b>
<b>OTHER</b>			<b>OTHER</b>		
Come & Sing	2,298.00	1,496.00	Come & Sing	1,849.67	1,880.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,298.00</b>	<b>1,496.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,849.67</b>	<b>1,880.19</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>			<b>REHEARSALS</b>		
Subscriptions (less tickets)	12,880.00	13,600.00	Venue	5,018.00	5,072.00
Gift Aid	3,329.66	2,531.57	Conductor	4,522.00	5,031.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,209.66</b>	<b>16,131.57</b>	Deputy conductor	1,268.00	1,147.00
			Accompanist	4,476.00	4,536.00
			<b>Total</b>	<b>15,284.00</b>	<b>15,786.00</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>		
<b>Donations and sponsors</b>			Music purchase	141.08	320.53
Donations	62.09	463.00	Music library	93.58	96.64
Sponsors	5,000.00	13,000.00	General admin	1,424.21	1,367.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,062.09</b>	<b>13,463.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,658.87</b>	<b>1,784.72</b>
Music sales	86.06	310.50	<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Music library	340.57	747.90	Book	0.00	489.25
Book	32.00	328.00	Miscellaneous	0.00	454.94
Charity fundraising	475.96	158.26	Bequest (Durham Concert)	2,791.00	0.00
Bequest (Durham Concert)	1,376.50	0.00	SR Anniversary 23-24	0.00	1,760.72
SR Anniversary 23-24	0.00	1,390.00	Passed on to charity	689.73	158.26
Admin	16.47	20.19	Other year costs	0.00	0.00
Bank interest	1,095.92	751.38	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,480.73</b>	<b>2,863.17</b>
Misc income	226.29	425.82			
Other year inc	0.00	0.00			
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,649.77</b>	<b>4,132.05</b>			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>39,487.06</b>	<b>55,395.67</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>37,361.90</b>	<b>59,369.44</b>

**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY  
END OF YEAR BALANCE SHEET 2024-25**

At end of:  
**2023/24**

At end of:  
**2024/25**

£		£
	<b>Current Assets at year end</b>	
7,398.08	Barclays Bank Community account	773.13
2,448.13	Barclays Bank Business Premium	9,025.30
43,000.00	United Trust bank	44,018.75
	1,009.96 Prepayments (next year's events already paid for)	1,348.15
53,856.17	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	55,165.33
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
	Prepayments for singing day Oct 2025	598.00
	Refunds to be paid from Durham trip (Bequest)	323.00
-1,737.00	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	-921.00
52,119.17	<b>Net Assets</b>	54,244.33
56,092.94	Net balance at start of year	52,119.17
-3,973.77	Surplus or deficit for this year	2,125.16
52,119.17	Net balance at year end	54,244.33
	<b><u>Location of holdings</u></b>	
20,640.41	Held in Florence Matthews bequest	19,225.91
31,478.76	Held in general fund	35,018.42
52,119.17	Total holdings	54,244.33

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on

and are signed on their behalf by



~~(Hon Treasurer)~~

Chair

13/10/2025

## **ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

### **Notes to the Accounts 2024-5**

#### **1. Sponsors**

£5000 was received from Jean Oglesby. This was applied at her request to Concert costs throughout the 24-25 season

#### **2. Florence Matthews Bequest**

Originally £56,000 was left to the Society in the Will of Florence Matthews. The Will stated that it was given to the Society 'for its general charitable purposes'. The Society has decided to treat this money as a designated fund, to be used for activities, projects, and initiatives outside the routine activities of the Society, but within its charitable purposes.

In 2024-5 £1414.50 was used to subsidise the cost of a lunchtime concert in Durham cathedral on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Choir members paid their own travel and accommodation.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Altrincham Choral Society

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31<sup>st</sup> July 2025

**Charity no  
(if any)**

**500729**

**Set out on pages**

1-2

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 7/ 2025.

**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 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

**Signed:**

**Date:**

30 Jan 2026

**Name:**

Andrew Biggs

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Former Chartered Accountant (now retired)

**Address:**

47 Wearside Drive, Durham DH1 1LE

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 500729

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# Accounts

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**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 1/8/2023  
To 31/7/2024**

**Period start date  
Period end date**

**Charity name: Altrincham Choral Society**

**Charity registration number: 500729**

### **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
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<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>Para 1.17 and 1.19</p>	<p>In pursuing the objectives of the Society as regards the public benefit, the choir aims to impact people's lives in two ways. Firstly Singing Members participate in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational and social activity, providing regular rehearsals and performances in four concerts each year, with the opportunity to develop vocal technique and extend knowledge of choral repertoire supported by the inspiring leadership of respected and professional musicians. The Committee of Trustees is conscious that the choir's activities should be both affordable and open to all who successfully apply to be a Member. Full-time students and under 21s benefit from a reduced membership subscription rate, with reduced subscription arrangements available to any member with financial difficulties. (this can be privately discussed with the Membership Secretary, to be agreed in confidence by the Committee.) Secondly, for audiences, the choir presents exciting, innovative and high-quality performances at varied established local venues, offering a positive and educational cultural experience aiming to extend musical knowledge through diverse repertoire. Pricing of concert tickets is carefully considered to promote attendance by a wide audience. Tickets are competitively but affordably priced with significant concessions for accompanied children and are available through a variety of sources - venue box offices, online, via the choir website or in person via members of the Society.</p> <p>In support of the Society's objectives the choir has regular Open Rehearsals and an annual Singing Day which offer opportunities for enthusiastic members of the public to experience how rehearsals operate and to sing a variety of repertoire. The choir also takes opportunities to sing in community events where possible and to support a local charity each year.</p>
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>	<p>Para 1.18</p>	<p>The Committee (Trustees) have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity.</p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>All 114 members of the Society support the aims of the society by giving their time and efforts to the rehearsals and public performances.</p> <p>Over the course of the year 30 - 40 members of the Society and friends and family volunteer their time to ensure the smooth running of rehearsals and concerts in the following roles;</p> <p>Main Committee.</p> <p>Music Sub Committee team including librarians, contracting of soloists, liaising with local venues.</p> <p>Publicity Team including production of programmes, tickets and posters and management of social media. Also Fire Officers, First Aid Officers, stage management, concert door ticket sales, coach organisers, presentation of flowers to soloists, looking after guests</p>
Other		

**Achievements and Performance**

	SORP reference	

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p>Concerts 2023/24 Season</p> <p>"Hosanna in Excelsis" - 18th November 2023, Royal Northern College of Music. The programme of Mozart's Requiem in D minor K626 and Dan Forrest's Requiem for the Living was accompanied by a wonderful 7 piece Chamber Ensemble together with organist Jeffrey Makinson, Assistant Director of Music at Lincoln Cathedral. The Concert was held in memory of former member Lady Joy Winstanley who sang with the choir for many years, and was attended by members of her family.</p> <p>"Carols with the Choral" - 16th December 2023, Altrincham United Reformed Church A programme of traditional carols, less well known works including "A Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten and old favourites with a capacity audience enjoying the chance to join in.</p> <p>"Opera and Operetta" - 13th April 2024, St Mary's Church, Sale. A performance of popular Gilbert and Sullivan songs from Princess Ida, HMS Pinafore, The Gondoliers, Ruddigore, The Yeomen of the Guard and The Pirates of Penzance. This was followed by a selection of Opera Choruses from works by Donizetti, Rossini, Tchaikovsky, Mozart, Mascagni and Verdi. Special mention must be made of our Accompanist Lydia Bryan's superb performance at the concert itself and also throughout the rehearsals. The concert was generously sponsored by Jean Oglesby CBE.</p> <p>Elgar's "The Dream of Gerontius" - 13th July 2024, Royal Northern College of Music. This was the focus of our season , an ambitious concert in fitting celebration of our Musical Director Steven Roberts 30 highly successful years with the choir. We were joined by members of Sale Choral Society and had the privilege of being accompanied by Jonathan Scott on organ and the 52 strong Manchester Philharmonia. The soloists were Andrew Greenan, Adrienne Murray and Christopher Turner, all of whom were well known to the choir and each were presented with Life Membership of the choir alongside Glen Foley the orchestral 'fixer' for many years for ACS. The concert was supported from the Florence</p>
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		<p>Matthews legacy and generously sponsored by Jean Oglesby CBE.</p> <p>All concerts were well attended and enthusiastically received by audiences with many examples of positive feedback to the Musical Director and Committee members, which were relayed to the choir members.</p> <p><b>Other Events</b> Musical Director Steven Roberts's 30th Anniversary was celebrated on 20th May with a small reception, presenting him with a financial donation from the choir, with the committee request that he spend the majority on a charitable cause of his choice - he subsequently selected well designed and imaginative play equipment for one of the Special Schools with which he is associated.</p> <p>John Greenan published his second book "Altrincham keeps singing:a history of Altrincham Choral Society" which has interesting new facts and pictures to add to the history and events since his first book. The book is available for purchase.</p> <p>Singing Day 12th October, Elgar's The Music Makers, Altrincham United Reform Church A successful day with over 60 participants was led by Steven Roberts with accompanist Lydia Bryan.</p> <p>The Hope Centre, Partington was our chosen local Charity to support this year. Singing member Christine Weekes is very active in supporting the charity and collected food and other donated goods from members of the choir at rehearsals. The Hope Centre collected public donations at ACS concerts and £158 of collections were put through ACS accounts and donated accordingly.</p>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>Achievements against objectives set The planned concert programme was fulfilled and the repertoire successfully performed.</p> <p>The committee continues to look at options for finding ongoing patrons and sponsorship to support the choir's activities.</p> <p>The choir has sustained a membership of over 100 throughout the year but continues to actively seek Tenor and Bass voices to ensure a balanced choir.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Overall, the Society had a small deficit of almost £4,000 on income of £60,000. The expenditure included approximately £6,000 from the Florence Matthews fund, deployed in accordance with the terms of that bequest. The reserves held are approximately equal to a year's operating costs.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held in accordance with the terms of the Society's Reserves Policy. That policy requires a minimum of £20,000 in Reserves. Reserves ensure that all current and future financial commitments can be met from existing funds. In turn, this ensures that in the unlikely event of winding up the charity, the Trustees will bear no financial liability. Liability insurance is maintained to limit some potential financial losses – for example, concert cancellation.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	The Society had Current Unrestricted Assets of £52,119 at 31/08/2024, including £31,479 held in the designated Florence Matthews fund.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The Trustees remain confident that the charity will continue as a going concern.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The two main sources of revenue are membership subscription and ticket sales, In addition the Society occasionally benefits from ad hoc donations or bequests.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The Society does not rely significantly on revenue from investment returns. The Society's funds are held across 3 bank accounts, providing a modest level of interest, and appropriate access terms.

<p>A description of the principal risks facing the charity</p>	<p>Para 1.46</p>	<p>The cost of staging high-calibre concerts is increasing at least as fast as the cost of living. The Society works hard to sustain or grow its membership level to secure increasing subscription income, whilst keeping rises to the subscription fee modest. Likewise, ticket pricing is kept under constant review to optimize revenue. The Society has started using one new local concert venue with a larger audience capacity, hence potentially increasing ticket revenue. Future plans include an intent to increase fundraising revenue.</p>
<p>Other</p>		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Officers and Ordinary Committee Members are elected by and out of the Society's membership at the AGM and shall be Trustees.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

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

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Altrincham Choral Society
Other name the charity uses	

Registered charity number	500729
Charity's principal address	15 BRUNSWICK ROAD MANCHESTER M20 4QB

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Malcolm Thomson	Chair		
2	Andrew McWilliam	Vice Chair/ Bass Voice Rep		
3	Stephen Campbell	Treasurer		
4	Imogen Gornall	Secretary		
5	Eleanor Reeves	Minutes Secretary/ Alto Voice Rep		
6	Julia Williamson	Membership Secretary		
7	Anthony Robinson	Concert manager		
8	Kath Whyte	Librarian		
9	Francis Julian Mustoe	Tenor Voice Rep		
10	Melanie Owen	Soprano Voice Rep		
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				



## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

--	--

Full name(s)

--	--

Position (eg  
Secretary, Chair, etc)

--	--

Date

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**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2023/24**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
	£	£		£	£
<b>CONCERTS</b>			<b>CONCERTS</b>		
Autumn	5,558.00	2,638.50	Autumn	13,662.08	3,679.90
Xmas	2,698.00	1,768.00	Xmas	2,824.22	1,960.03
Spring	3,957.50	3,054.07	Spring	3,814.64	3,502.74
Summer	7,959.55	6,700.00	Summer	21,754.42	8,023.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,173.05</b>	<b>14,160.57</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>42,055.36</b>	<b>17,165.98</b>
<b>OTHER</b>			<b>OTHER</b>		
Come & Sing	1,496.00	2,180.00	Come & Sing	1,880.19	1,750.28
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,496.00</b>	<b>2,180.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,880.19</b>	<b>1,750.28</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>			<b>REHEARSALS</b>		
Subscriptions (less tickets)	13,600.00	12,682.50	Venue	5,072.00	2,808.00
Gift Aid	2,531.57	3,878.56	Conductor	5,031.00	3,689.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,131.57</b>	<b>16,561.06</b>	Deputy conductor	1,147.00	1,279.00
			Accompanist	4,536.00	3,900.00
<b>DONATIONS AND SPONSORS</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>15,786.00</b>	<b>11,676.00</b>
Donations	5,463.00	196.00			
Sponsors	13,000.00	7,000.00	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,463.00</b>	<b>7,196.00</b>	Music purchase	320.53	1,529.50
			Music library	96.64	1,449.72
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			General admin	1,367.55	959.55
Music sales	310.50	90.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,784.72</b>	<b>3,938.77</b>
Music library	747.90	635.75			
Book	328.00	327.00	<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Charity fundraising	158.26	0.00	Book	489.25	295
Anniversary	1,390.00	0.00	Miscellaneous	454.94	1017.9
Admin	20.19	0.00	Anniversary	1,760.72	0.00
Bank interest	751.38	183.97	Passed on to charity	158.26	0.00
Music income	425.82	834.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,863.17</b>	<b>1312.9</b>
	<b>4,132.05</b>	<b>2,070.72</b>			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>60,395.67</b>	<b>42,168.35</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>64,369.44</b>	<b>35,843.93</b>
<b>Surplus oe deficit</b>	<b>-3,973.77</b>	<b>6,324.42</b>			

**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY  
END OF YEAR BALANCE SHEET 2023-24**

done

At end of:

2022/23

£

At end of:

2023/24

£

**Current Assets at year end**

1,668.94	Barclays Bank Community account	7,398.08
53,696.75	Barclays Bank Business Premium United Trust bank	2,448.13 43,000.00
793.25	Prepayments (next year's events etc, already paid for)	1,009.96

56,158.94	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	53,856.17
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**Current Liabilities (next year's income already received)**

66.00	eg Prepayments for singing day, Subs received early	-1,737.00
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66.00	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	-1,737.00
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56,092.94	<b>Net Assets</b>	52,119.17
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49,769	Net balance at start of year	56,092.94
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6,324	Surplus or deficit for this year	-3,973.77
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56,092.94	Net balance at year end	52,119.17
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**Location of holdings**

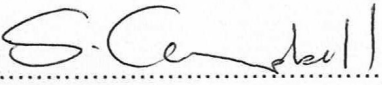
26,426.45	Held in Florence Matthews bequest	20,640.41
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29,666.49	Held in general fund	31,478.76
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56,092.94	<b>Total holdings</b>	52,119.17
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These accounts were approved by the Trustees on

and are signed on their behalf by

  
.....  
(Hon Treasurer)

## **ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

### **Notes to the Accounts 2023-4**

#### **1. Sponsors**

£5000 received from the estate of Joyce Winstanley. Applied as agreed with her executors to the cost of the Autumn 2023 Concert.

£8000 received from Jean Oglesby. This was applied at her request to the Summer 2024 Concert.

#### **2. Florence Matthews Bequest**

Originally £56,000 was left to the Society in the Will of Florence Matthews. The Will stated that it was given to the Society 'for its general charitable purposes'. The Society has decided to treat this money as a designated fund, to be used for activities, projects, and initiatives outside the routine activities of the Society, but within its charitable purposes.

In 2023-4 a total of £5786 was spent against this fund, leaving a balance of £20640 at year end. Items of expenditure were as follows:

£5625 Summer Concert 2024. Special performance of Elgar 'Dream of Gerontius' at Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), Manchester, to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Steven Roberts as Musical Director of the Society.

£161 To cover part of the production cost of a revised history of the Society.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Altrincham Choral Society

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 July 2024	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	500729
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**Set out on pages**

1 - 3  
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 July 2024.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

**Signed:**  **Date:** 14 October 2024

**Name:** R A Brougham

**Address:** 86 Whitefield Road  
Stockton Heath  
Warrington, WA4 6NB



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Altrincham Choral Society

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 July 2024	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	500729
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**Signed:**  **Date:** 14 October 2024

**Name:** R A Brougham

**Address:** 86 Whitefield Road  
Stockton Heath  
Warrington, WA4 6NB

**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 500729

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# Accounts

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## **Altrincham Choral Society Chair's Report on the 2022-2023 season**

### **Concerts**

Our concert season kicked off with most of the shackles of Covid 19 hopefully behind us and with our first concert "Austrian Legends" with Jonathan Scott as organist on 12<sup>th</sup> November at St. Peter's Church. The programme included Hayden's Te Deum, Mozart's Missa Brevis in F Major K192 and a particularly challenging work by Bruckner, his Mass in F Minor. Some choir members were despairing of ever getting things right but two extra rehearsals on Wednesday evenings helped save the day and the concert ended up as a great success with many complementary comments from the audience.

For our annual "Carols with the Choir" on 17<sup>th</sup> December at Altrincham United Reformed Church we were pleased to welcome our guests Honley Male Voice Choir who performed 4 of their own pieces and joined with us to sing 5 other pieces including Sparklejollytwinklejingly and Schneewalzer. We enjoyed a full audience who also joined in singing a few favourite carols.

2023 got off to a great start with "Living Music" so named because unusually all 3 composers are still alive. and comprised of Rutter's Requiem, Jake Runestad's Let my Love be Heard and Will Todd's Jazz Missa Brevis. The latter was accompanied by a jazz trio of Cello, Bass guitar and Drums which allowed the choir to display their wild side. Lydia Bryan provided the piano accompaniment.

The Summer concert "Peace" performed at the RNCM on 8th July was a spectacular occasion. The first half included music and song by combinations of choir, piano, organ and the Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band, one of the world's top 10 brass bands. The pieces performed Walking with Heroes by Paul Lovatt-Cooper (Band), Hymn to the Fallen by John Williams (Choir and Band), Wherever You Are by Paul Mealar (Choir and Organ), Oceans Away by Elton John (Choir and Piano), Nimrod by Elgar (Band and Organ), For the Fallen by Karl Jenkins (Choir and Organ), Schindler's List by John Williams (Band) and Jupiter-The Bringer of Jollity by Holst (Band and Organ). Jonathan Scott provided piano and organ accompaniment.

The second half saw Band, Organ and Choir combine for a powerful performance, especially in the light of ongoing war in Ukraine, of Karl Jenkins The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace which included a sequence of images as the performance proceeded. It was a wonderful, moving and poignant Concert with the audience giving us a standing ovation.

The Singing Day based upon Faure's Requiem was held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at Altrincham United Reformed Church. It was quite well attended but would have benefited from having more participants from the choir. Many thanks to those helpers on the day and for the excellent cakes that were brought along.

ACS membership now stands at 113 and this includes the welcoming of 8 new members whose membership formalities are progressing.

Fees for the forthcoming season set as follows;  
Subscription £120

Our chosen charity for this coming year is the Hidden Treasure Trust which is based in Partington. It provides help and support for families who live locally.

**ALTRINCHAM CHORAL SOCIETY  
END OF YEAR BALANCE SHEET 2022-23**

<i>At end of:</i> <b>2021/22</b> £		<i>At end of:</i> <b>2022/23</b> £
	<b>Current Assets at year end</b>	
8,532.38	Barclays Bank Community account	1,668.94
41,012.78	Barclays Bank Business Premium	53,696.75
1,307.36	Items for next year already paid for	793.25
<b>50,852.52</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>56,158.94</b>
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
	October singing day fees received in advance	66.00
<b>1,084.00</b>	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>66.00</b>
<b>49,768.52</b>	<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>56,092.94</b>
	Net balance at start of year	49,768.52
	Surplus or deficit for this year	6,324.42
<b>49,768.52</b>	<b>Net balance at year end</b>	<b>56,092.94</b>
	<b><u>Location of holdings</u></b>	
26,426.45	<i>Held in Florence Matthews bequest</i>	26,426.45
23,476.07	<i>Held in general fund</i>	29,666.49
<b>49,902.52</b>	<b>Total holdings</b>	<b>56,092.94</b>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on

and are signed on their behalf by .....  
(Hon Treasurer)



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
Altrincham Choral Society

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 July 2023

**Charity no  
(if any)**

500729

**Set out on pages**

1 - 3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 July 2023.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

**Signed:** *RA Brougham*

**Date:** 10 October 2023

**Name:** R A Brougham

**Address:** 86 Whitefield Road

Stockton Heath

Warrington, WA4 6NB