

# WETHERBY CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 510264

## Details

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Other names	THE WETHERBY AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1980-07-31
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	27 Morritt Avenue Leeds LS15 7EP
Phone	07886202901
Email	<a href="mailto:treasurer@wetherbychoral.org.uk">treasurer@wetherbychoral.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.wetherbychoral.org.uk">www.wetherbychoral.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO EDUCATE ITS MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC IN THE ART OF CHORAL MUSIC THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF A SERIES OF CONCERTS THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

**Activities:** Preparation of choral music for performance and to educate both the members and public in the art of choral music through the presentation of a series of concerts throughout the season.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Leeds City
- North Yorkshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£45,828	£41,544	-	-
2024-07-31	£48,755	£45,925	-	-
2023-07-31	£46,695	£35,205	-	-
2022-04-30	£25,149	£28,860	-	-
2021-04-30	£4,157	£9,717	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Catherine Cuthbertson		2025-10-13
Christine Outram		2022-01-28
Christopher Stephen Gibbs		2022-12-15
Estelle Stanley		2025-10-13
Kate Auld		2023-04-21
Malcolm Smith		2021-06-06
Sarah Lane		2023-10-23

**WETHERBY CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 510264

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# Accounts

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# Wetherby Choral Society AGM 13 October 2025

## Chairman's Report

As I come to the end of my term as Chairman of Wetherby Choral Society, I've been reflecting on what a remarkable period this has been – and what a privilege it has been to help steer this wonderful choir.

In June 2022, I was reporting on our journey through Covid, and our anxiety for the future. How to begin rehearsals as safely as possible? How to manage concerts when an outbreak could result in last minute cancellations? And how would our finances cope with fixed costs and unknown subscription numbers and ticket sales? But our resilience shone through and we managed to perform every concert to the delight of our audiences.

In October 2023, the Committee undertook a comprehensive update of paperwork, chiefly the Constitution and also the Members Handbook, largely due to Malcolm's dogged determination. In addition, four years of claims for Gift Aid were submitted to HMRC by Kathy, a huge undertaking which considerably helped our finances.

In October 24, I reported on our successful collaboration with the RNLI in the joint celebration of the Choir's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary together with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RNLI and their 'Sing to save lives' campaign. A fabulous souvenir programme was created as a memory of this remarkable concert. Following on from this success, I was honoured to be asked by the music charity *Making Music* to write a blog for their website, plus an article for their magazine, in celebration of our work with another charity – a great way to promote our choir to a wider audience!

And finally, this last season has been nothing short of spectacular. We've travelled through some of the greatest works in the choral repertoire: Handel's Saul, Handel's Messiah, Dvořák's Stabat Mater, and, to bring it all to a mighty close, Mendelssohn's Elijah.

Our annual Messiah was, as ever, a highlight – a true Wetherby tradition. Once again it sold out, and once again the local community told us that, for them, Christmas doesn't really begin until they've sat in our audience and heard those opening notes. Long may that tradition continue!

But the crowning moment of the year - indeed of many years - was Elijah at Ripon Cathedral, performed jointly with our friends at Ripon Choral Society. 'Epic' was how many of our members described it, and I couldn't agree more. 250 singers, a large orchestra, and that stunning cathedral setting – it was music-making on the grandest scale. It was also an emotional evening, marking the retirement of our Music Director, John Dunford, after an extraordinary 32 years of leadership. It's hard to overstate what John has meant to this choir. He has shaped our sound, challenged us, inspired us, and guided us through countless masterpieces. We gave him the send-off he deserved. Not only that unforgettable performance of Elijah, but also a wonderful farewell dinner at Wetherby Golf Club where he was presented with thoughtful gifts, including a delightful oil painting capturing him mid-rehearsal – a fitting tribute to a man who has devoted so much to live music-making in Wetherby.

One of the things that always strikes me is how Wetherby Choral Society consistently punches above its weight. Many choirs of our size content themselves with more modest programmes. Not us. We field orchestras and soloists, tackle the big works, and put on four concerts a year. That's no small feat, and it's something for which we should all be hugely proud. Your efforts in fundraising have always been magnificent, and not only has this

## **Wetherby Choral Society AGM 13 October 2025**

### **Chairman's Report**

provided much needed extra cash to fund our concerts, but it has brought us together as friends.

Sadly, our member Julia Cockram, and a former member Arthur Faulkner, passed away this year. They are much missed and their families are in our thoughts.

So, in my final year as Chairman I want to give a heartfelt thank you to each member of our Committee. It's been a joy working with you – though I suspect you've kept me on the straight and narrow more times than I realise. In particular, I'd like to acknowledge how marvellous Malcolm has been in keeping everyone informed and on task, and also to praise Kathy Hart for her meticulous handling of our accounts. I'm also grateful to Chris for coordinating fundraising, Christopher for handling membership, Kate for her multi-talents coordinating with St James Church, organising refreshments, and writing newsletters for the Friends group, Kathy Brownridge for organising soloist hospitality, Sarah for promoting publicity, and Liane for being that oh so useful extra pair of hands. And my thanks of course, to every single member of the choir. Your commitment, energy, and enthusiasm are what make this Society so special. Without these we could not have jointly undertaken successfully such a rigorous and inclusive process in appointing our new Music Director, Charlie Murray. I feel confident that Charlie will do an outstanding job for us. His coaching skills, his competence and temperament have already impressed choir members during rehearsals. Also, our delightful accompanist, William, has captivated members over the last year, and his shared friendship with Charlie means we are blessed with a wonderful musical team!

Naturally, there are many people outside of the Committee who I would like to thank on your behalf. Until I was on the Committee I had absolutely no idea how many things needed doing to run a choir well! Many thanks to Gill Midgley (ticket sales), Tony Gooch (rehearsal seating and staging), Pam Leaf (archivist), Enid Doyle (banners/posters around Wetherby), Julie & David Spoons (organising music hire), Hilary Marsden (concert programmes), Fiona Hogan (publicising concerts in parish/church magazines), Charlotte Meek (Soloists wine) and Lois Page (Facebook), and Chris Bishop (whose many roles include assisting with our website, tickets, flyers and programme printing and the thankless task of being our concert manager!). Thanks too to our helpers with fundraising - Greg Warren (100 Club), Pam Leaf (making CDs for use as rehearsal aids), Bren Walter (raffle) and special events coordinators including Hilary & Stephen Clarke, Graham Reed, Jackie Faulkner, Anne Sweet, Jean Basson and Lynne Shaw. And finally I'd like to give special thanks to my husband Wayne who is my rock and my sounding board. Frequently ousted from his own home for committee meetings, always willing to do jobs for the choir, and always supportive of all our concerts. You are a star!

It has been an honour and, genuinely, a real pleasure to serve as your Chairman. I'm stepping down with a full heart, grateful for the music we've made together and excited to see where the next chapter takes us. I'm sure Chris Outram will do a fantastic job, and that you will all give her your full support.

Wetherby Choral Society is in safe hands, and with the same spirit, ambition, and sense of fun, I know the future will be every bit as bright – and every bit as joyful – as the past.

Thank you,

Heather

**Wetherby Choral Society Approved Accounts - 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>
	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	20,115	19,575	15,311	14,468
Tickets and sales	10,549	15,282	11,927	6,637
Donations	120	1065	917	183
Gift Aid	4,160	3,803	9,210	0
Fund Raising	7,149	6,145	7,069	2,606
Sundries	0	0	0	255
Gratuity collection	780	0	1261	
Social	2,205	1885	0	0
Sponsors	750	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>45,828</b>	<b>48,755</b>	<b>46,695</b>	<b>25,149</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>				
Concerts	22,090	27,974	19,303	16,942
Accompanist fees	3,960	3,960	4,100	3,300
Musical Director fees	7,155	6,710	6,370	5,725
Room and Music hire	3,118	2,744	2,419	1,623
Sundries	0	0	38	0
Gratuity payment	780	0	1261	
Social	2,334	1885	0	0
Insurance	700	675	634	622
Administration	1,125	962	519	598
Performing Rights	0	386	372	0
Fund Raising Costs	282	629	189	50
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>41,544</b>	<b>45,925</b>	<b>35,205</b>	<b>28,860</b>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus</b>	<b>4,284</b>	<b>2,830</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>-3,711</b>
Deduct prepaid concert costs		285		
<b>Cashflow 23/24</b>		<b>2,545</b>		

<b>Statement of Assets as at 31st July</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		£	£	£
Cash in Hand	0	0	0	0
Nat West Bank Account	15,198	15,913	13,369	11,097
Less unrepresented cheques/ uncleared income	0	0	0	-1,218
<b>Nat West Account Total</b>	<b>15,198</b>	<b>15,913</b>	<b>13,369</b>	<b>9,879</b>
COIF Deposit	19,382	18,497	10,137	10,130
Interest	1,098	885	360	7
Transfer from Nat West Acc	5,000		8000	
<b>CCLA Funds Total</b>	<b>25,480</b>	<b>19,382</b>	<b>18,497</b>	<b>10,137</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>40,678</b>	<b>35,295</b>	<b>31,866</b>	<b>20,016</b>

**Notes relating to current year**

1. Four concerts were held during the period, one a joint concert at Ripon Cathedral
2. The Society had no liabilities as at 31/07/25
3. The Charity's policy is to have 6 months cash reserves

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wetherby Choral Society**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Wetherby Choral Society (the Society) for the 12 months ended 31 July 2025.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts 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.

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: *N. D. Canwell*

Name: Neil Canwell

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies: ACMA

Address: 15 Gledhow Wood Avenue, Leeds. LS8 1NY

Date: 24 September 2025

**WETHERBY CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 510264

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# Accounts

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## **Wetherby Choral Society AGM Chairman's Report**

**21 October 2024 :**

During our 23-24 season we celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with four great concerts, and many delightful fundraising and social events. I'm sure John will give an in depth review of our concerts, but I'd like to chip in to say that our performance of Vaughan Williams' *Sea Symphony* was monumental! Huge thanks to John for his herculean effort in directing the choir, orchestra and soloists to achieve a magnificent and memorable performance of this tricky but wonderful piece of music. Our collaborative working with the RNLI in celebration of their 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary also added a poignancy to the concert as we reflected on the sea in all its power and mystery. Following on from this success, we were honoured to be asked by the music charity *Making Music* to write a blog for their website, plus an article for their magazine, in celebration of our work with another charity – a great way to promote our choir to a wider audience!

Our fundraising and social events have helped us to bond as a choir, and make our choir community not only a fun place to be, but also to support those having tough times. Naturally, we want to continue with this over the 24-25 season. We have plans to continue the success of the Autumn Produce event with a mini festive social gathering of wine and mince pies at the end of our rehearsal on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, together with the BIG Christmas raffle. Anne Sweet and her team's famous Quiz will be as popular as ever in the Spring term, and a repeat of the enjoyable sponsored walk will be led by Graham Reed and his team in the Summer term. A very special evening farewell dinner has also been arranged for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at Wetherby Golf Club, and we hope as many of you as possible will come to give John a great send-off!

So, what has the Committee been up to during the last season? Well, we have continued to support John through the many and significant facets of being our Music Director – which involves planning rehearsals, organising publicity, preparing for and delivering concerts of high quality. We continue to have a good relationship with St James' Church, and in November I was delighted to represent the choir at the inauguration of the new vicar, the Reverend Canon Matthew Peat. We have also been busy with the appointment of several accompanists over 2024, and share your delight that we now benefit from the musical prowess of William Campbell. Our efforts to modernise have continued, and a small dedicated team have been beavering away all year to develop a new website. I do hope you have managed to look at this because it's terrific! The website has been written for the benefit of three audiences. It provides information for current members, offers potential new members a background to who we are and what we do, and provides easy access to those wishing to purchase tickets online. Part of the process of modernising the website has involved the appointment of a graphic designer to create posters, flyers and concert programme covers, I hope you agree that her designs are stunning! I'd like to thank Chris Bishop in recognition of his kindness and expertise in running our website through the past, present and future. On your behalf I'd also like to applaud everyone on the Committee for making a willing and happy team which has achieved so much.

Every single one of us is reliant on someone else doing their bit to help run the choir. There are so many of you involved, so please can I extend a huge thanks

to each one of you. You really are wonderful, and very much appreciated! We now need new members on the Committee to keep the show going, and would love to welcome you into the team. In particular, both myself and Kathy Hart are retiring from the Committee in October 2025. Both of these are key roles, and as such it makes sense for interested new members to have a year to 'shadow' the activities carried out. Please step up - we need you!

Looking forward to our 24-25 season brings mixed feelings. I am sure that we are all very much looking forward to our concerts, culminating in what should be a memorable joint concert with Ripon Choral Society in Ripon Cathedral. However, I daresay that, like me, you are gutted by the news of John's impending retirement in Summer 2025. He has been our Music Director for an extraordinary period of 32 years! Throughout this time, we have enjoyed his fantastic vocal tuition and the spine-tingling thrill of being part of numerous amazing concerts with quality orchestras and soloists competently led by John. We should all take immense pride that a small town like Wetherby is able to enjoy listening to four concerts a year with orchestra and soloists, and this is down to John's remarkable abilities and willingness to do a lot of background work for us in organising orchestral players, adapting orchestral scores together with seeking out and promoting soloists in their career. His leadership of our choir community represents an incredible legacy for which we will always be grateful, AND the high standards he has set means that whoever takes on the role of our new Music Director is going to need 'big boots'! To this end, the Committee are focusing on the process of finding a successor worthy of the prestigious choir which John has moulded. Please also be reassured that we will do our absolute best to involve you in the process, and will be seeking your feedback throughout. I've worked on the committee for about a decade now, and it's opened my eyes to the myriad other roles which John has willingly carried out on our behalf. So the Committee are extremely grateful that John has offered to support and advise us through the process of finding a suitable successor.

We are moving into a new era with the appointment of a new Music Director, so your continuing involvement and support is vital for us to maintain and develop John's legacy with Wetherby Choral Society. Onwards and upwards!

Heather Marsh

**Wetherby Choral Society Approved Accounts - 1st May August 2023 to 31st July2024**

<b>Income</b>	2023/24	2022/2023	2021/2022	2020/2021
		£	£	£
Subscriptions	19,575	15,311	14,468	0
Tickets and sales	15,282	11,927	6,637	0
Donations	1065	917	183	2,907
Gift Aid	3,803	9,210	0	0
Fund Raising	6,145	7,069	2,606	0
Sundries	0	0	255	0
Gratuity collection	0	1261		
Social	1885	0	0	0
Sponsors	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,250
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>48,755</b>	<b>46,695</b>	<b>25,149</b>	<b>4,157</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Concerts	27,974	19,303	16,942	0
Accompanist fees	3,960	4,100	3,300	2,925
Musical Director fees	6,710	6,370	5,725	5,825
Room and Music hire	2,744	2,419	1,623	0
Sundries	0	38	0	0
Gratuity payment	0	1261		
Social	1885	0	0	0
Insurance	675	634	622	523
Administration	962	519	598	444
Performing Rights	386	372	0	0
Fund Raising Costs	629	189	50	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>45,925</b>	<b>35,205</b>	<b>28,860</b>	<b>9,717</b>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus</b>	<b>2,830</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>-3,711</b>	<b>-5,560</b>
Deduct prepaid concert costs	285			
<b>Cashflow 23/24</b>	<b>2,545</b>			
<b>Statement of Assets as at 31st July</b>				
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	£	£	£	£
Cash in Hand	0	0	0	0
Nat West Bank Account	15,913	13,369	11,097	13,590
Less unrepresented cheques/ uncleared income	0	0	-1,218	0
<b>Nat West Account Total</b>	<b>15,913</b>	<b>13,369</b>	<b>9,879</b>	
COIF Deposit	18,497	10,137	10,130	10,117
Interest	885	360	7	13
Transfer from Nat West Acc		8000		
<b>CCLA Funds Total</b>	<b>19,382</b>	<b>18,497</b>	<b>10,137</b>	<b>10,130</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>35,295</b>	<b>31,866</b>	<b>20,016</b>	<b>23,719</b>

**Notes relating to current year**

1. The current year is 3 terms in comparison with the 4 term/15month previous year
2. Four concerts were held during the period
3. The Society had no liabilities as at 31/07/24
4. The Charity's policy is to have 6 months cash reserves
5. Subscription income includes £180 fees paid in advance for 2024/2025 year



kathy hart <kathy.hart5@gmail.com>

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**Fwd: Examiners Report**

1 message

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**kathy hart** <kathy.hart5@gmail.com>  
To: Malcolm Smith <mdsmith55@gmail.com>

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jon Hart <jhart.jon@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 22 October 2024 at 17:39:35 BST  
**To:** Kathy Hart <kathy.hart5@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Examiners Report

See attached

## **Independent examiner's report to t**

I report to the trustees on my exami  
(the Society) for the 12 months end

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Societ  
accounts in accordance with the req  
I report in respect of my examinatio  
145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying o  
Directions given by the Charity Com

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I  
attention in connection with the exa  
respect:

1. accounting records were not kept  
Act; or
  2. the accounts do not accord with t
- I have no concerns and have come a  
examination to which attention sho

understanding of the accounts to be

Signed: *W. D. Canwell*

Name: Neil Canwell

Relevant professional qualification of

Address: 15 Gledhow Wood Avenue,

Date: 22 August 2024



**WETHERBY CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 510264

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# Accounts

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## **Wetherby Choral Society AGM 23 June 2023: Chairman's Report**

Looking back at my report last year, I can sense the Committee's anxiety at that time about the future for the choir post-COVID. What would be the impact on the health of our members? Would people return to singing? How would our finances cope with fewer subscriptions and audience numbers? As it turned out, we are a resilient bunch, and I'm thrilled to report how well we are doing!

During our 22-23 season, our membership has continued to increase with both former members returning and new members joining each term. The mood of the choir is a happy one, with everyone doing their best to be inclusive and make our choir community a friendly and fun place to be. Our thanks to you all for supporting a wide range of fundraising activities. Our thanks to you also for a huge effort to sell concert tickets - hasn't it been brilliant to sing to sell-out audiences for pretty much the whole of last year! And thanks to Kathy, our Treasurer, for spending many days getting to grips with Gift Aid, and submitting four years of claims to HMRC. All of these factors mean that the choir is now in a far healthier position, both mentally and financially.

Over the last year, the Committee has worked hard to update our paperwork, and I'm so grateful. Thanks to a herculean effort by Malcolm, our secretary, we have rewritten our Constitution and Members Handbook, and propose this for your approval at this AGM. We've also been modernising our approach to publicity with attractive posters (thank you Chris Bishop) and by widening our digital network for promoting concerts. We've reviewed local parish and church magazine contacts adding digital posters where Facebook pages are available, expanded our 'Friends of WCS' email group, and opened an Instagram account, which is also linked to our own Facebook page. Purchasing a card reader has also brought us into the modern age, and aided ticket sales, and we are currently in the throes of upgrading our website with the support of the music charity 'Making Music'.

So, now we are at the beginning of our 50<sup>th</sup> season, and it's all very exciting! To get us in the mood, we are planning to hold a mini festive social gathering with wine, beer and mince pies at the end of our rehearsal on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 9-9.30pm, together with the BIG Christmas raffle! You'll hear more about our fabulous Spring concert from John, but it's going to be spectacular! We've plans to involve the RNLI in this sea-themed concert with a pop-up stall, and we plan to make a big SPLASH (sorry!) with a special 50<sup>th</sup> souvenir programme. For those of you who have photographs or funny stories from the past 50 years, we would love to hear from you so we can include these in the souvenir programme. Anne and her team's famous Quiz will be as popular as ever in the Spring term, and a repeat of John's inspirational organ recital together with a York river cruise are all being planned as part of our 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations.

Every single one of us is reliant on someone else doing their bit to help run the choir. There are so many of you involved, so please can I extend a huge thanks to each one of you. I'd also like to appeal to all members (well, not literally!) to ask you to consider 'what can I do for my choir'? Some of you will have skills which would be oh so helpful on the Committee, so please don't hold back as we'd love to welcome you on board. Fundamentally, the role of the Committee is to balance the books and promote activities which contribute towards concert expenses. Traditionally, we have made a loss of approximately £3,000 on every concert, but with your help in selling more tickets over the last year this loss has reduced significantly - hooray! Many of you have also kindly donated extra money above the subscription fee, and we thank you for this generosity. This is also the time to say if any of you would like to sponsor an orchestra member, or

## **Wetherby Choral Society AGM 23 June 2023: Chairman's Report**

are considering leaving a legacy in your will, please feel free to approach the Committee.

And finally, I must thank John for working his magic with us every week. You brighten our lives with your love of music and your talents as a teacher, and we are blessed by your energy, enthusiasm, and yes, even your sarcasm! And for willingly undertaking all the myriad of hidden but hugely appreciated back-room jobs we are forever grateful. A million thanks to you!

Heather Marsh

**Wetherby Choral Approved Society Accounts - 1st May 2022 to 31 July 2023**

<b>Income</b>	2022/2023	2021/2022	2020/2021	2019/2020
	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	15,311	14,468	0	14,465
Tickets and sales	11,927	6,637	0	9,762
Donations	917	183	2,907	1,622
Gift Aid	9,210	0	0	5,334
Fund Raising	7,069	2,606	0	3,797
Sundries	0	255	0	92
Gratuity collection	1261			
Dinner	0	0	0	950
Sponsors	1,000	1,000	1,250	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>46,695</b>	<b>25,149</b>	<b>4,157</b>	<b>36,022</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Concerts	19,303	16,942	0	15,553
Accompanist fees	4,100	3,300	2,925	3,550
Musical Director fees	6,370	5,725	5,825	4,831
Room and Music hire	2,419	1,623	0	1,190
Sundries	38	0	0	18
Gratuity payment	1261			
Dinner	0	0	0	950
Insurance	634	622	523	613
Administration	519	598	444	345
Performing Rights	372	0	0	426
Fund Raising Costs	189	50	0	165
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>35,205</b>	<b>28,860</b>	<b>9,717</b>	<b>27,641</b>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus</b>	<b>11,490</b>	<b>-3,711</b>	<b>-5,560</b>	<b>8,381</b>
<b>Statement of Assets as at 30th April</b>				
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	£	£	£	£
Cash in Hand	0	0	0	208
Nat West Bank Account	13,369	11,097	13,590	19,426
Nat West Bank Account Total	13,369	11,097	13,590	19,634
Less unrepresented cheques/ uncleared income	0	-1,218	0	-48
<b>Nat West Account Total</b>	<b>13,369</b>	<b>9,879</b>	<b>13,590</b>	<b>19,586</b>
COIF Deposit	10,137	10,130	10,117	10,056
Interest	360	7	13	61
Transfer from Nat West Acc	8000			
<b>CCLA Funds Total</b>	<b>18,497</b>	<b>10,137</b>	<b>10,130</b>	<b>10,117</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>31,866</b>	<b>20,016</b>	<b>23,719</b>	<b>29,703</b>

**Notes relating to current year**

1. 15 month year due to change of financial year
2. Four concerts were held during the period
3. £8000 transferred from current account to deposit account
4. The Society had no liabilities as at 31/07/23
5. The Charity's policy is to have 6 months cash reserves

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wetherby Choral Society**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Wetherby Choral Society (the Society) for the 15 months ended 31 July 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts 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.

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: 

Name: Neil Canwell

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies: ACMA

Address: 15 Gledhow Wood Avenue, Leeds. LS8 1NY

Date: 18 August 2023

**WETHERBY CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 510264

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# Accounts

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## Wetherby Choral Society AGM 13 June 2022

### Chair's Report

My Report starts and ends with Covid - what a journey we have all been on! When face to face rehearsals began in September, we had mixed emotions – eager to be back doing live singing, but concerned as to how our voices would sound after such a long period of isolation and zoom rehearsals. Driven on by John's belief in our abilities and determination to perform live music we not only managed to put on a concert within three months, but it was received with enormous enthusiasm by the audience.

We even managed to do a concert in March at a time when Covid case numbers in the UK were at their highest in Yorkshire. John beavered away to find replacement orchestra members when they were dropping like flies, and the Committee were worried when Harrogate had to cancel their concert due to a whole section of choral singers being wiped out by contracting Covid. But we did it, and an audience turned up and again it was a rip-roaring success!

More recently, as restrictions have lifted, our rehearsals have moved towards normal times. Many members have spoken to me about how much more they are enjoying their singing because we are now sitting closer and singing together as a choir rather than in individual isolation. We have also returned to having an interval during rehearsals with a raffle and refreshments, which has not only helped raise funds, but also allowed us to interact should we so choose, and this has been warmly welcomed too.

The Committee has done its best to encourage members to return to face-to-face rehearsals as safely as is feasible, and also to involve those not yet ready to return by regular communications. Our fully paid membership currently numbers 114, which includes most wonderfully 24 new members! Additionally, some of our members who have not yet returned have already indicated that they would like to return in September. This is a far healthier position than we could have dreamed of at the start of this season!

Sadly, some of our members have passed away this year including Marion Davies and David Stott. They are much missed and their families are in our thoughts.

Recently, the sad news about Marjorie's ill health leading to her retiring from being our much-loved Accompanist has been a huge blow to us all. After 37 years of fabulous piano playing for Wetherby Choral Society, she is admired by everyone for her extraordinary talent. She will be a hard act to follow! She is hoping '*by hook or by crook*' (her words!) to put in a brief appearance at the Summer Social on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July where, we hope, we can present to Marjorie a cheque representing your kind donations, in grateful thanks and appreciation for bringing us so much joy over the last four decades.

During this last season we have had fixed costs to pay yet our income has been irregular and the amount of money we could raise through subscriptions was an unknown quantity. Understandably, social distancing and concerns over Covid have impacted upon ticket sales too. So, please can I stress the importance of fundraising for the year ahead! Each and every one of us can help with this – please, please consider any way in which you can help? Our Fundraising Secretary, Christine Outram, will be encouraging you all to come up with suggestions. This needn't be choir related and could easily be something you enjoy doing via sports, hobbies etc. Other ideas in the past have included sponsored walks, book sales, bridge competitions, coffee mornings, plant sales and monthly cake stalls. John has offered to do an organ recital to raise funds. Please think about what you can do? Perhaps you might like to sponsor a member of the orchestra, or a soloist? Every contribution you can offer will make a difference.

Naturally, there are many people who I would like to thank on your behalf. Until I was on the Committee I had absolutely no idea how many things needed doing to run a choir well! Although this is a long list, their contributions are significant and deserve both our praise and our grateful thanks:

**1) *Outgoing Committee members for their efforts on behalf of the Society over many years***

- those who left in January 2022, including Alison Telfer, Graham Reed, Hilary Marsden and John Visser
- those leaving after this AGM, including Enda McCarthy for coordinating refreshments and Charlotte Meeks for organising wedding services, gifts for soloists and Facebook posts. Both of these lovely ladies have been on the Committee for 16 years!

**2) *Those carrying out vital roles outside of the Committee***

Many thanks to our stalwart crew including Gill Midgley (ticket sales and posting flyers all round Wetherby), Tony Gooch (rehearsal seating and staging), Enid Doyle (putting up banners and posters around Wetherby), Julie & David Spoons (organising music hire), Chris Bishop (whose many roles include operating our website, making and printing poster designs and tickets and concert manager), Sally & Greg Warren (100 Club), Pam Leaf and John Dunford (recording concerts on to CDs for sale), Anne Sweet and Lynne Shaw for sterling efforts with fundraising, Jean Basson (continuing to do our Publicity despite resigning from the Committee last June!) and Hilary Marsden (continuing to write our Concert Programmes despite resigning from the Committee in January)...

and thanks to our new volunteers, who include Bren Walter (raffle), Hilary Farnell (refreshments coordinator), Julia Cockram (membership), Fiona Hogan (publicising concerts in magazines, newspapers and local radio)

- 3) ***The Committee*** You have worked like Trojans for us all, stepping up and taking on new tasks and I can't thank you enough!
- 4) ***John Dunford*** You bring us the joy of music, the passion for choral singing, the energy to make us constantly strive to be better. You seized the chance to get back to rehearsing face to face despite the fact that at the front you are in the firing line! You were determined to put on a 'belter' of a concert programme, and pushed us to believe we could live up to your expectations. You liaise with soloists and the orchestra, record our concerts and write our concert reviews. And most recently, you are taking the lead in finding a new Accompanist. We couldn't do it without you...you are marvellous!
- 5) **And finally, to my husband Wayne** who is my rock and my sounding board. Frequently ousted from his own home for meetings, always willing to do jobs for the choir, and who makes the '*well upholstered*' Chair laugh!!

Although Covid hasn't gone away, we are now in a much brighter place and can focus on the new season with great excitement. Onwards and upwards!

Heather Marsh (8 June 2022)

## Wetherby Choral Society Approved Accounts - 1st May 2021 to 30th April 2022

<b>Income</b>	2021/2022	2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019
	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	14,468	0	14,465	13,565
Tickets and sales	6,637	0	9,762	12,396
Donations	183	2,907	1,622	1,532
Gift Aid	0	0	5,334	
Fund Raising	2,606	0	3,797	5,696
Sundries	255	0	92	
Dinner	0	0	950	1,146
Sponsors	1,000	1,250		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>25,149</b>	<b>4,157</b>	<b>36,022</b>	<b>34,335</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Concerts	16,942	0	15,553	21,799
Accompanist fees	3,300	2,925	3,550	3,775
Musical Director fees	5,725	5,825	4,831	4,820
Room and Music hire	1,623	0	1,190	1,065
Sundries	0	0	18	874
Dinner	0	0	950	900
Insurance	622	523	613	613
Administration	598	444	345	86
Performing Rights	0	0	426	0
Fund Raising Costs	50	0	165	965
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>28,860</b>	<b>9,717</b>	<b>27,641</b>	<b>34,896</b>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus</b>	<b>-3,711</b>	<b>-5,560</b>	<b>8,381</b>	<b>-561</b>
<b>Statement of Assets as at 30th April</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	£	£	£	£
Cash in Hand	0	0	208	0
Bank Account	11,097	13,590	19,426	11,015
<b>Current Account Total</b>	<b>11,097</b>	<b>13,590</b>	<b>19,634</b>	<b>11,015</b>
Less unpresented cheques plus uncleared income	9,879		19,586	
COIF Deposit	10,130	10,117	10,056	10,008
Interest	7	13	61	48
<b>CCLA Funds Total</b>	<b>10,137</b>	<b>10,130</b>	<b>10,117</b>	<b>10,056</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>20,016</b>	<b>23,719</b>	<b>29,703</b>	<b>21,071</b>

**Notes relating to current year**

1. No rehearsals, concerts or fund raising events during the summer term due to covid restrictions
2. Three concerts were held during the year
3. The Society had no liabilities as at 30/04/2022
4. The Charity's policy is to have 6 months cash reserves

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wetherby Choral Society**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Wetherby Choral Society (the Society) for the year ended 30 April 2022.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

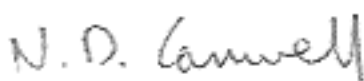
I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **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.

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: 

Name: Neil Carwell

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies: ACMA

Address: 15 Gledhow Wood Avenue, Leeds. LS8 1NY

Date: 8 June 2022