

SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 511146

Details

Other names	THE SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD BACH CHOIR - BACH CHOIR
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1981-03-16
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	44 Bentley Road Sheffield S6 5DZ
Phone	01142665919
Email	treasurer@sheffieldbachchoir.org.uk
Website	www.sheffieldbachchoir.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES AND IN PARTICULAR THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC BY ENCOURAGING THE STUDY AND PERFORMANCE OF THE WORKS OF J. S BACH AND SUCH OTHER COMPOSERS AS ARE DEEMED APPROPRIATE, BY PROMOTING CONCERTS AND RECITALS DEVOTED TO THEIR MUSIC AND BY MAINTAINING A CHOIR FOR THIS PURPOSE; AND BY SUCH OTHER ACTIVITIES AS THE SOCIETY MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT.

Activities: To educate the public in the arts and sciences, particularly the art and science of music, by maintaining a choir and performing up to six concerts per year plus occasional smaller concerts and workshops.

Classification

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

Geography

- Derbyshire
- Sheffield City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£35,092	£37,589	-	-
2024-07-31	£32,336	£39,265	-	-
2023-07-31	£23,632	£27,053	-	-
2022-07-31	£27,111	£29,361	-	-
2021-07-31	£7,285	£7,713	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Chris Walker	Chair	2012-10-22
CATHERINE ANNE ADAMS		2014-10-16
Carolyn Elisabeth Paice		2020-11-16
Catherine Ross		2016-11-14
JAMES ALAN HEATH		2019-11-18
Jennifer Petra Michelle Nortcliffe		2023-10-29
NEIL PATRICK DUMMIGAN		2019-11-18
Sarah Ann Hogan		2025-03-17
StJohn Paul Wright		2022-10-31

SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 511146

Accounts

Sheffield Bach Society

(Registered charity number 511146)

Financial statements

Season 2024/2025

Year to 31 July 2025

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2024/2025

Annual Report

The Society is a charity which is governed by its Constitution; it is not also a company.

The Society's Bankers are the Co-operative Bank.

The Society opened a Co-operative Bank Community Direct Plus Account in September 2019, and a Business Select Instant Access Account in March 2020. The Society also had a COIF Charity Funds account with CCLA Investment Management Ltd, in which a sum has been deposited for use as a Reserve Fund. The new banking arrangements mean that payments can now be made by bank transfer online, with all transactions authorised by two signatories. The Honorary Independent Examiner is Mr. Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT, of 44 Stumperlowe Park Road, Sheffield, S10 3QP.

The Society does not have a Solicitor; if such were required, it would be entitled, as members, to the free use of the services of the National Federation of Music Societies honorary solicitors.

Sheffield Bach Society, by virtue of its Constitution, aims to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of music by encouraging the study and performance of the works of J S Bach and such other composers as are deemed appropriate, by promoting concerts and recitals devoted to their music and by maintaining a choir for this purpose, and by such other activities as the Society may from time to time think fit. At present this means that, generally, four concerts per year are given, in Sheffield Cathedral or a similar venue, plus occasional smaller concerts (probably not the whole choir and perhaps without orchestra); in addition various small fund-raising events are held to help to pay for the professional soloists and professional orchestra that are employed for these concerts.

The Society is run by a Committee, elected by the general membership of the Society, and its members (who are the Trustees) during the 2024-2025 Season were as follows:

Chairman	Mr Christopher Walker
Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Buxton (Sarah Hogan Watson from April)
Treasurer	Miss Catherine Ross
Social Secretary	Mrs Anne Adams
Publicity Manager	Mrs Victoria Highet
Ordinary Members:	Dr Neil Dummigan, Mr Alan Heath, Mrs Jennifer Nortcliffe, Mrs Elisabeth Paice, Mr StJohn Wright

Also attending Committee meetings but not a Trustee: *conductor Mr Philip Collin*

Apart from the Trustees, the Society has other elected officers, namely:

Hon Conductor	Mr Philip Collin
President	Professor George Nicholson
Box Office Manager	Mr Michael Buxton
Concert Manager	Mr John Morton

Statement of committee's responsibilities

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2024/2025

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of its financial activities during the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.
- It has been society's policy to maintain a reserve of £20,000 to cover commitments for one season plus emergency payments and contingencies. We have dipped below this sum by £377 and will propose to revise the policy to aim for a more realistic reserve of £15,000.

The committee is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the society and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The committee has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to it to safeguard the assets of the society and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	General fund	
	2024/2025	2023/2024
	£	£
Income and Expenditure		
Incoming Resources		
Admission receipts including programme sales	13,363	12,826
Subscriptions	7,989	8,730
Patrons donations [New Gold & Silver patrons]	1,520	215
Donations	1,963	1,556
Friends [scheme merged with Patrons]	34	461
Fundraising	2,423	2,572
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	2,904	2,461
Bank interest	422	503
Sponsors	3,000	1,500
Music	569	724
Special Collections - Archer Project	895	743
Written off cheques	10	45
Total Incoming Resources	35,092	32,336

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	General fund	
	2024/2025	2023/2024
Income and Expenditure <i>continued</i>	£	£
Resources Expended		
Professional Expenses	26,944	28,665
Hire & purchase of music	643	367
Hall, church and piano hire	6,913	7,130
Printing and design	1,031	1,086
Administration expenses	349	400
Advertising [expenses not claimed]	-	83
Subscriptions - <i>Making Music (Note)</i>	700	581
Classical Sheffield subscription	114	103
Refunds (sub paid twice)	-	125
Special Collections - Archer Project	895	743
Total Resources Expended	37,589	39,265
Net Movement in Funds - surplus/(deficit)	(2,497)	(6,929)
Fund balance brought forward at 1 August 2024	22,120	29,049
Fund balance carried forward at 31st July 2025	19,623	22,120

(Note) Insurance of music and harpsichord effected through Making Music and included in subscription fees.

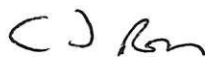
Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2024/2025
Balance Sheet at 31 July 2025

	2024/2025	2023/2024
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank:		
Current Account (Co-op)	582	2,796
Interest accounts	19,111	18,989
Cash in hand	56	243
Hall hire deposits paid for 2025/6 season	1,040	20
Music hired in for 2025/26 season	-	242
Debtors (gift aid claim)	-	80
	20,789	22,370
LESS LIABILITIES		
Sponsorship (bequest) paid in advance for 2025/26 season	1,000	-
Design for 2022/23 season paid in 2023/24	-	240
Un-cleared cheques	166	10
Net Assets	19,623	22,120

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 No account has been made for opening and closing stocks of refreshments.
- 2 Grants and subsidies have been credited to income in the season to which they relate.
- 3 All the society's funds are of an unrestricted nature.
- 4 The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 20 October 2025

C J Ross



Honorary Treasurer

C H Walker



Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the Committee of Sheffield Bach Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st July 2025, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of Committee and examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

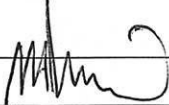
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention 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

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2024/2025

Signed: 

Date: 02 FEBRUARY '26

Name: Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT

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

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Association of Corporate Treasurers

Address:

44 Stumperlowe Park Road

Sheffield

S10 3 QP

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2024/2025

Concerts given during the year:

Saturday 16th November 2024, St John's Church, Ranmoor – Haydn's Nelson Mass and Jonathan Willcocks "A Great and Glorious Victory"

Monday 9th December 2024, Sheffield Cathedral - Handel's Messiah

Saturday 15th March 2025, Sheffield Cathedral – Bach's St Matthew Passion

Saturday 21st June 2025, St Mark's Church, Broomhill – "If You Like That.. You'll Love This"

The net financial result of these concerts has been detailed in the foregoing accounts.

SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 511146

Accounts

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The season of 2023-2024 was the first under our new conductor Phillip Colin. I am delighted to report how successful this was, how happy people are working with him and that he has settled in so well. I am also really pleased that the choir has grown in number and welcome our new members and hope for more!

The season started with Elijah, which at times seemed to lift the roof off St Mark's. A fine performance of Messiah followed, in the Victoria Hall due to unavailability of the Cathedral (but we will be back there in 2024). St. John Passion in St Marks was then a great success and well received by another appreciative audience. The final concert of the season was Brahms's Requiem and Shicksalslied. This was a joint concert with Sheffield Oratorio Chorus and future collaborations to tackle the larger works are being considered.

We had a Come Sing Messiah which showcased young soloists from St Johns Ranmoor, who we will be welcoming, along with Steel City Choristers to join us for St Matthew Passion in 2024-25. We also hosted a workshop before the Elijah concert and it is planned that further workshops will take place as part of our seasons. Social events added enormously to the music making and the choir is one of the friendliest I know. The season was enjoyably ended with a Bring and Share Supper organised by our Social Secretary – Anne Adams.

I feel really optimistic about the strength and the potential for the choir to move forward, continue to grow and form new connections, making us a big player on the Sheffield music scene.

It would be remiss not to thank the committee and all of those who contribute to the running of the choir and those who feel able to offer financial support. Without these efforts the choir could not exist in these more challenging times for the arts. We have so much to offer and look forward to an exciting future.

Chris Walker

Chairman

chairman@sheffieldbachchoir.co.uk

TREASURER'S REPORT

Unfortunately, as in recent years since the Pandemic, we continue to run a deficit over the 2023-2024 season. The good news is that the choir has adequate reserves for now and our income is up substantially since last year, with a growing membership bringing in more subscriptions, increased ticket sales and fund raising, plus some generous sponsorship from the late (and much missed) Laurence Coates. However, many of our costs are also rising, most notably professional fees and hall hire (including heating). The most expensive concert from last season was Mendelssohn's Elijah in November, which was a great occasion but cost £7700 for soloists, orchestra and hall hire so the choir is not in a position to put on such large works very often (other than with substantial sponsorship).

Our main sources of income are choir subscriptions and ticket sales - so attracting new members and selling more tickets are the best ways to help us financially. Membership subscription rates have remained at £150 this season and can be paid in instalments, but we will have to increase the annual rate to £200 next season to help cover costs. We are always very grateful for additional donations and sponsorship from any members who feel able to contribute further.

Please do support our fundraising efforts, including the weekly little raffle and monthly stalls, plus carol singing in December. If anyone has any innovative fundraising ideas please to let the committee know!

We are also hoping that more members will join the monthly draw (£4 per month) and to sign up to online gift schemes such as Give as You Live and Easy Fundraising. Please contact me if you would like more information on any of these.

Kitty Ross

Treasurer

treasurer@sheffieldbachchoir.co.uk

CONDUCTOR'S REPORT

It has been a huge pleasure to be your conductor this year. I have been made to feel very welcome and I have very much appreciated your enthusiasm and your committed singing.

Elijah is one of my favourite oratorios and it was great to be able to start with that. A strong quartet of soloists, an augmented chorus and an orchestra on top form. I was grateful to Elizabeth Roberts for standing in at the last minute for Chrissie Birchall-Samson and to Cath Backhouse for standing in for Ailsa Mainwaring. Tenor Nicolas Watts made a very strong impression and William Burn was an imposing and dramatic presence as Elijah. I received very many favourable comments about the choir's performance – clear text, an exciting sound and a strong sense of drama.

Messiah at Victoria Hall was also very memorable. Jane Burnell, who has sung for the society before, Beth Mackay, the returning Nicolas Watts (standing in for an indisposed Peter Wilman) and Sheffield's own Francis Wells were the quartet and the National Festival Orchestra once again accompanying brilliantly, including our accompanist Ruth Nicholson playing harpsichord and organ. The Victoria Hall was an excellent stand in venue but we look forward to returning to the Cathedral in the 24/25 season.

In the Spring was St John Passion. Again, we needed to replace indisposed soloists, this time Evangelist Stephen Lilley, replaced by Ben Thapa, who tragically died later in the year. Chrissie Birchall-Samson, Hannah Mason (again, previously known to the society) and Dean Robinson sang the arias and local baritone Peter Taylor sang Christ. It was a very moving performance, again accompanied by the National Festival Orchestra with Ruth Nicholson playing continuo.

For our final concert in the season, we teamed up with the Oratorio Chorus to perform Ein Deutsches Requiem and Shicksalslied, both by Brahms in Victoria Hall. It was great fun to rehearse and perform with larger forces and it would be great to collaborate again on a large work in the near future.

I am most grateful to the committee for all their hard work.

Philip Collin

Conductor

philipajcollin@gmail.com

SECRETARY'S REPORT

I can confirm that the Committee has continued to work on behalf of members, to meet the 'object' of our Society as outlined in the Constitution, meeting formally three times during the last season and engaging in several additional discussions in person and via email as issues arose. Meetings continued to focus primarily on detailed planning for each forthcoming season and outline planning

for future seasons. We have been very pleased that Philip Collin can now contribute to the forward planning which has included introducing the choir to new works.

The Committee undertook a detailed review of the last season before the summer break, considering 'What went well ...' and 'What could be even better if ...'. The overwhelming view was that our first season with our new conductor had been a real success. Enjoyable rehearsals had included a good balance of singing, training and musical input from Philip. It went without saying that we still needed to recruit more tenors, but it had been very encouraging that over the season we had welcomed more new members in one year than in the last five years! Attendance at rehearsals has been impacted by illness and holidays and sometimes rather concerning. The Committee haven't yet, however, needed to enforce our stated expectation of '75% attendance at rehearsals to sing in the concert', but attendance at rehearsals will be kept under careful review, especially as we add new and less familiar works to our repertoire.

Invitations were accepted by Jane Ginsborg and Barbara Hawley to become Life-Friends of the Society in recognition of their many years of singing with us.

Since the last AGM, we heard of the death of a number of people who had a long association with the Society. Dr Alan Brown, a quiet and unassuming man but truly brilliant musician who accompanied choir rehearsals for many years and served as our Vice-President; Laurence Coates, a former member of the choir who generously sponsored the joint Brahms concert in memory of his late wife Liz, only sadly not to live to attend the concert himself; and more recently we heard of the death of Hazel Elliot-Kemp who continued to support the choir in the audience for many concerts after she stopped singing.

Thank you to everyone for your contribution to the success of the society over the last year as we look forward to another exciting season under the direction of Philip Collin.

Liz Buxton

Secretary

secretary@sheffieldbachchoir.co.uk

Sheffield Bach Society

(Registered charity number 511146)

Financial statements

Season 2023/2024

Year to 31 July 2024

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024

Annual Report

The Society is a charity which is governed by its Constitution; it is not also a company.

The Society's Bankers are the Co-operative Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland plc. The Society opened a Co-operative Bank Community Direct Plus Account in September 2019, and a Business Select Instant Access Account in March 2020. The Instant Save Account in the Royal Bank of Scotland has now been closed and funds transferred to the Co-operative Bank. The Society also had a COIF Charity Funds account with CCLA Investment Management Ltd, in which a sum has been deposited for use as a Reserve Fund. The new banking arrangements mean that payments can now be made by bank transfer online, with all transactions authorised by two signatories. The Honorary Independent Examiner is Mr. Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT, of 44 Stumperlowe Park Road, Sheffield, S10 3QP.

The Society does not have a Solicitor; if such were required, it would be entitled, as members, to the free use of the services of the National Federation of Music Societies honorary solicitors.

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The Society is run by a Committee, elected by the general membership of the Society, and its members (who are the Trustees) during the 2023-2024 Season were as follows:

Chairman	Mr Christopher Walker
Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Buxton
Treasurer	Miss Catherine Ross
Social Secretary	Mrs Anne Adams
Ordinary Members:	Mr Neil Dummigan, Mr Alan Heath, Mrs Jennifer Nortcliffe, Mrs Elisabeth Paice, Mr StJohn Wright

Also attending Committee meetings but not a Trustee: *Conductor Mr Philip Collin, and Mr John Morton*

Apart from the Trustees, the Society has other-officers, namely:

Hon Conductor	Mr Philip Collin
President	Professor George Nicholson
Box Office Manager	Mr Michael Buxton

Statement of committee's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of its financial activities during the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.
- It is the society's policy to maintain a reserve of £20,000 to cover commitments for one season plus emergency payments and contingencies. We clearly meet the aim of this policy.

The committee is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the society and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The committee has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to it to safeguard the assets of the society and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	General fund	
	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£
Income and Expenditure		
Incoming Resources		
Admission receipts including programme sales	12,826	10,336
Subscriptions	8,730	5,725
Patrons donations	215	100
Donations	1,556	1,545
Friends	461	281
Fundraising	2,572	1021
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	2,461	2,258
Bank interest	503	176
Sponsors	1,500	750
Music	724	225
Special Collections - Archer Project	743	1,158
Written off cheques	45	57
Total Incoming Resources	32,336	23,632

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	General fund	
	2023/2024	2022/2023
Income and Expenditure <i>continued</i>	£	£
Resources Expended		
Professional Expenses	28,665	18,820
Hire & purchase of music	367	549
Hall, church and piano hire	7,130	4,674
Printing and design	1,068	868
Administration expenses	400	119
Advertising	83	49
Subscriptions - <i>Making Music (Note)</i>	581	634
Classical Sheffield subscription	103	82
Tribute to Simon Lindley		100
Refunds (sub paid twice)	125	
Special Collections - Archer Project	743	1,158
Total Resources Expended	39,265	27,053
Net Movement in Funds - surplus/(deficit)	(6,929)	(3,421)
Fund balance brought forward at 1 August 2023	29,049	32,470
Fund balance carried forward at 31st July 2024	22,120	29,049

(Note) Insurance of music and harpsichord effected through Making Music and included in subscription fees.

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024
Balance Sheet at 31 July 2024

	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank:		
Current Account (Co-op)	2,796	2,561
Interest accounts	18,989	27,128
Cash in hand	243	272
Hall hire deposits paid for 2024/25 season	20	465
Music hired in for 2024/25 season	242	
Debtors (gift aid claim)	80	-
	<u>22,370</u>	<u>30,426</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Sponsorship paid in advance for 2023/24 season	-	1,000
Design for 2022/23 season paid in 2023/24	240	315
Un-cleared cheques	10	62
Net Assets	<u>22,120</u>	<u>29,049</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 No account has been made for opening and closing stocks of refreshments.
- 2 Grants and subsidies have been credited to income in the season to which they relate.
- 3 All the society's funds are of an unrestricted nature.
- 4 The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 9 September 2024

C J Ross



Honorary Treasurer

C H Walker



Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the Committee of Sheffield Bach Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st July 2024, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of Committee and examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

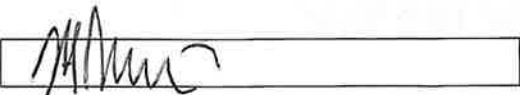
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention 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

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024

Signed:  Date: 13 JANUARY 2025

Name: Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Association of Corporate Treasurers

Address: 44 Stumperlowe Park Road
Sheffield
S10 3 QP

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024

Concerts given during the year:

Saturday 18th November 2023, St Mark's Church, Broomhill – Mendelssohn's Elijah

Monday 4th December 2023, Victoria Hall - Handel's Messiah

Saturday 23rd March 2024, St Mark's Church, Broomhill – Bach's St John Passion

Saturday 29th June 2024, Victoria Hall – Brahms German Requiem (joint concert with Sheffield Oratorio Chorus)

The net financial result of these concerts has been detailed in the foregoing accounts.

Sheffield Bach Society

(Registered charity number 511146)

Financial statements

Season 2023/2024

Year to 31 July 2024

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024

Annual Report

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Sheffield Bach Society, by virtue of its Constitution, aims to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of music by encouraging the study and performance of the works of J S Bach and such other composers as are deemed appropriate, by promoting concerts and recitals devoted to their music and by maintaining a choir for this purpose, and by such other activities as the Society may from time to time think fit. At present this means that, generally, four concerts per year are given, in Sheffield Cathedral or a similar venue, plus occasional smaller concerts (probably not the whole choir and perhaps without orchestra); in addition various small fund-raising events are held to help to pay for the professional soloists and professional orchestra that are employed for these concerts.

The Society is run by a Committee, elected by the general membership of the Society, and its members (who are the Trustees) during the 2023-2024 Season were as follows:

Chairman	Mr Christopher Walker
Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Buxton
Treasurer	Miss Catherine Ross
Social Secretary	Mrs Anne Adams
Ordinary Members:	Mr Neil Dummigan, Mr Alan Heath, Mrs Jennifer Nortcliffe, Mrs Elisabeth Paice, Mr StJohn Wright

Also attending Committee meetings but not a Trustee: *Conductor Mr Philip Collin, and Mr John Morton*

Apart from the Trustees, the Society has other-officers, namely:

Hon Conductor	Mr Philip Collin
President	Professor George Nicholson
Box Office Manager	Mr Michael Buxton

Statement of committee's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of its financial activities during the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.
- It is the society's policy to maintain a reserve of £20,000 to cover commitments for one season plus emergency payments and contingencies. We clearly meet the aim of this policy.

The committee is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the society and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The committee has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to it to safeguard the assets of the society and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	General fund	
	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£
Income and Expenditure		
Incoming Resources		
Admission receipts including programme sales	12,826	10,336
Subscriptions	8,730	5,725
Patrons donations	215	100
Donations	1,556	1,545
Friends	461	281
Fundraising	2,572	1021
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	2,461	2,258
Bank interest	503	176
Sponsors	1,500	750
Music	724	225
Special Collections - Archer Project	743	1,158
Written off cheques	45	57
Total Incoming Resources	32,336	23,632

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2024

	General fund	
	2023/2024	2022/2023
Income and Expenditure <i>continued</i>	£	£
Resources Expended		
Professional Expenses	28,665	18,820
Hire & purchase of music	367	549
Hall, church and piano hire	7,130	4,674
Printing and design	1,068	868
Administration expenses	400	119
Advertising	83	49
Subscriptions - <i>Making Music (Note)</i>	581	634
Classical Sheffield subscription	103	82
Tribute to Simon Lindley		100
Refunds (sub paid twice)	125	
Special Collections - Archer Project	743	1,158
Total Resources Expended	39,265	27,053
Net Movement in Funds - surplus/(deficit)	(6,929)	(3,421)
Fund balance brought forward at 1 August 2023	29,049	32,470
Fund balance carried forward at 31st July 2024	22,120	29,049

(Note) Insurance of music and harpsichord effected through Making Music and included in subscription fees.

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024
Balance Sheet at 31 July 2024

	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank:		
Current Account (Co-op)	2,796	2,561
Interest accounts	18,989	27,128
Cash in hand	243	272
Hall hire deposits paid for 2024/25 season	20	465
Music hired in for 2024/25 season	242	
Debtors (gift aid claim)	80	-
	<u>22,370</u>	<u>30,426</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Sponsorship paid in advance for 2023/24 season	-	1,000
Design for 2022/23 season paid in 2023/24	240	315
Un-cleared cheques	10	62
Net Assets	<u>22,120</u>	<u>29,049</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 No account has been made for opening and closing stocks of refreshments.
- 2 Grants and subsidies have been credited to income in the season to which they relate.
- 3 All the society's funds are of an unrestricted nature.
- 4 The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 9 September 2024

C J Ross



Honorary Treasurer

C H Walker



Chairman

Independent Examiner's report to the Committee of Sheffield Bach Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st July 2024, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of Committee and examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

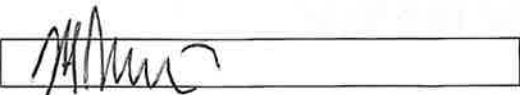
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention 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

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024

Signed:  Date: 13 JANUARY 2025

Name: Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Association of Corporate Treasurers

Address: 44 Stumperlowe Park Road
Sheffield
S10 3 QP

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2023/2024

Concerts given during the year:

Saturday 18th November 2023, St Mark's Church, Broomhill – Mendelssohn's Elijah

Monday 4th December 2023, Victoria Hall - Handel's Messiah

Saturday 23rd March 2024, St Mark's Church, Broomhill – Bach's St John Passion

Saturday 29th June 2024, Victoria Hall – Brahms German Requiem (joint concert with Sheffield Oratorio Chorus)

The net financial result of these concerts has been detailed in the foregoing accounts.

SHEFFIELD BACH SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 511146

Accounts

Present: Officers - Chris Walker (Chairman), Kitty Ross (Treasurer), Liz Buxton (Secretary), Anne Adams (Social Secretary), Vicky Highet (Publicity Manager), Sarah Hogan (Joint Librarian) and Michael Buxton (Box Office Manager). Also in attendance were George Nicholson (President), Jonathan Brice (Independent Examiner), and approximately 30 members of the Society.

- 1. Welcome** – the Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He referred members to the Officer's reports which had again been circulated with the agenda this year.
- 2. Apologies for absence** were received from Joan Gaunt, Ramsey Hertzog, Chris Phillips, Caroline Denby-Hollis and Vice President Alan Brown. The Secretary read out a letter from Alan Brown with his best wishes to Sheffield Bach Society members. This prompted a suggestion from Jane Ginsborg that it might be possible to arrange a wheelchair taxi to enable Dr Brown to attend one of our concerts. The Secretary agreed to look into this.
- 3. Minutes of the previous AGM** held on Monday 21st November 2021 and previously circulated with the agenda, were approved (proposed Anne Adams, seconded L Paice) and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
- 4. Matters arising**
There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.
- 5. Secretary's report for 2020-21**
The report from the Secretary (*previously circulated and attached*) was received and no questions were asked. The secretary was thanked for her report.
- 6. Treasurer's report for 2020-21**
The report from the Treasurer (*previously circulated and attached*) was received. The treasurer presented the annual accounts (*previously circulated*) adding some context for the year 2021-22. The treasurer indicated how valuable it was to be able to claim Gift Aid on donations and subscriptions, although there was still some uncertainty about the level of Gift Aid due to changes in HM Treasury rules. If any members were unsure if they were signed up to Gift Aid, then they were urged to speak to Kitty. There were no questions on the treasurer's report or accounts which were formally received by the meeting. It was recognised that the role of Treasurer necessitated considerable workload and the Treasurer was thanked for her report.
- 7. Independent Examiner's report for 2020-21**
The Chairman welcomed Jon Brice (Independent Examiner) to the meeting. Mr Brice reported that as the appointed Independent Examiner, he had scrutinised the accounts presented for the 2021-22 season and was entirely satisfied that these were fully in order and had been presented in accordance with the reporting requirements of the Charity Commission. Jon was thanked by the Chairman on behalf of the membership for his work on behalf of the Society.
- 8. Election of officers**
The Chairman reported that nominations for the Officer vacancies as indicated in the invitation to the AGM, and now proposed and seconded by members of the Society, had been received and the following were consequently elected unopposed to serve for a further two years: Treasurer – Kitty Ross, Box Office Manager – Michael Buxton, Publicity Manager – Vicky Highet. All three were thanked for their continued support for the work of the Society.

The Secretary explained the rationale for currently leaving the Membership Secretary role unfilled pending a review of the Committee structure. It was felt that much of the organisation and administration of the Society was increasingly undertaken in a different way since the establishment of the Constitution. This review would consider Officer roles and the number of 'ordinary' member places on the Committee (*see also 9. below*) It was recognised that any formal change to the Committee as outlined in the Constitution, would require approval at an AGM or at a Special General Meeting.

9. Election of two ordinary members of the Committee

As indicated in the AGM invitation, Neil Dummigan and Alan Heath had come to the end of their three-year period of office and were thanked for their contribution to the work of the Society during a particularly challenging time as a result of the global pandemic. The secretary reported that one nomination had been received and StJohn Wright was elected unopposed. No further nominations had been received at this time. However, the secretary indicated that whilst currently, ordinary members were not eligible for immediate re-election, this was another aspect of the Constitution that the Committee would seek to consider as part of the review, whilst appropriate safeguards would be put in place to ensure that the membership of the committee did not become static in keeping with the wishes of the Charity Commission. If it was subsequently agreed that there would be fewer Officer roles, then this would open up the opportunity for more members to contribute to the management of the Society, perhaps with specific roles as SATB voice representatives? Any member's views about the make up of the committee would be welcomed.

10. Election of Honorary Independent Examiner

Jonathan Brice was re-elected to the position of Independent Examiner. The Chairman thanked him for his work on behalf of the Society and willingness to continue in this role.

11. Honorary Conductor's report for 2021-22

The report (*previously circulated and attached*) from George Nicholson, currently as acting Conductor was received and no questions were asked.

The Chairman thanked Professor Nicholson for his report.

12. Chairman's report for 2020-21

The report (*previously circulated and attached*) from the Chairman was received. The Chairman again expressed his thanks to George Nicholson for his work for the Society over the last year. He remarked that without George's willingness to step in at such short notice, the choir could very easily have collapsed!

The Chairman then went on to make some remarks about the current season including the need to recruit new members. Recognising that with smaller numbers of members, some of the larger choral works would become especially demanding, he confirmed that we had been invited to join with another choir for a concert in June 2024 and that members of St Peters Singers had already agreed to join us for our performance of Mass in B Minor in March 2023. The chairman also acknowledged the help of the Voice Exchange scheme and confirmed that some members of SPC had already agreed to sing Messiah with us in December.

He then went on to acknowledge that many members would be wondering what was happening concerning the substantive conductor's absence and added the following verbal statement to his report: *"We recognise that the past months have been an unsettling period with Simon's absence and then his health issues which were clearly concerning, and we have increasingly been asked by many people as to why Simon has not been with us. In our Officer's reports, we have already mentioned how extremely grateful we are to George who has enabled the remainder of last season and the start of this season to go ahead as planned. George has also kindly agreed to be on stand-by until the summer."*

As members have previously been informed, we had hoped that Simon could be back for our December performance of Messiah which would involve rehearsals from 21st November. As of this evening however, we regrettably have not had the confirmation we need to enable this plan to happen. The timescale is therefore that the Committee are meeting on 10th November to determine next steps with regard to the position of conductor. The secretary and I do appreciate that many of you, including the Committee, have been wondering what has been happening but we can assure you that a clear pathway to a resolution of the current situation is now very close and we will be in a position to update the choir after the Committee have met. Thank you for bearing with us for just a short while longer"

The Chairman re-iterated his opening remarks and thanked members for their continued support during the 2021-22 season.

13. Any other business

- Tony Cowling commented on the review of Committee structure and roles and offered the suggestion that a change could be to enable ordinary members who wished to, to serve two consecutive terms of office with a requirement for a one year break. He confirmed this arrangement had been approved by the Charity Commission in relation another society. Tony was thanked for his suggestion which would feed into the planned review.

- Lisa Heller proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for their work on behalf of the Society, especially steering the choir through the pandemic and its aftermath. This vote of thanks was much appreciated by committee members.
- Liz Arnesen thanked colleagues again for the flowers to mark her move to the North West. She reported that this was unfortunately delayed and hoped to continue to sing with the choir for a little longer.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25 pm

OFFICERS reports circulated with the agenda and included as part of the minutes of the meeting

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It has indeed been good to be back singing after the pandemic and overall we had a good season return. The tentative steps at return in November with the Rutter and shorter concert length without interval started us off well. I was pleased to see a perhaps better than expected audience for Messiah and audiences seem to be recovering in number.

We are very grateful to our president, George Nicholson, who stood in at the last minute to conduct the Messiah performance in Simon's absence and to Ruth who also stepped up to play the continuo role. George remained in post for the remainder of the 2021/2022 season for which we are extremely grateful. We performed Bach's St Matthew Passion and a Summer concert entitled "The brilliance of Bach" in which we were joined by Darius Battiwala as guest organist.

As I write this, we are in the 2022/2023 season and hopefully have said "goodbye" to the pandemic and most of the Covid restrictions. We now need to continue to build in membership and audience numbers to continue with some exciting music making and performances.

There is always a lot going on behind the scenes and in some ways just as much when we were not performing during the aforementioned pandemic! Watching Covid regulations, booking orchestra members and soloists/cancelling or postponing bookings and so on.

I remain very grateful to the other officers of the society, George and the committee for working on all these aspects to get us up and running again. I would like to make a special mention to Liz Arnesen, Membership Secretary, for all the work that she has done over the past years and wish her and her husband great success in their move to Northumberland.

I would also like to thank Alan Heath and Neil Dummigan whose term as ordinary members of the committee reaches its end.

Chris Walker

Chairman

TREASURER'S REPORT

As you can see from this year's accounts, the society has made a modest loss on the season, some of which may be attributed to adjustments in our first season post-pandemic. We made the decision to reduce ticket prices for the November concert to entice audiences back. We were also unable to fundraise as much as before without the regular tea funds, stalls and little raffle draw, both of which we are reintroducing this season.

We had very generous sponsorship for the Messiah which enabled us to bring in top-notch soloists.

The coming season does pose financial challenges for the choir as costs are rising, particularly hall hire because of the hike in heating costs, but also some of our professional fees. We will also be affected by a decline in the amount we can claim as gift aid if income tax is cut in April.

Our main sources of income are choir subscriptions and ticket sales - so attracting new members and selling more tickets are the best ways to help us financially. Subscription rates have been kept at £125 this season and can be paid in instalments. However, if some members can afford it we are always very grateful for additional donations and sponsorship.

We are also hoping that more members will join the monthly draw (£4 per month) and to sign up to online gift schemes such as Give as You Live, Easy Fundraising & Amazon Smile. Please contact me if you would like more information on any of these.

Kitty Ross

Treasurer

SECRETARY'S REPORT

I can confirm that the Committee has continued to work on behalf of members, to meet the 'object' of our Society as outlined in the Constitution.

Your committee has met 5 times during the 2021-22 season. Meetings were until recently held via Zoom. The Committee planned for and considered feedback relating to the choir's 'post-Covid' future. Meetings focussed on detailed planning for 2021-22 season when we were once again permitted to rehearse and perform. With detailed protocols in place to ensure safe rehearsals, the choir enjoyed being back together again. It was with some sadness that two of our members sadly died during our period of enforced closure.

Following our tentative steps from November 2021, the Committee felt sufficiently confident to be able to plan in earnest for the choir's 2022-23 season, which of course required considerable commitment of society funds in booking orchestral players and soloists. We have reduced the 'paperwork' at rehearsals and an electronic attendance record has replaced the signing-in sheets. Attendance was rather more unsettled during the season due to the post-Covid effect and illness of a number of members and their families, but attendance is now improving. This is encouraging, but also really important if we are to be a choir of sufficient size to perform the larger choral works. Although we have dispensed with the suggestions book to avoid unnecessary hand-to-hand contact, the Committee do genuinely welcome member's ideas and the 'theme' for our June 2023 concert was suggested by Derek Hollingsworth. Please note that the Committee has taken the decision to move all re-auditions on and will reinstate these for the 2023-24 season.

Over time, the way in which our Society operates has changed with an increased emphasis on electronic communications with members and with our potential audiences. In order that the Committee roles and responsibilities adequately reflect these newer ways of working, in Autumn 2022 the Committee will undertake a review of the relevant section of the Constitution. The suggested changes will be outlined at the AGM and members views will be welcomed.

Liz Buxton

Secretary

secretary@sheffieldbachchoir.co.uk

ACTING CONDUCTOR'S REPORT

What an extraordinary season this has been – especially for me! I had never realised how significant a missed phone call can be until I responded to Chris one Friday night last December and found myself committing to conducting *Messiah* the following Monday. As my Sunday was already given over to an event taking place in London, you can imagine how I spent all of Saturday! Ruth was placed in a very similar position, taking over the role of continuo and with it the novel experience of playing both the harpsichord and the chamber organ, not to mention the choreography involved in shifting from one to the other. It was a daunting prospect to have to conduct the choir in performance without any preliminary rehearsal, but I have to say that you were all so welcoming and amenable that the concert was a joy and a delight (it did help that you had been very well prepared!). And so it has continued. We have successfully negotiated a *Matthew Passion* together and a memorable summer concert made up mostly of Bach 'lollipops'. Many thanks to you all for your hard work and commitment in meeting the challenges posed by the sterner stuff in that programme – *Jesu, meine Freude* and *Ein feste Burg*. The process of bringing a performance to fruition is one I have always relished, and of course it is so much easier to do when you're in charge of the rehearsals as well as the actual concert! I hope that you find all stages of that process as fulfilling as I do.

The pandemic did unfortunately continue to dog our efforts, even as the choir returned to a regular programme of rehearsals and concerts, and choir numbers remained rather small for some time. Attendance also became less reliable as people took time out through illness and/or isolation. Finally, of course, there was the continuing risk of exposure to the virus in larger gatherings of people, and no doubt a number of choir members were unwilling

to return on a regular basis until conditions were more reliably safe. It is gratifying that we are now seeing the return of some long-standing stalwarts of the choir, and our numbers are now being swelled by the welcome arrival of some new members. Long may this trend continue!

It is a privilege for me to be able to work with the responsive and committed group of people who make up the Sheffield Bach Choir, and to have the opportunity to get my hands (literally!) on the wonderful repertoire you perform. My thanks must also go to Ruth, who provides such imperturbably solid and reliable support each week, and to the members of the committee, with whom I have been in regular dialogue throughout the year. Needless to say, the calibre of the soloists and instrumentalists who join us in making music is absolutely extraordinary. In that spirit I look forward with immense pleasure to our forthcoming concert with Derek Grover and the Fine Arts Brass Quintet.

George Nicholson
Conductor

Minutes signed: (Chairman - Mr C Walker) Date:

DRAFT

Sheffield Bach Society

(Registered charity number 511146)

Financial statements

Season 2021/2022

Year to 31 July 2022

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Annual Report

The Society is a charity which is governed by its Constitution; it is not also a company.

The Society's Bankers are the Co-operative Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland plc. The Society opened a Co-operative Bank Community Direct Plus Account in September 2019, and a Business Select Instant Access Account in March 2020. The Society still has funds in an Instant Save Account in the Royal Bank of Scotland but will close and transfer to the Co-operative Bank as soon as is practical. The Society also had a COIF Charity Funds account with CCLA Investment Management Ltd, in which a sum has been deposited for use as a Reserve Fund. The new banking arrangements mean that payments can now be made by bank transfer online, with all transactions authorised by two signatories. The Honorary Independent Examiner is Mr. Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT, of 44 Stumperlowe Park Road, Sheffield, S10 3QP.

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The Society is run by a Committee, elected by the general membership of the Society, and its members (who are the Trustees) during the 2021-2022 Season were as follows:

Chairman	Mr Christopher Walker
Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Buxton
Treasurer	Miss Catherine Ross
Choir Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Arnesen
Social Secretary	Mrs Anne Adams
Publicity Manager	Mrs Victoria Highet
Ordinary Members:	Mr Alan Heath, Mr Neil Dummigan, Mrs Elizabeth Paice

Also attending Committee meetings but not a Trustee: *Hon. Conductor, Dr Simon Lindley and stand-in conductor Professor George Nicholson, and Concert Manager, Mr John Morton*

Apart from the Trustees, the Society has other elected officers, namely:

Hon Conductor	Dr Simon Lindley
President	Professor George Nicholson
Box Office Manager	Mr Michael Buxton
Concert Manager	Mr John Morton

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Statement of committee's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of its financial activities during the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.
- It is the society's policy to maintain a reserve of £20,000 to cover commitments for one season plus emergency payments and contingencies. We clearly meet the aim of this policy.

The committee is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the society and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The committee has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to it to safeguard the assets of the society and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	General fund	
	2021/2022	2020/2021
	£	£
Income and Expenditure		
Incoming Resources		
Admission receipts including programme sales	9,211	-
Subscriptions	6,555	3,965
Patrons' donations	125	125
Donations and fund raising	2,352	1,401
Friends	420	331
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	2,258	1,311
Bank interest	5	9
Sponsors	5,000	-
Music	-	-
SGL special Recital	-	-
Special Collections - Archer Project	1,101	-
Written off cheques	84	143
Total Incoming Resources	27,111	7,285

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	General fund	
	2021/2022	2020/2021
Income and Expenditure <i>continued</i>	£	£
Resources Expended		
Professional Expenses	21,200	6,980
Hire & purchase of music	760	-
Hall, church and piano hire	4,263	-
Printing and design	1037	-
Administration expenses	223	15
Advertising	81	36
Subscriptions - <i>Making Music</i> (National Federation of Music Societies) (<i>Note</i>)	622	613
Classical Sheffield subscription	74	69
Special Collections - Archer Project	1,101	-
Total Resources Expended	29,361	7,713
Net Movement in Funds - surplus/(deficit)	(2,250)	(428)
Fund balance brought forward at 1 August 2021	34,720	35,148
Fund balance carried forward at 31st July 2022	32,470	34,720

(*Note*) Insurance of music and harpsichord effected through Making Music and included in subscription fees.

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Balance Sheet at 31 July 2022

	2021/2022	2020/2021
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank:		
Current Account (Co-op)	2,980	4,405
Interest accounts	29,450	34,385
Cash in hand	251	33
Music hire/printing paid for next season	-	-
Debtors (gift aid claim)	-	33
	<u>32,681</u>	<u>38,856</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Sponsorship received in 2019 carried over to 2021 season		4,000
Membership subscription paid in advance for 2022/3 season	125	
Un-cleared cheques	86	136
Net Assets	<u>32,470</u>	<u>34,720</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 No account has been made for opening and closing stocks of refreshments.
- 2 Grants and subsidies have been credited to income in the season to which they relate.
- 3 All the society's funds are of an unrestricted nature.
- 4 The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 6 October 2022

C J Ross

C H Walker



Honorary Treasurer

Chairman

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Independent Examiner's report to the Committee of Sheffield Bach Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st July 2022, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of Committee and examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention 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

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Signed:



Date:

31/10/2022

Name:

Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT

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

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Association of Corporate Treasurers

Address:

44 Stumperlowe Park Road
Sheffield
S10 3 QP

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Concerts given during the year:

Saturday 13th November 2021, St Mark's Church, Broomhill – Requiem by John Rutter

Monday 6th December 2021, Sheffield Cathedral – Handel's Messiah

Monday 13th December 2021, St James' Church, Norton- Come and Sing Messiah

Saturday 5th March 2022, Sheffield Cathedral – Bach's St Matthew Passion

Saturday 18th June 2022, St Mark's Church, Broomhill – "Brilliance of Bach"

This season was the first live season since the Covid-19 pandemic so the November concert was shorter than normal and tickets were charged at half price. There was also an unforeseen change of conductor and for the Messiah concert which involved paying professional fees for extra performers at short notice.

The net financial result of these concerts has been detailed in the foregoing accounts.

Sheffield Bach Society

(Registered charity number 511146)

Financial statements

Season 2021/2022

Year to 31 July 2022

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Annual Report

The Society is a charity which is governed by its Constitution; it is not also a company.

The Society's Bankers are the Co-operative Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland plc. The Society opened a Co-operative Bank Community Direct Plus Account in September 2019, and a Business Select Instant Access Account in March 2020. The Society still has funds in an Instant Save Account in the Royal Bank of Scotland but will close and transfer to the Co-operative Bank as soon as is practical. The Society also had a COIF Charity Funds account with CCLA Investment Management Ltd, in which a sum has been deposited for use as a Reserve Fund. The new banking arrangements mean that payments can now be made by bank transfer online, with all transactions authorised by two signatories. The Honorary Independent Examiner is Mr. Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT, of 44 Stumperlowe Park Road, Sheffield, S10 3QP.

The Society does not have a Solicitor; if such were required, it would be entitled, as members, to the free use of the services of the National Federation of Music Societies honorary solicitors.

Sheffield Bach Society, by virtue of its Constitution, aims to educate the public in the arts and sciences and in particular the art and science of music by encouraging the study and performance of the works of J S Bach and such other composers as are deemed appropriate, by promoting concerts and recitals devoted to their music and by maintaining a choir for this purpose, and by such other activities as the Society may from time to time think fit. At present this means that, generally, four concerts per year are given, in Sheffield Cathedral or a similar venue, plus occasional smaller concerts (probably not the whole choir and perhaps without orchestra); in addition various small fund-raising events are held to help to pay for the professional soloists and professional orchestra that are employed for these concerts.

The Society is run by a Committee, elected by the general membership of the Society, and its members (who are the Trustees) during the 2021-2022 Season were as follows:

Chairman	Mr Christopher Walker
Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Buxton
Treasurer	Miss Catherine Ross
Choir Secretary	Mrs Elizabeth Arnesen
Social Secretary	Mrs Anne Adams
Publicity Manager	Mrs Victoria Highet
Ordinary Members:	Mr Alan Heath, Mr Neil Dummigan, Mrs Elizabeth Paice

Also attending Committee meetings but not a Trustee: *Hon. Conductor, Dr Simon Lindley and stand-in conductor Professor George Nicholson, and Concert Manager, Mr John Morton*

Apart from the Trustees, the Society has other elected officers, namely:

Hon Conductor	Dr Simon Lindley
President	Professor George Nicholson
Box Office Manager	Mr Michael Buxton
Concert Manager	Mr John Morton

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Statement of committee's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of its financial activities during the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue its activities.
- It is the society's policy to maintain a reserve of £20,000 to cover commitments for one season plus emergency payments and contingencies. We clearly meet the aim of this policy.

The committee is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the society and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The committee has general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to it to safeguard the assets of the society and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	General fund	
	2021/2022	2020/2021
	£	£
Income and Expenditure		
Incoming Resources		
Admission receipts including programme sales	9,211	-
Subscriptions	6,555	3,965
Patrons' donations	125	125
Donations and fund raising	2,352	1,401
Friends	420	331
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	2,258	1,311
Bank interest	5	9
Sponsors	5,000	-
Music	-	-
SGL special Recital	-	-
Special Collections - Archer Project	1,101	-
Written off cheques	84	143
Total Incoming Resources	27,111	7,285

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	General fund	
	2021/2022	2020/2021
Income and Expenditure <i>continued</i>	£	£
Resources Expended		
Professional Expenses	21,200	6,980
Hire & purchase of music	760	-
Hall, church and piano hire	4,263	-
Printing and design	1037	-
Administration expenses	223	15
Advertising	81	36
Subscriptions - <i>Making Music</i> (National Federation of Music Societies) (<i>Note</i>)	622	613
Classical Sheffield subscription	74	69
Special Collections - Archer Project	1,101	-
Total Resources Expended	29,361	7,713
Net Movement in Funds - surplus/(deficit)	(2,250)	(428)
Fund balance brought forward at 1 August 2021	34,720	35,148
Fund balance carried forward at 31st July 2022	32,470	34,720

(*Note*) Insurance of music and harpsichord effected through Making Music and included in subscription fees.

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Balance Sheet at 31 July 2022

	2021/2022 £	2020/2021 £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank:		
Current Account (Co-op)	2,980	4,405
Interest accounts	29,450	34,385
Cash in hand	251	33
Music hire/printing paid for next season	-	-
Debtors (gift aid claim)	-	33
	<u>32,681</u>	<u>38,856</u>
LESS LIABILITIES		
Sponsorship received in 2019 carried over to 2021 season		4,000
Membership subscription paid in advance for 2022/3 season	125	
Un-cleared cheques	86	136
Net Assets	<u>32,470</u>	<u>34,720</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

- 1 No account has been made for opening and closing stocks of refreshments.
- 2 Grants and subsidies have been credited to income in the season to which they relate.
- 3 All the society's funds are of an unrestricted nature.
- 4 The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 6 October 2022

C J Ross

C H Walker



Honorary Treasurer

Chairman

Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Independent Examiner's report to the Committee of Sheffield Bach Society

I report on the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st July 2022, which are set out on pages 3 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of Committee and examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

Signed: 

Date: 31/10/2022

Name: Jonathan Andrew Brice, BA, ACA, ACT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Association of Corporate Treasurers

Address: 44 Stumperlowe Park Road
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Sheffield Bach Society, Season 2021/2022

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