

# DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 514557

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1983-12-12

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

## Contact

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**Address** 5 St. Oswalds Drive  
Durham  
DH1 3TE

**Phone** 07717891631

**Email** [committeedcs@gmail.com](mailto:committeedcs@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.durhamchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.durhamchoralsociety.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY SHALL BE 1. THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF CHORAL MUSIC IN ORDER TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE KNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATION OF SUCH MUSIC BY THE PRESENTATION OF CONCERTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES. 2. TO FURTHER SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS THE TRUSTEES IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION SHALL THINK FIT, FINANCIALLY OR OTHERWISE BUT IN PARTICULAR BY THE MAKING OF SMALL GRANTS AND DONATIONS.

**Activities:** 1 The study and practice of choral music in order to educate the public in the knowledge and appreciation of such music by the presentation of concerts and other activities. 2 to further such charitable purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit, financially or otherwise but in particular by the making of small grants and donations.

## Classification

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

## Geography

- Durham

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£137,216	£41,021	-	-
2024-08-31	£44,290	£40,835	-	-
2023-08-31	£45,282	£40,373	-	-
2022-08-31	£12,341	£24,093	-	-
2021-08-31	£7,682	£11,547	-	-
2020-08-31	£28,978	£19,838	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Catharine Deeming</b>	Chair	2023-12-08
Angela Eddy		2023-12-08
Clare Mathewson		2025-10-15
Dr Fiona Marion Gameson		2022-02-13
Irene Blakemore		2024-11-19
Jane Abel		2024-11-22
Victoria Nower		2022-11-16

**DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 514557

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# Accounts

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**Trustees' Annual Report**  
for the period from 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

**Charity name: Durham Choral Society**

**Charity registration number: 514557**

## 1. Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>The objectives of Durham Choral Society (DCS) are:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>the study and practice of choral music in order to educate the public in the knowledge and appreciation of such music by the presentation of concerts and other activities.</b></li><li>● <b>to further such charitable purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit, financially or otherwise but in particular by the making of small grants and donations.</b></li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>DCS is a membership organisation that carries out the following activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Three choral concerts each year performed in local venues.</b></li><li>● <b>Weekly rehearsals for the above.</b></li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Other singing opportunities as they arise e.g., Durham Vocal Festival, carol singing in a local Care Home, joint concerts with other choirs and bands.</b></li> <li>● <b>Co-ordinating and publicising other singing opportunities and events e.g. The Really Big Chorus events, local choral events, community events at The Glasshouse International Centre for Music.</b></li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>All trustees have been provided with the guidance on public benefit.</b></li> <li>● <b>All decisions are taken to ensure that the main activities as outlined in our charitable objectives can take place.</b></li> </ul>

### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<b>DCS does not make grants per se but does make donations to local charities using the profits from one concert annually. The charity(ies) are usually chosen via nominations from members.</b>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<b>n/a</b>
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p><b>DCS is run by volunteers, without whom the choir could not operate.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>In 2024 - 25 there were 8 committee members and two co-opted members, all with defined roles.</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● In addition, there were six volunteers from the membership who carried out specific tasks and three other volunteers who helped out at concerts.</li><li>● The hours of volunteers are not recorded.</li></ul>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p><b><u>Achievements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>DCS organised and promoted three concerts throughout the year along with 30 weekly rehearsals. These were held at Durham School as our former rehearsal venue was not available.</b></li> <li>● <b>One concert was held at Elvet Methodist Church as planned (December 2024). This was held jointly with Durham Music Youth Choirs.</b></li> <li>● <b>Profits from the December concert were shared between Durham Music Trust, Winter Night Shelter (Durham Methodist Church) and ourselves.</b></li> <li>● <b>Two concerts were held in Durham Cathedral as planned (January 2025 and May 2025).</b></li> <li>● <b>Our January Concert was dedicated to Ben Thapa who was to have been our Judas Maccabeus, but who sadly died in September 2024. A collection was held and donated to Mind in his memory.</b></li> <li>● <b>We trialled using online programmes only at our May concert.</b></li> <li>● <b>A small group sang carols at a local Care Home for adults with severe learning difficulties.</b></li> </ul>

- DCS attracted 16 Friends of Durham Choral Society.
- A survey of current Friends and potential Friends in our audience was carried out in May 2025, to evaluate our Friends Scheme and whether we needed to remodel it.

**Beneficiaries**

- Members of the largest non-auditioned choir in the Northeast Region – 114 paid up members during the year.
- Friends of Durham Choral Society – 16 during the year.
- Professional and semi-professional musicians – musical team, orchestra, soloists – a typical concert in Durham Cathedral has four professional soloists and full orchestra. The total was 44 during the year.
- For our May concert we were accompanied by the Great Organ of Durham Cathedral, played by their chief organist.
- Choirs with whom we performed joint concerts including young singers in the Durham Music Trust choirs.
- Local soloists were used for our May concert.
- Audiences – almost 750 tickets were sold over all three concerts.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Venues hired for concerts and rehearsals – Durham Cathedral who also acts as ticketing agent, Elvet Methodist Church, Durham School.</li> <li>● Businesses acting as suppliers for DCS e.g. a local printer, staging and lighting contractor, providers of musical scores etc</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Benefits</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As a non-auditioned choir, members have the opportunity to participate in performances of the “big choral works” in a prestigious venue.</li> <li>● Participating in music making is well known to improve well-being in adults.</li> <li>● Young singers are welcomed at our Christmas Concert.</li> <li>● Economic benefits through holding and promoting concerts e.g. hiring venues, musicians and music, attracting audiences, using local suppliers etc with the knock on effect into local businesses such as cafes and shops.</li> <li>● For audience members – we offer the opportunity to attend live classical choral events, which enrich the choice of events locally.</li> </ul>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>DCS had a strong year financially supported by</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ hiring the Cathedral Organ only for May concert instead of a full orchestra</li> <li>○ an unexpected generous legacy of £93,353,37 from Ann Crawford, previous orchestral player, in April 2025</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>It is the charity's policy to hold reserves.</b></li> <li>● <b>Reserves are held at a level which protects trustees from financial hardship should we have to cancel a concert in our main venue (Durham Cathedral).</b></li> <li>● <b>The legacy is also being held in the society's reserves as decisions are made by the trustees as to how to best use it.</b></li> <li>● <b>Insurance is held through membership of Making Music but some costs arising from cancellation are not covered.</b></li> </ul>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£109,179 which is more than double the annual turnover</b>

Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<b>At the present time there are no financial concerns.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p><b>DCS principal sources of funds during the year were:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Membership subscriptions (49%)</b></li> <li>● <b>Ticket sales (27%)</b></li> <li>● <b>Gift Aid (10%)</b></li> </ul>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	n/a
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p><b>Our main risks continue to be:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Concert format becoming unsustainable – Durham Cathedral is the only local venue big enough to hold the choir, full orchestra and audience. If costs rise too much, then we</b></li> </ul>

		<p>will have nowhere to perform in Durham City and will have to look further afield or change our business model.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cost of living affecting membership numbers and audience numbers</li> <li>● Securing enough trustees and volunteers from the membership to run DCS</li> </ul>
Other		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● DCS reviewed its financial processes in 2025 and it was approved by committee.</li> <li>● Financial processes have been reviewed again during the year.</li> </ul>

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>DCS has a constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Unincorporated association of members run by a committee.</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more	Para 1.25	<b>The committee (including officers of DCS and other members) is elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting with terms of office specified in the constitution.</b>

trustees		
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>All trustees are provided with guidance from the Charity Commission on the roles and responsibilities of trustees on appointment.</b></li> <li>● <b>All committee members have access to a comprehensive list of ‘How to’ documents which are held on the shared Google Drive.</b></li> <li>● <b>The first committee meeting after the AGM is used as general induction</b></li> <li>● <b>One-to-one sessions are held between the chair and new committee members to discuss roles as required</b></li> <li>● <b>Training and resources for trustees are offered by various organisations and opportunities are circulated to the committee.</b></li> <li>● <b>All committee members are required to report any conflicts of interest.</b></li> </ul>
The charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>DCS is affiliated to Making Music (Registered charity 249219)</b></li> </ul>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Two concerts during the year were held at Durham Cathedral (Registered charity 1205971)</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>One concert in 2024-25 was held jointly with other choirs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>The Christmas concert involved Durham Music Youth and Training Choirs which are organised by Durham Music Trust (Registered charity 1169848)</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>The Christmas concert and occasional rehearsals are held at premises operated by Durham City Methodists (Registered charity 1126844).</b></li> <li>● <b>Most rehearsals were held at Durham School which is part of Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation (Registered charity 1023407)</b></li> <li>● <b>From September 2025 rehearsals are moving to Belmont Community School. Bookings are handled by Belmont Community Association Registered Charity 11704</b></li> </ul>
Other		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The Musical Director, Assistant Conductor and Accompanist are freelance and receive annual honoraria. The Assistant Accompanist is paid on a sessional basis.</b></li> </ul>

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Durham Choral Society</b>
Other name the charity uses	<b>n/a</b>
Registered charity number	<b>514557</b>
	<b>% Chair of Durham Choral Society</b>  <b>31 Peterborough Road</b>  <b>Newton Hall</b>  <b>Durham</b>

	<b>DH1 5QX</b>
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<b>Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity</b>				
	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
	Val Wooff	Chair	until 11/12/2024	
1	Irene Blakemore	Chair	From 11/12/2024	
2	Jane Abel	Hon Secretary		
3	Susan Massey	Hon Treasurer		
4	Catharine Deeming	Venue Liaison	From 8/12/2023	
5	Fiona Gameson	Concert Administrator		
6	Angela Eddy	Bulletin	From 8/12/2023	
7	Victoria Nower	Co-opted		
8	Emil Archambault	Co-opted	From 7/01/2025	

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

<b>Director name</b>		
<b>N/a</b>		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	
<b>N/a</b>		

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

<b>Description of the assets held in this capacity</b>	
	<b>n/a</b>

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

**Additional information (optional)**

<b>Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)</b>		
<b>Type of adviser</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
External examiner	Robert Johnson	26 Baugh Close, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 1SN
<b>Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)</b>		

**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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**Other optional information**



## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	(Peggy) Irene Blakemore	Susan Massey
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Hon Treasurer
Date	23/09/2025	23/09/2025

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2024 - 2025**

Expenditure	2025			2024		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Expenditure</b>						
Concert Halls	£ -	£ 11,748.62	£ 11,748.62	£ -	£ 7,987.98	£ 7,987.98
instruments	£ -	£ 480.00	£ 480.00	£ -	£ 300.00	£ 300.00
Orchestra	£ -	£ 4,783.52	£ 4,783.52	£ -	£ 7,559.00	£ 7,559.00
Soloists	£ -	£ 3,110.00	£ 3,110.00	£ -	£ 3,325.00	£ 3,325.00
Hire/Purchase/postage orch scores	£ -	£ 293.66	£ 293.66	£ -	£ 253.42	£ 253.42
Hire of lighting/staging	£ -	£ 3,097.32	£ 3,097.32	£ -	£ 2,963.16	£ 2,963.16
PRS payments	£ -	£ 55.00	£ 55.00	£ -	£ 195.40	£ 195.40
Printing of handbills	£ -	£ 114.10	£ 114.10	£ -	£ 186.80	£ 186.80
Printing of programmes	£ -	£ 124.98	£ 124.98	£ -	£ 342.09	£ 342.09
Cath deposit Jan 26	£ -	£ 1,407.90	£ 1,407.90			
		<b>£ 25,215.10</b>	<b>£ 25,215.10</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 23,112.85</b>	<b>£ 23,112.85</b>
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>						
Rehearsal Rooms D School /Elvet	£ -	£ 5,811.00	£ 5,811.00	£ -	£ 4,997.25	£ 4,997.25
Rehearsal Fees(director/accompanists)	£ -	£ 6,235.00	£ 6,235.00	£ -	£ 6,115.00	£ 6,115.00
Officer Expenses inc website	£ -	£ 112.89	£ 112.89	£ -	£ 476.45	£ 476.45
Making Music sub/insurance	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00	£ -	£ 675.00	£ 675.00
Hire/Purchase/postage of vocal scores	£ -	£ 160.00	£ 160.00	£ -	£ 1,871.89	£ 1,871.89
Scores Jan 26	£ -	£ 400.00	£ 400.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Rehearsal CDs	£ -			£ -	£ 236.00	£ 236.00
Folders	£ -			£ -	£ 129.00	£ 129.00
		<b>£ 13,418.89</b>	<b>£ 13,418.89</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 14,500.59</b>	<b>£ 14,500.59</b>
<b>Sundry Expenses</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 766.58	£ 766.58	£ -	£ 646.91	£ 646.91
Xmas charities	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00	£ -	£ 2,250.00	£ 2,250.00
Charitable donation MIND	£ -	£ 320.00	£ 320.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Hardship donations utilised	£ 600.00	£ -	£ 600.00	£ 325.00	£ -	£ 325.00
					£ -	£ -
	<b>£ 600.00</b>	<b>£ 1,786.58</b>	<b>£ 2,386.58</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 2,896.91</b>	<b>£ 3,221.91</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 600.00</b>	<b>£ 40,420.57</b>	<b>£ 41,020.57</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 40,510.35</b>	<b>£ 40,835.35</b>
<b>Closing balances 31/8/25</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 10,769.98	£ 10,769.98	£ -	£ 9,653.01	£ 9,653.01
CCLA Charity deposit	£ -	£ 109,179.08	£ 109,179.08	£ -	£ 14,101.03	£ 14,101.03
Total funds at year end		<b>£ 119,949.06</b>	<b>£ 119,949.06</b>		<b>£ 23,754.04</b>	<b>£ 23,754.04</b>
Uncleared cheques						
		<b>£ 119,949.06</b>	<b>£ 119,949.06</b>		<b>£ 23,754.04</b>	<b>£ 23,754.04</b>
	<b>£ 600.00</b>	<b>£ 160,369.63</b>	<b>£ 160,969.63</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 64,264.39</b>	<b>£ 64,589.39</b>

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2024 - 2025**

Income	2025			2024		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Income</b>						
Tickets members Elvet	£ -	£ 334.00	£ 334.00	£ -	£ 991.00	£ 991.00
Ticket Cathedral	£ -	£ 7,861.10	£ 7,861.10	£ -	£ 8,627.26	£ 8,627.26
Tickets Door Elvet	£ -	£ 774.00	£ 774.00	£ -	£ 772.00	£ 772.00
Wegotickets Elvet	£ -	£ 556.00	£ 556.00	£ -	£ 1,587.00	£ 1,587.00
Programmes sales	£ -	£ 278.84	£ 278.84	£ -	£ 536.50	£ 536.50
MIND donation	£ -	£ 166.14	£ 166.14	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£	<b>9,970.08</b>	<b>£9,970.08</b>	£	<b>12,513.76</b>	<b>£ 12,513.76</b>
<b>Rehearsal Income</b>						
Member subscriptions	£ -	£ 23,020.00	£ 23,020.00	£ -	£ 21,725.00	£ 21,725.00
Tax reclaimed	£ -	£ 4,257.96	£ 4,257.96	£ -	£ 4,419.39	£ 4,419.39
Sale/ Hire of scores	£ -	£ 1,360.00	£ 1,360.00	£ -	£ 1,997.00	£ 1,997.00
Sale of CDs Todd Jan 26	£ -	£ 90.00	£ 90.00	£ -	£ 241.00	£ 241.00
Todd scores for Jan 26		£ 520.00	£ 520.00			
Loan of Missa Brevis	£ -			£ -	£ 141.45	£ 141.45
	£	<b>29,247.96</b>	<b>£ 29,247.96</b>	£	<b>28,523.84</b>	<b>£ 28,523.84</b>
<b>Sundry income</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 860.00	£ 860.00	£ -	£ 760.00	£ 760.00
Sale of folders	£ -	£ 41.00	£ 41.00	£ -	£ 69.00	£ 69.00
Member Donations	£ -	£ 280.00	£ 280.00	£ -	£ 85.00	£ 85.00
Friends Donations	£ -	£ 600.00	£ 600.00	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00
Patron Donation					£ 400.00	£ 400.00
Subsidised memb Donations	£ 826.00			£ 325.00	£ -	£ -
Fundraising	£ -	£ 312.50	£ 312.50	£ -	£ 212.00	£ 212.00
Legacy Ann Crawford		£ 93,353.37	£ 93,353.37			
	£	<b>826.00</b>	<b>£ 95,446.87</b>	£	<b>325.00</b>	<b>£ 2,226.00</b>
<b>Interest</b>						
CCLA Charities	£ -	£ 1,724.68	£ 1,724.68	£ -	£ 701.11	£ 4,150.47
	£	<b>1,724.68</b>	<b>£ 1,724.68</b>	£	<b>701.11</b>	<b>£ 701.11</b>
<b>Total Income</b>						
	<b>£826.00</b>	<b>£136,389.59</b>	<b>£137,215.59</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 43,964.71</b>	<b>£ 44,289.71</b>
<b>Opening balances 1/9/24</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 9,653.01	£ 9,653.01	£ -	£ 6,899.76	£ 6,899.76
CCLA Charities Deposit	£ -	£ 14,101.03	£ 14,101.03	£ -	£ 13,399.92	£ 13,399.92
	£	<b>23,754.04</b>	<b>£ 23,754.04</b>	£	<b>20,299.68</b>	<b>£ 20,299.68</b>
	<b>£826.00</b>	<b>£160,143.63</b>	<b>£160,969.63</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 64,264.39</b>	<b>£ 64,589.39</b>

**Notes to the Accounts**

**Movement in funds**

	Balance at 01 September 2024	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 31 August 2025
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>	£ 23,754.04	£136,389.59	£ 40,420.57	£ 119,723.06
General fund				
<u>Restricted funds</u>				
Subsidised membership Fund		£ 826.00	£ 600.00	£ 226.00
	£ -	£137,215.59	£ 41,020.57	£ 119,949.06

The Subsidised Membership fund accrued £826 in donations.

Five members availed themselves of this fund, 3 for the full year, 1 for half the year, and £110 was paid to subsidise another member. £600 was used to cover the reduced subscriptions so there is still £226 to be carried into 2025-2026 within the restricted fund.

Opening balances 01/09/24		23,754.04 Credit
Concerts	Income	£9,970.08
	Expenditure	£ 25,215.10
		(15,245.02) Deficit
General	Income	£ 29,247.96
Rehearsal	Expenditure	£ 13,418.89
		15,829.07 Credit
Sundry	Income	£ 95,446.87
	Expenditure	£ 1,786.58
		93,660.29 Credit
Interest received		£ 1,724.68
		1,724.68 Credit
Closing balance 31/08/25		<u>119,949.06</u> Credit
Closing balances 31/08/25	Cooperative Charity	£ 10,769.98
	CCLA Deposit	£ 109,179.08
	Total	<b>£ 119,949.06</b> Credit

**Concert account for Christmas Music performed in Elvet on December 14th 2024**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Elvet Methodist Church	£219.75	Advance Ticket Sales	£334.00
PRS	£55.00	Door Takings	£774.00
Musicians	£250.00	Wegettickets on line	£556.00
Podium	£25.80		
Fliers	£55.08		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£605.63</b>		<b>£1,664.00</b>
	profit	£1,058.37	
	£350 distributed to Durham Music Trust	£350 to Elvet's homeless charity	
	Balance retained for Choir funds		

**Concert balance for Handel's Judas Maccabeus performed in Durham Cathedral on January 25th 2025**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£5,597.30	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£3,187.72
Orchestra and expenses	£4,533.52	Programmes	£278.84
Soloists and expenses	£1,675.00	Choir Music Hire	£555.00
Orchestra Music and postage	£293.66	MIND collection	£166.14
Lighting and Staging	£1,548.96		
Programmes	£124.98		
Fliers	£29.29		
Score Hire plus fine	£250.00		
MIND donation (+prog profit)	£320.00		
	<b>£14,372.71</b>		<b>£4,187.70</b>
	Loss	<b>-£10,185.01</b>	

**Concert balance for Durufle's Requiem and Faure's Requiem performed in Durham Cathedral on May 16th 2025**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£5,631.60	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£4,673.38
Organ	£480.00	Programmes	£0.00
Orchestra and expenses	£0.00	Choir Music Hire	£785.00
Soloists and expenses	£1,435.00		
Orchestra Music and postage	£0.00		
Lighting and Staging	£1,522.56		
Programmes	£0.00		
Fliers	£29.73		
Score Hire	£90.00		
PRS (est)	£300.00		
	<b>£9,488.89</b>		<b>£5,458.38</b>
	Loss	<b>-£4,030.51</b>	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name: DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

On accounts for the year ended

31st AUGUST 2025

Charity no (if any)

514557

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 08 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) 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.

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

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

13.10.2025

Name:

ROBERT A JOHNSON

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

AAT

(if any):

Address: 26 BAUGH CLOSE, WASHINGTON, TYNE + WEAR  
NE37 1SN

**Section B** **Disclosure**

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

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

Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2024 - 2025

Income	2025			2024		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Income</b>						
Tickets members Elvet	£ -	£ 334.00	£ 334.00	£ -	£ 991.00	£ 991.00
Ticket Cathedral	£ -	£ 7,861.10	£ 7,861.10	£ -	£ 8,627.26	£ 8,627.26
Tickets Door Elvet	£ -	£ 774.00	£ 774.00	£ -	£ 772.00	£ 772.00
Wegottickets Elvet	£ -	£ 556.00	£ 556.00	£ -	£ 1,587.00	£ 1,587.00
Programmes sales	£ -	£ 278.84	£ 278.84	£ -	£ 536.50	£ 536.50
MIND donation	£ -	£ 166.14	£ 166.14	£ -	£ -	£ -
		<b>£ 9,970.08</b>	<b>£9,970.08</b>		<b>£ 12,513.76</b>	<b>£ 12,513.76</b>
<b>Rehearsal Income</b>						
Member subscriptions	£ -	£ 23,020.00	£ 23,020.00	£ -	£ 21,725.00	£ 21,725.00
Tax reclaimed	£ -	£ 4,257.96	£ 4,257.96	£ -	£ 4,419.39	£ 4,419.39
Sale/ Hire of scores	£ -	£ 1,360.00	£ 1,360.00	£ -	£ 1,997.00	£ 1,997.00
Sale of CDs Todd Jan 26	£ -	£ 90.00	£ 90.00	£ -	£ 241.00	£ 241.00
Todd scores for Jan 26		£ 520.00	£ 520.00			
Loan of Missa Brevis	£ -			£ -	£ 141.45	£ 141.45
		<b>£ 29,247.96</b>	<b>£ 29,247.96</b>		<b>£ 28,523.84</b>	<b>£ 28,523.84</b>
<b>Sundry income</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 860.00	£ 860.00	£ -	£ 760.00	£ 760.00
Sale of folders	£ -	£ 41.00	£ 41.00	£ -	£ 69.00	£ 69.00
Member Donations	£ -	£ 280.00	£ 280.00	£ -	£ 85.00	£ 85.00
Friends Donations	£ -	£ 600.00	£ 600.00	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00
Patron Donation					£ 400.00	£ 400.00
Subsidised memb Donations	£ 826.00			£ 325.00	£ -	£ -
Fundraising	£ -	£ 312.50	£ 312.50	£ -	£ 212.00	£ 212.00
Legacy Ann Crawford		£ 93,353.37	£ 93,353.37			
	<b>£ 826.00</b>	<b>£ 95,446.87</b>	<b>£ 95,446.87</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 2,226.00</b>	<b>£ 2,226.00</b>
<b>Interest</b>						
CCLA Charities	£ -	£ 1,724.68	£ 1,724.68	£ -	£ 701.11	£ 4,150.47
		<b>£ 1,724.68</b>	<b>£ 1,724.68</b>		<b>£ 701.11</b>	<b>£ 701.11</b>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£826.00</b>	<b>£136,389.59</b>	<b>£137,215.59</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 43,964.71</b>	<b>£ 44,289.71</b>
<b>Opening balances 1/9/24</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 9,653.01	£ 9,653.01	£ -	£ 6,899.76	£ 6,899.76
CCLA Charities Deposit	£ -	£ 14,101.03	£ 14,101.03	£ -	£ 13,399.92	£ 13,399.92
		<b>£ 23,754.04</b>	<b>£ 23,754.04</b>		<b>£ 20,299.68</b>	<b>£ 20,299.68</b>
	<b>£826.00</b>	<b>£160,143.63</b>	<b>£160,969.63</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 64,264.39</b>	<b>£ 64,589.39</b>

Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2024 - 2025

Expenditure	2025			2024		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Expenditure</b>						
Concert Halls	£ -	£ 11,748.62	£ 11,748.62	£ -	£ 7,987.98	£ 7,987.98
instruments	£ -	£ 480.00	£ 480.00	£ -	£ 300.00	£ 300.00
Orchestra	£ -	£ 4,783.52	£ 4,783.52	£ -	£ 7,559.00	£ 7,559.00
Soloists	£ -	£ 3,110.00	£ 3,110.00	£ -	£ 3,325.00	£ 3,325.00
Hire/Purchase/postage orch scores	£ -	£ 293.66	£ 293.66	£ -	£ 253.42	£ 253.42
Hire of lighting/staging	£ -	£ 3,097.32	£ 3,097.32	£ -	£ 2,963.16	£ 2,963.16
PRS payments	£ -	£ 55.00	£ 55.00	£ -	£ 195.40	£ 195.40
Printing of handbills	£ -	£ 114.10	£ 114.10	£ -	£ 186.80	£ 186.80
Printing of programmes	£ -	£ 124.98	£ 124.98	£ -	£ 342.09	£ 342.09
Cath deposit Jan 26	£ -	£ 1,407.90	£ 1,407.90			
		<b>£ 25,215.10</b>	<b>£ 25,215.10</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 23,112.85</b>	<b>£ 23,112.85</b>
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>						
Rehearsal Rooms D School /Elvet	£ -	£ 5,811.00	£ 5,811.00	£ -	£ 4,997.25	£ 4,997.25
Rehearsal Fees(director/accompanists)	£ -	£ 6,235.00	£ 6,235.00	£ -	£ 6,115.00	£ 6,115.00
Officer Expenses inc website	£ -	£ 112.89	£ 112.89	£ -	£ 476.45	£ 476.45
Making Music sub/insurance	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00	£ -	£ 675.00	£ 675.00
Hire/Purchase/postage of vocal scores	£ -	£ 160.00	£ 160.00	£ -	£ 1,871.89	£ 1,871.89
Scores Jan 26	£ -	£ 400.00	£ 400.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Rehearsal CDs	£ -			£ -	£ 236.00	£ 236.00
Folders	£ -			£ -	£ 129.00	£ 129.00
		<b>£ 13,418.89</b>	<b>£ 13,418.89</b>	<b>£ -</b>	<b>£ 14,500.59</b>	<b>£ 14,500.59</b>
<b>Sundry Expenses</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 766.58	£ 766.58	£ -	£ 646.91	£ 646.91
Xmas charities	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00	£ -	£ 2,250.00	£ 2,250.00
Charitable donation MIND	£ -	£ 320.00	£ 320.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Hardship donations utilised	£ 600.00	£ -	£ 600.00	£ 325.00	£ -	£ 325.00
					£ -	£ -
	<b>£ 600.00</b>	<b>£ 1,786.58</b>	<b>£ 2,386.58</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 2,896.91</b>	<b>£ 3,221.91</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 600.00</b>	<b>£ 40,420.57</b>	<b>£ 41,020.57</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 40,510.35</b>	<b>£ 40,835.35</b>
<b>Closing balances 31/8/25</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 10,769.98	£ 10,769.98	£ -	£ 9,653.01	£ 9,653.01
CCLA Charity deposit	£ -	£ 109,179.08	£ 109,179.08	£ -	£ 14,101.03	£ 14,101.03
Total funds at year end		<b>£ 119,949.06</b>	<b>£ 119,949.06</b>		<b>£ 23,754.04</b>	<b>£ 23,754.04</b>
Uncleared cheques						
		<b>£ 119,949.06</b>	<b>£ 119,949.06</b>		<b>£ 23,754.04</b>	<b>£ 23,754.04</b>
	<b>£ 600.00</b>	<b>£ 160,369.63</b>	<b>£ 160,969.63</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 64,264.39</b>	<b>£ 64,589.39</b>

**Notes to the Accounts**

**Movement in funds**

	Balance at 01 September 2024	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 31 August 2025
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>	£ 23,754.04	£136,389.59	£ 40,420.57	£ 119,723.06
General fund				
<u>Restricted funds</u>				
Subsidised membership Fund		£ 826.00	£ 600.00	£ 226.00
	£ -	£137,215.59	£ 41,020.57	£ 119,949.06

The Subsidised Membership fund accrued £826 in donations.

Five members availed themselves of this fund, 3 for the full year, 1 for half the year, and £110 was paid to subsidise another member. £600 was used to cover the reduced subscriptions so there is still £226 to be carried into 2025-2026 within the restricted fund.

**Summary**

Opening balances 01/09/24		23754.04	Credit
Concerts	Income	9970.08	
	Expenditure	25215.1	(-15245.02) Deficit
General	Income	29247.96	
Rehearsal	Expenditure	13418.89	15829.07 Credit
Sundry	Income	95446.87	
	Expenditure	1786.58	93660.29 Credit
Interest received		1724.68	1724.68 Credit
Closing balance 31/08/25			<u>119949.06</u> Credit
Closing balances 31/08/25	Cooperative	10769.98	
	CCLA Deposits	109179.08	
	Total		<u>119949.06</u> Credit

**Concert account for Christmas Music performed in Elvet on December 14th 2024**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Elvet Methodist Church	£219.75	Advance Ticket Sales	£334.00
PRS	£55.00	Door Takings	£774.00
Musicians	£250.00	Wegettickets on line	£556.00
Podium	£25.80		
Fliers	£55.08		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£605.63</b>		<b>£1,664.00</b>
	profit	£1,058.37	
		£350 distributed to Durham Music Trust	£350 to Elvet's homeless charity
		Balance retained for Choir funds	

**Concert balance for Handel's Judas Maccabeus performed in Durham Cathedral on January 25th 2025**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£5,597.30	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£3,187.72
Orchestra and expenses	£4,533.52	Programmes	£278.84
Soloists and expenses	£1,675.00	Choir Music Hire	£555.00
Orchestra Music and postage	£293.66	MIND collection	£166.14
Lighting and Staging	£1,548.96		
Programmes	£124.98		
Fliers	£29.29		
Score Hire plus fine	£250.00		
MIND donation (+prog profit)	£320.00		
	<b>£14,372.71</b>		<b>£4,187.70</b>
		Loss	-£10,185.01

**Concert balance for Durufle's Requiem and Faure's Requiem performed in Durham Cathedral on May 16th 2025**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£5,631.60	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£4,673.38
Organ	£480.00	Programmes	£0.00
Orchestra and expenses	£0.00	Choir Music Hire	£785.00
Soloists and expenses	£1,435.00		
Orchestra Music and postage	£0.00		
Lighting and Staging	£1,522.56		
Programmes	£0.00		
Fliers	£29.73		
Score Hire	£90.00		
PRS (est)	£300.00		
	<b>£9,488.89</b>		<b>£5,458.38</b>
		Loss	-£4,030.51

**DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 514557

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# Accounts

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**Trustees' Annual Report  
for the period from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024**

**Charity name: Durham Choral Society**

**Charity registration number: 514557**

**1. Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>The objects of Durham Choral Society (DCS) are:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>the study and practice of choral music in order to educate the public in the knowledge and appreciation of such music by the presentation of concerts and other activities.</b></li><li>● <b>to further such charitable purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit, financially or otherwise but in particular by the making of small grants and donations.</b></li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>DCS is a membership organisation that carries out the following activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Three choral concerts each year performed in local venues.</b></li><li>● <b>Weekly rehearsals for the above.</b></li><li>● <b>Other singing opportunities as they arise e.g., Durham Vocal Festival, carol singing at University Hospital of North Durham, joint concerts with other choirs.</b></li><li>● <b>Co-ordinating and publicising other singing opportunities and events e.g. The Really Big Chorus events, local choral events, community events at The Glasshouse International Centre for Music.</b></li></ul>

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>All trustees have been provided with the guidance on public benefit.</b></li> <li>● <b>All decisions are taken to ensure that the main activities as outlined in our charitable objectives can take place.</b></li> </ul>
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<b>DCS does not make grants per se but does make donations to local charities using the profits from one concert annually. The charity(ies) are usually chosen via nominations from members.</b>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<b>n/a</b>
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p><b>DCS is run by volunteers, without whom the choir could not operate.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>In 2023-24 there were 11 committee members and three co-opted members, all with defined roles.</b></li> <li>● <b>In addition, there were eight volunteers from the membership who carried out specific tasks and six other volunteers who helped out at concerts.</b></li> <li>● <b>The hours of volunteers are not recorded.</b></li> </ul>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</p>	<p>Para 1.20</p>	<p><b><u>Achievements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>This was the second full year of activity following the hiatus caused by the Covid pandemic and the society continued to recover.</b></li> <li>● <b>DCS organised and promoted three concerts throughout the year along with 30 weekly rehearsals. These were held at Durham School as our former rehearsal venue was not available.</b></li> <li>● <b>One concert was held at Elvet Methodist Church as planned (December 2023). This was held jointly with Northern Spirit Singers and Durham Music Youth Choirs. It featured music by our President, Will Todd.</b></li> <li>● <b>Profits from the December concert were donated to Durham Music Trust.</b></li> <li>● <b>Two concerts were held in Durham Cathedral as planned (January 2024 and May 2024).</b></li> <li>● <b>We trialled online programmes for the first time and plan to continue using them in the future.</b></li> <li>● <b>A survey was carried out in the summer of 2024 to ascertain members' views on the current business model and possible changes to it.</b></li> <li>● <b>We tried to revive our longstanding tradition of singing carols at the local hospital but were advised by the hospital authorities that it would not be possible this year.</b></li> <li>● <b>DCS attracted 21 Friends of Durham Choral Society.</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Beneficiaries</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Members of the biggest non-auditioned choir in the Northeast Region – 114 paid up members during the year.</b></li> <li>● <b>Friends of Durham Choral Society – 21 during the year.</b></li> <li>● <b>Professional and semi-professional musicians – musical team, orchestra, soloists – a typical concert in Durham Cathedral has four professional soloists and full orchestra. The total was 67 during the year.</b></li> <li>● <b>Works by living composers were performed at two concerts (Christmas and May)</b></li> <li>● <b>Choirs with whom we did joint concerts including young singers in the Durham Music Trust choirs.</b></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Audiences – almost 1000 tickets were sold over all three concerts.</b></li> <li>• <b>Venues hired for concerts and rehearsals – Durham Cathedral who also acts as ticketing agent, Elvet Methodist Church, Durham School.</b></li> <li>• <b>Businesses acting as suppliers for DCS e.g. a local printer, staging and lighting contractor, providers of musical scores etc</b></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Benefits</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>As a non-auditioned choir, members have the opportunity to participate in performances of the “big choral works” in a prestigious venue.</b></li> <li>• <b>Participating in music making is well known to improve well-being in adults.</b></li> <li>• <b>Young singers are welcomed at our Christmas Concert.</b></li> <li>• <b>Economic benefits through holding and promoting concerts e.g. hiring venues, musicians and music, attracting audiences, using local suppliers etc with the knock on effect into local businesses such as cafes and shops.</b></li> <li>• <b>For audience members – we offer the opportunity to attend live classical choral events, which enrich the choice of events locally.</b></li> </ul>
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

### Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DCS had a strong year financially supported by</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>more “normal” income in the second full year of activity following the Covid pandemic</b></li> <li>○ <b>lower costs for rehearsal venues</b></li> <li>○ <b>hiring smaller, strings only, orchestra for the May concert</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>It is the charity's policy to hold reserves.</b></li> <li>● <b>Reserves are held at a level which protects trustees from financial hardship should we have to cancel a concert in our main venue (Durham Cathedral).</b></li> <li>● <b>Insurance is held through membership of Making Music but some costs arising from cancellation are not covered.</b></li> </ul>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£14101 which represents 32% of turnover.</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>n/a</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>n/a</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<b>At the present time there are no financial concerns.</b>

#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<b>DCS principal sources of funds during the year were:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Membership subscriptions (49%)</b></li> <li>● <b>Ticket sales (27%)</b></li> <li>● <b>Gift Aid (10%)</b></li> </ul>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	<b>n/a</b>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<b>Our main risks continue to be:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Concert format becoming unsustainable – Durham Cathedral is the only local venue big enough to hold the choir, full orchestra and audience. If costs rise too much, then we will have nowhere to perform in Durham City and will have to look further afield or change our business model.</b></li> <li>● <b>Cost of living affecting membership numbers and audience numbers</b></li> <li>● <b>Securing enough trustees and volunteers from the membership to run DCS</b></li> </ul>

Other		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DCS reviewed its financial processes in 2022-23 and a financial policy was adopted by the committee early in 2023-24.</li> <li>• Financial processes have been reviewed again during the year.</li> </ul>
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## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>DCS has a constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>Unincorporated association of members run by a committee.</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>The committee (including officers of DCS and other members) is elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting with terms of office specified in the constitution.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>All trustees are provided with guidance from the Charity Commission on the roles and responsibilities of trustees on appointment.</b></li> <li>• <b>There is a committee handbook which outlines the duties of each committee role which is shared with all committee members</b></li> <li>• <b>The first committee meeting after the AGM is used as general induction</b></li> <li>• <b>One-to-one sessions are held between the chair and new committee members to discuss roles as required</b></li> <li>• <b>Training and resources for trustees are offered by various organisations and opportunities are circulated to the committee.</b></li> <li>• <b>All committee members are required to report any conflicts of interest.</b></li> </ul>
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The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DCS is affiliated to Making Music (Registered charity 249219)</b></li> </ul>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Two concerts during the year were held at Durham Cathedral (Registered charity 1205971)</b></li> <li>• <b>One concert in 2023-24 was held jointly with other choirs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <b>Christmas concert involved Durham Music Youth and Training Choirs which are organised by Durham Music Trust (Registered charity 1169848) and Northern Spirit singers</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>The Christmas concert and occasional rehearsals are held at premises operated by Durham City Methodists (Registered charity 1126844).</b></li> <li>• <b>Most rehearsals were held at Durham School which is part of Durham Cathedral Schools Foundation (Registered charity 1023407)</b></li> </ul>
Other		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Musical Director, Assistant Conductor and Accompanist are freelance and receive annual honoraria. The Assistant Accompanist is paid on a sessional basis.</b></li> </ul>

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Durham Choral Society</b>
Other name the charity uses	<b>n/a</b>
Registered charity number	<b>514557</b>
	<b>% Chair of Durham Choral Society 31 Peterborough Road Newton Hall Durham DH1 5QX</b>

<b>Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity</b>				
	<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Office (if any)</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	<b>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</b>
1	Valerie Wooff	Chair		
2	Claire Horwell	Hon Secretary		
3	Susan Massey	Hon Treasurer		
4	Victoria Nower	Librarian		
5	Catharine Deeming	Venue Liaison	From 8/12/2023	
6	Fiona Gameson	Concert Administrator		
7	Angela Eddy	Assistant Venue liaison	From 8/12/2023	
8				
9				

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

<b>Director name</b>		
<b>N/a</b>		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	
<b>N/a</b>		

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

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

**Additional information (optional)**

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)		
Type of adviser	Name	Address
External examiner	Rebecca Davison ICAEW	
Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)		

**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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**Other optional information**

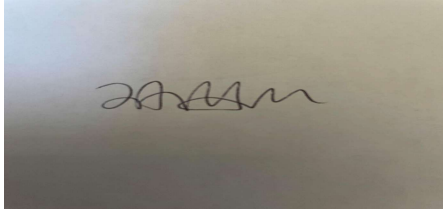
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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
Jane Ann Abel	
Secretary	
07/05/2025	

Full name(s)

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Date

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2023 - 2024**

Expenditure	2024			2023		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Expenditure</b>						
Concert Halls	£ -	£ 7,987.98	£ 7,987.98	£ -	£ 7,181.28	£ 7,181.28
instruments		£ 300.00	£ 300.00			
Orchestra	£ -	£ 7,559.00	£ 7,559.00	£ -	£ 9,090.00	£ 9,090.00
Soloists	£ -	£ 3,325.00	£ 3,325.00	£ -	£ 3,300.00	£ 3,300.00
Hire/Purchase/postage orch scores	£ -	£ 253.42	£ 253.42	£ -	£ 474.98	£ 474.98
Hire of lighting/staging	£ -	£ 2,963.16	£ 2,963.16	£ -	£ 3,917.40	£ 3,917.40
PRS payments	£ -	£ 195.40	£ 195.40	£ -	£ 55.00	£ 55.00
Printing of handbills	£ -	£ 186.80	£ 186.80	£ -	£ 147.82	£ 147.82
Printing of programmes	£ -	£ 342.09	£ 342.09	£ -	£ 860.37	£ 860.37
	£ -	£ 23,112.85	£ 23,112.85	£ -	£ 25,026.85	£ 25,026.85
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>						
Rehearsal Rooms D School /Elvet	£ -	£ 4,997.25	£ 4,997.25	£ -	£ 6,287.25	£ 6,287.25
Rehearsal Fees(director/accompanists)	£ -	£ 6,115.00	£ 6,115.00	£ -	£ 6,080.00	£ 6,080.00
Officer Expenses inc website	£ -	£ 476.45	£ 476.45	£ -	£ 110.99	£ 110.99
Making Music sub/insurance	£ -	£ 675.00	£ 675.00	£ -	£ 390.00	£ 390.00
Hire/Purchase/postage of vocal scores	£ -	£ 1,871.89	£ 1,871.89	£ -	£ 407.32	£ 407.32
Rehearsal CDs	£ -	£ 236.00	£ 236.00	£ -	£ 166.90	£ 166.90
Folders	£ -	£ 129.00	£ 129.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ 14,500.59	£ 14,500.59	£ -	£ 13,442.46	£ 13,442.46
		£ -	£ -			
<b>Sundry Expenses</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 646.91	£ 646.91	£ -	£ 1,178.90	£ 1,178.90
Xmas charities	£ -	£ 2,250.00	£ 2,250.00	£ -	£ 675.00	£ 675.00
Charitable don Ann Crawford RIP	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 50.00	£ 50.00
Hardship donations utilised	£ 325.00	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 275.00	£ -	£ 275.00
		£ -	£ -			
	£ 325.00	£ 2,896.91	£ 3,221.91	£ 275.00	£ 1,903.90	£ 2,178.90
		£ -	£ -			
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	£ 325.00	£ 40,510.35	£ 40,835.35	£ 275.00	£ 40,373.21	£ 40,648.21
<b>Closing balances 31/8/24</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 9,653.01	£ 9,653.01	£ -	£ 6,899.76	£ 6,899.76
CCLA Charity deposit	£ -	£ 14,101.03	£ 14,101.03	£ -	£ 13,399.92	£ 13,399.92
Total funds at year end	£ -	£ 23,754.04	£ 23,754.04	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68
Uncleared cheques						
	£ -	£ 23,754.04	£ 23,754.04	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68
	£ 325.00	£ 64,264.39	£ 64,589.39	£ 275.00	£ 60,672.89	£ 60,947.89

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2022 - 2023**

Income	2024			2023		
	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Income</b>						
Tickets members Elvet	£ -	£ 991.00	£ 991.00	£ -	£ 685.00	£ 685.00
Ticket Cathedral	£ -	£ 8,627.26	£ 8,627.26	£ -	£ 12,436.95	£ 12,436.95
Tickets Door Elvet	£ -	£ 772.00	£ 772.00	£ -	£ 445.00	£ 445.00
Wegottickets Elvet	£ -	£ 1,587.00	£ 1,587.00	£ -	£ 460.00	£ 460.00
Programmes sales	£ -	£ 536.50	£ 536.50	£ -	£ 886.80	£ 886.80
Leeds Phil Donation	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 3,000.00	£ 3,000.00
Private sponsorship	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,125.00	£ 1,125.00
	£ -					
	£ -	£ 12,513.76	£ 12,513.76	£ -	£ 19,038.75	£ 19,038.75
<b>Rehearsal Income</b>						
Member subscriptions	£ -	£ 21,725.00	£ 21,725.00	£ -	£ 20,607.00	£ 20,607.00
Tax reclaimed	£ -	£ 4,419.39	£ 4,419.39	£ -	£ 1,416.50	£ 1,416.50
Sale/ Hire of scores	£ -	£ 1,997.00	£ 1,997.00	£ -	£ 1,317.95	£ 1,317.95
Loan of Missa breva	£ -	£ 141.45	£ 141.45	£ -	£ 225.00	£ 225.00
Sale of CDs	£ -	£ 241.00	£ 241.00	£ -	£ 215.50	£ 215.50
	£ -	£ 28,523.84	£ 28,523.84	£ -	£ 23,781.95	£ 23,781.95
<b>Sundry income</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 760.00	£ 760.00	£ -	£ 1,175.00	£ 1,175.00
Sale of folders	£ -	£ 69.00	£ 69.00	£ -	£ 78.40	£ 78.40
Member Donations	£ -	£ 85.00	£ 85.00	£ -	£ 83.00	£ 83.00
Friends Donations	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00	£ -	£ 655.00	£ 655.00
Patron Donation		£ 400.00	£ 400.00			
Subsidised memb Donations	£ 325.00	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 275.00	£ -	£ 275.00
Fundraising	£ -	£ 212.00	£ 212.00	£ -	£ 45.00	£ 45.00
	£ 325.00	£ 2,226.00	£ 2,551.00	£ 275.00	£ 2,036.40	£ 2,311.40
<b>Interest</b>						
CCLA Charities	£ -	£ 701.11	£ 701.11	£ -	£ 425.14	£ 425.14
	£ -	£ 701.11	£ 701.11	£ -	£ 425.14	£ 425.14
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 325.00</b>	<b>£ 43,964.71</b>	<b>£ 44,289.71</b>	<b>£ 275.00</b>	<b>£ 45,282.24</b>	<b>£ 45,557.24</b>
<b>Opening balances 1/9/23</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 6,899.76	£ 6,899.76	£ -	£ 2,415.87	£ 2,415.87
CCLA Charities Deposit	£ -	£ 13,399.92	£ 13,399.92	£ -	£ 12,974.78	£ 12,974.78
	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68	£ -	£ 15,390.65	£ 15,390.65
	£ 325.00	£ 64,264.39	£ 64,589.39	£ 275.00	£ 60,672.89	£ 60,947.89

**Notes to the Accounts**

**Movement in funds**

	September 2023	Incoming resources	resources Expended	Balance at 31 August 2024
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>				
General fund	£ 20,299.68	£ 43,964.71	£ 40,510.35	£ 23,754.04
<u>Restricted funds</u>				
Subsidised membership Fund	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 325.00	£ -
	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 325.00	£ -

The Subsidised Membership fund accrued £325 in donations.

Four members availed themselves of this fund, 3 for the full year and 1 for half the year. £210 was paid to cover £685 worth of subscriptions. The deficit was £475, which was partially covered by the donations. There are no funds at present in this hardship fund as of September 2024.

Opening balances 01/09/23			20,299.68	Credit
Concerts	Income	£	12,513.76	
	Expenditure	£	23,112.85	(10,599.09) Deficit
General	Income	£	28,523.84	
Rehearsal	Expenditure	£	14,500.59	14,023.25 Credit
Sundry	Income	£	2,551.00	
	Expenditure	£	3,221.91	(670.91) Deficit
Interest received		£	701.11	701.11 Credit
Closing balance 31/08/24			23,754.04	Credit
Closing balances 31/08/24				
	Cooperative Charity	£	9,653.01	
	CCLA Deposit	£	14,101.03	
	Total	£	23,754.04	Credit

**Concert account for Will Todd Christmas Music performed in Elvet on December 16th 2023**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Elvet Methodist Church	£204.75	Advance Ticket Sales	£991.00
PRS	£55.00	Door Takings	£772.00
Musicians	£750.00	Wegettickets on line	£1,587.00
Podium	£35.16	Choir Music	£860.00
Fliers	£36.80		
Choir Music	£847.20		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£1,928.91</b>		<b>£4,210.00</b>
	profit	£2,281.09	
		£2250 distributed to Durham Music Trust - main objective of this concert	
		Balance (£31.09) retained for Choir funds	

**Concert balance for Mozart's Mass in C Minor performed in Durham Cathedral on January 20th 2024**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£3,968.24	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£4,378.54
Organ	£300.00	Programmes	£306.50
Orchestra and expenses	£5,322.00	Choir Music Hire	£331.00
Soloists and expenses	£2,125.00		
Orchestra Music and postage	£148.22		
Lighting and Staging	£1,355.52		
Programmes	£201.55		
Fliers	£54.00		
Score Hire/Postage/Replacement	£420.24		
	<b>£13,894.77</b>		<b>£5,016.04</b>
	Loss	<b>-£8,878.73</b>	

**Concert balance for Schubert's Mass in G and Gjeilo's Sunrise Mass performed in Durham Cathedral on May 18th 2024**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£3,814.98	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£4,248.72
Orchestra and expenses	£2,787.00	Programmes	£227.00
Soloists and expenses	£650.00	Choir Music Hire	£806.00
Orchestra Music and postage	£105.20		
Lighting and Staging	£1,572.48		
Programmes	£139.40		
Fliers	£94.00		
Score Hire	£389.80		
PRS	£140.40		
	<b>£9,693.26</b>		<b>£5,281.72</b>
	Loss	<b>-£4,411.54</b>	

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2023 - 2024**

**Expenditure**

	2024			2023		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Expenditure</b>						
Concert Halls	£ -	£ 7,987.98	£ 7,987.98	£ -	£ 7,181.28	£ 7,181.28
instruments		£ 300.00	£ 300.00			
Orchestra	£ -	£ 7,559.00	£ 7,559.00	£ -	£ 9,090.00	£ 9,090.00
Soloists	£ -	£ 3,325.00	£ 3,325.00	£ -	£ 3,300.00	£ 3,300.00
Hire/Purchase/postage orch scores	£ -	£ 253.42	£ 253.42	£ -	£ 474.98	£ 474.98
Hire of lighting/staging	£ -	£ 2,963.16	£ 2,963.16	£ -	£ 3,917.40	£ 3,917.40
PRS payments	£ -	£ 195.40	£ 195.40	£ -	£ 55.00	£ 55.00
Printing of handbills	£ -	£ 186.80	£ 186.80	£ -	£ 147.82	£ 147.82
Printing of programmes	£ -	£ 342.09	£ 342.09	£ -	£ 860.37	£ 860.37
	£ -	£ 23,112.85	£ 23,112.85	£ -	£ 25,026.85	£ 25,026.85
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>						
Rehearsal Rooms D School /Elvet	£ -	£ 4,997.25	£ 4,997.25	£ -	£ 6,287.25	£ 6,287.25
Rehearsal Fees(director/accompanists)	£ -	£ 6,115.00	£ 6,115.00	£ -	£ 6,080.00	£ 6,080.00
Officer Expenses inc website	£ -	£ 476.45	£ 476.45	£ -	£ 110.99	£ 110.99
Making Music sub/insurance	£ -	£ 675.00	£ 675.00	£ -	£ 390.00	£ 390.00
Hire/Purchase/postage of vocal scores	£ -	£ 1,871.89	£ 1,871.89	£ -	£ 407.32	£ 407.32
Rehearsal CDs	£ -	£ 236.00	£ 236.00	£ -	£ 166.90	£ 166.90
Folders	£ -	£ 129.00	£ 129.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ 14,500.59	£ 14,500.59	£ -	£ 13,442.46	£ 13,442.46
		£ -	£ -			
<b>Sundry Expenses</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 646.91	£ 646.91	£ -	£ 1,178.90	£ 1,178.90
Xmas charities	£ -	£ 2,250.00	£ 2,250.00	£ -	£ 675.00	£ 675.00
Charitable don Ann Crawford RIP	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 50.00	£ 50.00
Hardship donations utilised	£ 325.00	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 275.00	£ -	£ 275.00
		£ -	£ -			
	£ 325.00	£ 2,896.91	£ 3,221.91	£ 275.00	£ 1,903.90	£ 2,178.90
		£ -	£ -			
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	£ 325.00	£ 40,510.35	£ 40,835.35	£ 275.00	£ 40,373.21	£ 40,648.21
<b>Closing balances 31/8/24</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 9,653.01	£ 9,653.01	£ -	£ 6,899.76	£ 6,899.76
CCLA Charity deposit	£ -	£ 14,101.03	£ 14,101.03	£ -	£ 13,399.92	£ 13,399.92
<b>Total funds at year end</b>	£ -	£ 23,754.04	£ 23,754.04	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68
<b>Uncleared cheques</b>						
	£ -	£ 23,754.04	£ 23,754.04	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68
	£ 325.00	£ 64,264.39	£ 64,589.39	£ 275.00	£ 60,672.89	£ 60,947.89

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2022 - 2023**

Income	2024			2023		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Income</b>						
Tickets members Elvet	£ -	£ 991.00	£ 991.00	£ -	£ 685.00	£ 685.00
Ticket Cathedral	£ -	£ 8,627.26	£ 8,627.26	£ -	£ 12,436.95	£ 12,436.95
Tickets Door Elvet	£ -	£ 772.00	£ 772.00	£ -	£ 445.00	£ 445.00
Wegotickets Elvet	£ -	£ 1,587.00	£ 1,587.00	£ -	£ 460.00	£ 460.00
Programmes sales	£ -	£ 536.50	£ 536.50	£ -	£ 886.80	£ 886.80
Leeds Phil Donation	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ 3,000.00	£ 3,000.00
Private sponsorship	£ -		£ -	£ -	£ 1,125.00	£ 1,125.00
	£ -			£ -		
	£ -	£ 12,513.76	£ 12,513.76	£ -	£ 19,038.75	£ 19,038.75
<b>Rehearsal Income</b>						
Member subscriptions	£ -	£ 21,725.00	£ 21,725.00	£ -	£ 20,607.00	£ 20,607.00
Tax reclaimed	£ -	£ 4,419.39	£ 4,419.39	£ -	£ 1,416.50	£ 1,416.50
Sale/ Hire of scores	£ -	£ 1,997.00	£ 1,997.00	£ -	£ 1,317.95	£ 1,317.95
Loan of Missa breva	£ -	£ 141.45	£ 141.45	£ -	£ 225.00	£ 225.00
Sale of CDs	£ -	£ 241.00	£ 241.00	£ -	£ 215.50	£ 215.50
	£ -			£ -		
	£ -	£ 28,523.84	£ 28,523.84	£ -	£ 23,781.95	£ 23,781.95
<b>Sundry income</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 760.00	£ 760.00	£ -	£ 1,175.00	£ 1,175.00
Sale of folders	£ -	£ 69.00	£ 69.00	£ -	£ 78.40	£ 78.40
Member Donations	£ -	£ 85.00	£ 85.00	£ -	£ 83.00	£ 83.00
Friends Donations	£ -	£ 700.00	£ 700.00	£ -	£ 655.00	£ 655.00
Patron Donation		£ 400.00	£ 400.00			
Subsidised memb Donations	£ 325.00	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 275.00	£ -	£ 275.00
Fundraising	£ -	£ 212.00	£ 212.00	£ -	£ 45.00	£ 45.00
	£ 325.00			£ 275.00		
	£ 325.00	£ 2,226.00	£ 2,551.00	£ 275.00	£ 2,036.40	£ 2,311.40
<b>Interest</b>						
CCLA Charities	£ -	£ 701.11	£ 701.11	£ -	£ 425.14	£ 425.14
	£ -			£ -		
	£ -	£ 701.11	£ 701.11	£ -	£ 425.14	£ 425.14
<b>Total Income</b>	£ 325.00	£ 43,964.71	£ 44,289.71	£ 275.00	£ 45,282.24	£ 45,557.24
<b>Opening balances 1/9/23</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 6,899.76	£ 6,899.76	£ -	£ 2,415.87	£ 2,415.87
CCLA Charities Deposit	£ -	£ 13,399.92	£ 13,399.92	£ -	£ 12,974.78	£ 12,974.78
	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68	£ -	£ 15,390.65	£ 15,390.65
	£ 325.00	£ 64,264.39	£ 64,589.39	£ 275.00	£ 60,672.89	£ 60,947.89

**Concert account for Will Todd Christmas Music performed in Elvet on December 16th 2023**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Elvet Methodist Church	£204.75	Advance Ticket Sales	£991.00
PRS	£55.00	Door Takings	£772.00
Musicians	£750.00	Wegettickets on line	£1,587.00
Podium	£35.16	Choir Music	£860.00
Fliers	£36.80		
Choir Music	£847.20		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£1,928.91</b>		<b>£4,210.00</b>
	profit	£2,281.09	
		£2250 distributed to Durham Music Trust - main objective of this concert	
		Balance (£31.09) retained for Choir funds	

**Concert balance for Mozart's Mass in C Minor performed in Durham Cathedral on January 20th 2024**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£3,968.24	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£4,378.54
Organ	£300.00	Programmes	£306.50
Orchestra and expenses	£5,322.00	Choir Music Hire	£331.00
Soloists and expenses	£2,125.00		
Orchestra Music and postage	£148.22		
Lighting and Staging	£1,355.52		
Programmes	£201.55		
Fliers	£54.00		
Score Hire/Postage/Replacement	£420.24		
	<b>£13,894.77</b>		<b>£5,016.04</b>
		Loss	-£8,878.73

**Concert balance for Schubert's Mass in G and Gjeilo's Sunrise Mass performed in Durham Cathedral on May 18th 2024**

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Income</b>	
Durham Cathedral	£3,814.98	Cathedral Ticketing minus commission	£4,248.72
Orchestra and expenses	£2,787.00	Programmes	£227.00
Soloists and expenses	£650.00	Choir Music Hire	£806.00
Orchestra Music and postage	£105.20		
Lighting and Staging	£1,572.48		
Programmes	£139.40		
Fliers	£94.00		
Score Hire	£389.80		
PRS	£140.40		
	<b>£9,693.26</b>		<b>£5,281.72</b>
		Loss	-£4,411.54

**Notes to the Accounts**

**Movement in funds**

	<b>Balance at 01 September 2023</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Balance at 31 August 2024</b>
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>				
General fund	£ 20,299.68	£ 43,964.71	£ 40,510.35	£ 23,754.04
<u>Restricted funds</u>				
Subsidised membership Fund	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 325.00	£ -
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ -	£ 325.00	£ 325.00	£ -

The Subsidised Membership fund accrued £325 in donations.

Four members availed themselves of this fund, 3 for the full year and 1 for half the year. £210 was paid to cover £685 worth of subscriptions. The deficit was £475, which was partially covered by the donations. There are no funds at present in this hardship fund as of September 2024.

Opening balances 01/09/23 **20,299.68** Credit

Concerts	Income	£	12,513.76	
	Expenditure	£	23,112.85	(10,599.09) Deficit

General	Income	£	28,523.84	
Rehearsal	Expenditure	£	14,500.59	14,023.25 Credit

Sundry	Income	£	2,551.00	
	Expenditure	£	3,221.91	(670.91) Deficit

Interest received	£	701.11	701.11 Credit
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Closing balance 31/08/24 23,754.04 Credit

Closing balances 31/08/24	Cooperative Charity	£	9,653.01	
	CCLA Deposit	£	14,101.03	
	Total	£	<b>23,754.04</b>	Credit



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
**DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

**31st August 2024**

**Charity no  
(if any)**

**514557**

**Set out on pages**

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended **31 August 2024**.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

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

**Independent  
examiner's statement**

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

**Signed:** *R.S. Davison*

**Date:** **06.10.2024**

**Name:** **Rebecca Davison**

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

**ICAEW**

**Address:**

**140 Coniscliffe Road**

**Darlington**

**DL3 7PT**

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

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

**DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 514557

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# Accounts

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**Trustees' Annual Report  
for the period from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023**

**Charity name: Durham Choral Society**

**Charity registration number: 514557**

## **1. Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>The objects of Durham Choral Society (DCS) are:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>the study and practice of choral music in order to educate the public in the knowledge and appreciation of such music by the presentation of concerts and other activities.</b></li><li>● <b>to further such charitable purposes as the trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit, financially or otherwise but in particular by the making of small grants and donations.</b></li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>DCS is a membership organisation that carries out the following activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Three choral concerts each year performed in local venues.</b></li><li>● <b>Other singing opportunities as they arise e.g., Durham Vocal Festival, carol singing at University Hospital of North Durham, joint concerts with other choirs.</b></li><li>● <b>Weekly rehearsals for the above.</b></li></ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>All trustees have been provided with the guidance on public benefit.</b></li><li>● <b>All decisions are taken to ensure that that the main activities as outlined in our charitable objects can take place.</b></li></ul>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<b>DCS does not make grants per se but does make donations to local charities using the profits from one concert annually. The charity(ies) are usually chosen via nominations from members.</b>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<b>n/a</b>
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p><b>DCS is run by volunteers, without whom the choir could not operate.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>In 2022-23 there were 11 committee members and one co-opted member, all with defined roles.</b></li> <li>● <b>In addition, there were eight volunteers from the membership who carry out specific tasks and six other volunteers who helped out at concerts.</b></li> <li>● <b>The hours of volunteers are not recorded.</b></li> </ul>
Other		

### Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><b><u>Achievements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>DCS celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary during the year</b></li> <li>● <b>This was the first full year's activity following the hiatus caused by the Covid pandemic.</b></li> <li>● <b>DCS organised and promoted three concerts throughout the year along with 30 weekly rehearsals.</b></li> <li>● <b>One concert was held at Elvet Methodist Church as planned (December 2022). This was held jointly with Durham Music Youth Choirs.</b></li> <li>● <b>Profits from the December concert were donated to local charities as planned.</b></li> <li>● <b>Two concerts were held in Durham Cathedral as planned (January 2023 and May 2023). The May concert was a joint concert with Leeds Philharmonic Chorus.</b></li> <li>● <b>We tried to revive our longstanding tradition of singing carols at the local hospital but were advised by the hospital authorities that it would not be possible this year.</b></li> <li>● <b>DCS attracted 23 Friends of Durham Choral Society.</b></li> <li>● <b>DCS secured a new rehearsal venue at short notice over the summer of 2023.</b></li> </ul>

		<p><b><u>Beneficiaries</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Members of the biggest non-auditioned choir in the Northeast Region – 125 paid up members during the year.</li> <li>● Friends of Durham Choral Society – 23 during the year.</li> <li>● Professional and semi-professional musicians – musical team, orchestra, soloists – a typical concert in Durham Cathedral has four professional soloists and full orchestra. The total was 89 during the year.</li> <li>● Choirs with whom we did joint concerts including young singers in the Durham Music Trust choirs.</li> <li>● Audiences – almost 1000 tickets were sold over all three concerts.</li> <li>● Venues hired for concerts and rehearsals – Durham Cathedral, which also acts as ticketing agent, Elvet Methodist Church, Durham Johnston Comprehensive School</li> <li>● Businesses acting as suppliers for DCS e.g., a local printer, staging and lighting contractor, providers of musical scores etc.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Benefits</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As a non-auditioned choir, members have the opportunity to participate in performances of the “big choral works” in a prestigious venue.</li> <li>● Participating in music making is well known to improve well-being in adults.</li> <li>● Young singers participate in some concerts</li> <li>● Economic benefits through holding and promoting concerts e.g. hiring venues, musicians and music, attracting audiences etc. with the knock on effect into local businesses such as cafes and shops.</li> <li>● For audience members – we offer the opportunity to attend live classical choral events, which enrich the choice of events locally.</li> </ul>
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**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>DCS had a strong year financially, boosted by</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>higher than average ticket sales for the May concert (joint with Leeds Philharmonic Chorus).</b></li> <li>○ <b>Leeds Philharmonic Chorus contributed towards costs for the May concert.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Sponsorship and donations from members were welcomed for particular activities such as soloists for concerts, the website, programme production, and more.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>It is the charity's policy to hold reserves.</b></li> <li>● <b>Reserves are held to protect trustees from financial hardship should we have to cancel a concert in our main venue (Durham Cathedral).</b></li> <li>● <b>Insurance is held through membership of Making Music but some costs arising from cancellation are not covered.</b></li> </ul>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>£12974 which represents 28% of turnover.</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>n/a</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>N/a</b>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<b>At the present time there are no financial concerns.</b>

## Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p><b>DCS' three principal sources of funding during the year were:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Membership subscriptions (45%)</b></li> <li>● <b>Ticket sales (31%)</b></li> <li>● <b>Donations/sponsorship from members and others (10%)</b></li> </ul>
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Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	<b>N/a</b>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p><b>Our main risks are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Concert format becoming unsustainable – Durham Cathedral is the only local venue big enough to hold the choir, full orchestra and audience. If costs rise too much, then we will have nowhere to perform in Durham City and will have to look further afield or change our business model.</b></li> <li>● <b>Cost of living affecting membership numbers.</b></li> <li>● <b>Securing enough trustees and volunteers from the membership to run DCS.</b></li> </ul>
Other		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>DCS reviewed its financial processes during the year and a draft financial policy will be taken to the committee in 2023-24.</b></li> </ul>

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document ( <a href="#">trust deed</a> , <a href="#">royal charter</a> )	Para 1.25	<b>DCS has a constitution.</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g <a href="#">unincorporated association</a> , <a href="#">CIO</a> )	Para 1.25	<b>Unincorporated association of members run by a committee.</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>The committee (including officers of DCS and other members) is elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting with terms of office specified in the constitution.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>All trustees are provided with guidance from the Charity Commission on the roles and responsibilities of trustees on appointment.</b></li> <li>● <b>There is a committee handbook which outlines the duties of each committee role which is shared with all committee members.</b></li> <li>● <b>The first committee meeting after the AGM is used as general induction.</b></li> <li>● <b>One-to-one sessions are held between the chair and new committee members to discuss roles as required.</b></li> <li>● <b>Training and resources for trustees are offered by various organisations and opportunities are circulated to the committee.</b></li> </ul>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>DCS is affiliated to Making Music (Registered charity 249219)</b></li> </ul>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Two concerts in 2022-23 were held jointly with other choirs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Christmas concert involved Durham Music Youth and Training Choirs which are organised by Durham Music Trust (Registered charity 1169848)</b></li> <li>○ <b>May concert was a joint concert with Leeds Philharmonic Society (Registered charity 1162999)</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>The Christmas concert and occasional rehearsals are held at premises operated by Durham City Methodists (Registered charity 1126844).</b></li> <li>● <b>Most rehearsals were held at Durham Johnston Comprehensive School (Registered charity 516935)</b></li> </ul>
Other		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>The Musical Director, Assistant Conductor and Accompanist are freelance and receive annual honoraria. The Assistant Accompanist is paid on a sessional basis.</b></li> </ul>

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Durham Choral Society</b>
Other name the charity uses	<b>n/a</b>
Registered charity number	<b>514557</b>

Charity's principal address	<b>% Chair of Durham Choral Society 1 Burnside Witton Gilbert Durham DH7 6SE</b>
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Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity				
	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Valerie Wooff	Chair		
2	Claire Horwell	Hon Secretary		
3	Susan Massey	Hon Treasurer		
4	Peggy Blakemore	Membership Secretary		
5	Victoria Nower	Librarian	6 Nov 2022 – 31 Aug 2023	
6	Angela Douglas	Venue Liaison	1 Sep 2022-30 Jun 2023	
7	Fiona Gameson	Concert Administrator		
8				
9				

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

<b>Director name</b>		
<b>n/a</b>		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

<b>Trustee name</b>	<b>Dates acted if not for whole year</b>	
<b>n/a</b>		

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

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

**Additional information (optional)**

<b>Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)</b>		
<b>Type of adviser</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>External Examiner</b>	<b>Rebecca Davison</b>	c/o Clive Own LLP Kepier House, Belmont Business Park, Durham, DH1 1TW
<b>Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)</b>		

**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details



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**Other optional information**

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	V A Wooff	S Massey
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chair	Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	8 March 2024	8 March 2024

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2022 - 2023**

Expenditure	2023			2022		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Expenditure</b>						
Concert Halls	£ -	£ 7,181.28	£ 7,181.28	£ -	£ 3,070.07	£ 3,070.07
Orchestra	£ -	£ 9,090.00	£ 9,090.00	£ -	£ 4,784.10	£ 4,784.10
Soloists	£ -	£ 3,300.00	£ 3,300.00	£ -	£ 1,550.00	£ 1,550.00
Hire/Purchase/postage orch scores	£ -	£ 474.98	£ 474.98	£ -	£ 363.80	£ 363.80
Hire of lighting/staging	£ -	£ 3,917.40	£ 3,917.40	£ -	£ 874.12	£ 874.12
PRS payments	£ -	£ 55.00	£ 55.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Printing of handbills	£ -	£ 147.82	£ 147.82	£ -	£ 75.00	£ 75.00
Printing of programmes	£ -	£ 860.37	£ 860.37	£ -	£ 246.00	£ 246.00
Publicity	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 33.00	£ 33.00
	£ -	£ 25,026.85	£ 25,026.85	£ -	£ 10,996.09	£ 10,996.09
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>						
Rehearsal Rooms DJS bill	£ -	£ 6,287.25	£ 6,287.25	£ -	£ 5,544.00	£ 5,544.00
Rehearsal Fees(director/accompanists)	£ -	£ 6,080.00	£ 6,080.00	£ -	£ 5,690.00	£ 5,690.00
Officer Expenses	£ -	£ 110.99	£ 110.99	£ -	£ 146.48	£ 146.48
Making Music sub/insurance	£ -	£ 390.00	£ 390.00	£ -	£ 622.00	£ 622.00
Hire/Purchase/postage of vocal scores	£ -	£ 407.32	£ 407.32	£ -	£ 795.91	£ 795.91
Rehearsal CDs	£ -	£ 166.90	£ 166.90	£ -	£ 58.80	£ 58.80
Membership refund	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 65.00	£ 65.00
	£ -	£ 13,442.46	£ 13,442.46	£ -	£ 12,922.19	£ 12,922.19
<b>Sundry Expenses</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 1,178.90	£ 1,178.90	£ -	£ -	£ -
Xmas charities	£ -	£ 675.00	£ 675.00	£ -	£ 175.00	£ 175.00
Charitable don Ann Crawford RIP	£ -	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Hardship donations utilised	£ 275.00	£ -	£ 275.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ 275.00	£ 1,903.90	£ 2,178.90	£ -	£ 175.00	£ 175.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	£ 275.00	£ 40,373.21	£ 40,648.21	£ -	£ 24,093.28	£ 24,093.28
<b>Closing balances 31/8/23</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 6,899.76	£ 6,899.76	£ -	£ 2,415.87	£ 2,415.87
CCLA Charity deposit	£ -	£ 13,399.92	£ 13,399.92	£ -	£ 12,974.78	£ 12,974.78
<b>Total funds at year end</b>	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68	£ -	£ 15,390.65	£ 15,390.65
Uncleared cheques	£ -	£ 20,299.68	£ 20,299.68	£ -	£ 15,390.65	£ 15,390.65
	£ 275.00	£ 60,672.89	£ 60,947.89	£ -	£ 39,483.93	£ 39,483.93

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2022 - 2023**

Income	2023			2022		
	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total	Restricted funds	Un restricted funds	Total
<b>Concert Income</b>						
Tickets members Elvet	£ -	£ 685.00	£ 685.00	£ -	£ 20.00	£ 20.00
Ticket Cathedral	£ -	£ 12,436.95	£ 12,436.95	£ -	£ 3,426.98	£ 3,426.98
Tickets Door Elvet	£ -	£ 445.00	£ 445.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Wegotickets Elvet	£ -	£ 460.00	£ 460.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Programmes sales	£ -	£ 886.80	£ 886.80	£ -	£ 303.00	£ 303.00
Orch score refund	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 141.50	£ 141.50
Leeds Phil Donation	£ -	£ 3,000.00	£ 3,000.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Private sponsorship	£ -	£ 1,125.00	£ 1,125.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ 19,038.75	£ 19,038.75	£ -	£ 3,891.48	£ 3,891.48
<b>Rehearsal Income</b>						
Member subscriptions	£ -	£ 20,607.00	£ 20,607.00	£ -	£ 6,425.00	£ 6,425.00
Tax reclaimed	£ -	£ 1,416.50	£ 1,416.50	£ -	£ -	£ -
Sale/ Hire of scores	£ -	£ 1,317.95	£ 1,317.95	£ -	£ 179.52	£ 179.52
Loan of Missa breva	£ -	£ 225.00	£ 225.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Sale of CDs	£ -	£ 215.50	£ 215.50	£ -	£ 74.00	£ 74.00
	£ -	£ 23,781.95	£ 23,781.95	£ -	£ 6,678.52	£ 6,678.52
<b>Sundry income</b>						
Dinner	£ -	£ 1,175.00	£ 1,175.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Sale of folders	£ -	£ 78.40	£ 78.40	£ -	£ 77.00	£ 77.00
Charity Collection	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 175.00	£ 175.00
Sale of J Lewis CDs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 60.00	£ 60.00
Member Donations	£ -	£ 83.00	£ 83.00	£ -	£ 1,415.00	£ 1,415.00
Friends Donations	£ -	£ 655.00	£ 655.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Subsidised memb Donations	£ 275.00	£ -	£ 275.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Fundraising Sale	£ -	£ 45.00	£ 45.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ 275.00	£ 2,036.40	£ 2,311.40	£ -	£ 1,727.00	£ 1,727.00
<b>Interest</b>						
HSBC deposit	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 0.03	£ 0.03
CCLA Charities	£ -	£ 425.14	£ 425.14	£ -	£ 43.89	£ 43.89
	£ -	£ 425.14	£ 425.14	£ -	£ 43.92	£ 43.92
<b>Total Income</b>						
	£ 275.00	£ 45,282.24	£ 45,557.24	£ -	£ 12,340.92	£ 12,340.92
<b>Opening balances 1/9/22</b>						
Cooperative Charity Acct	£ -	£ 2,415.87	£ 2,415.87	£ -	£ -	£ -
CCLA Charities Deposit	£ -	£ 12,974.78	£ 12,974.78	£ -	£ 12,930.89	£ 12,930.89
HSBC current	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 5,121.79	£ 5,121.79
HSBC deposit	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,272.29	£ 1,272.29
memb C/F	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 7,809.49	£ 7,809.49
HSBC A/C 2	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 8.55	£ 8.55
	£ -	£ 15,390.65	£ 15,390.65	£ -	£ 27,143.01	£ 27,143.01
	£ 275.00	£ 60,672.89	£ 60,947.89	£ -	£ 39,483.93	£ 39,483.93

## Notes to the Accounts

### Movement in funds

	Balance at 01 September 2022		Incoming resources	Resources Expended		Balance at 31 August 2023		
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>								
General fund	£	15,390.65	£	45,282.24	£	40,373.21	£	20,299.68
<u>Restricted funds</u>								
Subsidised membership Fund	£	-	£	275.00	£	275.00	£	-
	£	-	£	275.00	£	275.00	£	-

The Subsidised Membership fund accrued £275 in donations.

Three members availed themselves of this fund, 2 for the full year and 1 for half the year. Each paid £35 so £105 was paid to cover £430 worth of subscriptions. The deficit was £325 which was nearly covered by the donations. There are no funds at present in this hardship fund as of September 2023.

# Independent Examiner's Report

## To the Trustees of DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY:

I report on the account for Durham Choral Society for the financial year September 2022 – August 2023, which is set out on the Account Balance Sheet attached.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation: you consider that the audit requirements of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

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

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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed RSDAVISON.

Date 6 October 2023.

Print REBECCA DAVISON ACA.

**DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 514557

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# Accounts

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## Annual Report 2019-2020

### Summary

This has been an extraordinary year. In light of the global coronavirus pandemic, and following recommendations from the relevant groups, the committee made the decision in March 2020 to cancel rehearsals and our May concert. At the time we were fully intending to return to rehearsing in September if not before, once the world had recovered. But it didn't. DCS has not physically rehearsed or performed for over a year as we write this report. However, there are green shoots emerging. The Committee agreed on an intention to return to in-person rehearsals in September. By then, most of our members will have had their first, if not second vaccination and we are hoping that the virus will be under control. We have recognised the need to be adaptable and will be planning a year that allows for recurring bouts of virus and will be reflected in associated subscription.

Despite the significant events of this year, we delivered a rousing concert in January and have managed to deliver some opportunities to get together over the year. In the summer we performed a piece from Will Todd's Gala and Gloria online. In December we joined in an online performance of Lessons and Carols and in January we held an online Burns' Night supper. Our musical team and committee have continued to support the society, despite their own personal challenges, and brought some comfort to members who had been missing the opportunity to sing.

Our financial position is sound and we are on a firm footing to return to singing together in the autumn.

### Performances

January concert – In January, we performed what would turn out to be our final concert for some while. To a packed cathedral we performed the Fauré Requiem and Alan Woods' "This Joyous Night". The latter piece had been written for the John Lewis Partnership (JLP) Music Society and members of their Cavendish Ensemble joined our own orchestra for the night with JLP's Music Director, Manvinder Rattan conducting the piece. We were also fortunate in our soloists as our Vice President, Sir Thomas Allen sang the baritone solo for both pieces alongside our own Assistant Conductor, Elizabeth Woods. So we signed off with an excellent performance, enjoyed by our audience and, for once, delighting the Treasurer by nearly breaking even.

Gala and Gloria – In the summer Mike arranged for us to create an online performance of Will Todd's Gala and Gloria to coincide with what would have been the day of Miners' Gala. Around 50 members attended a series of online rehearsals culminating in each person recording their own voice part. These parts were then edited together along with some film footage and it can be viewed on YouTube here [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MDoS3SSJs8&ab\\_channel=LeoMansell](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MDoS3SSJs8&ab_channel=LeoMansell). Thank you very much to Mike for grasping this opportunity for us to get together.

Lessons and Carols – This was another online performance and by this point we were getting quite skilled at virtual singing. (Mike may not agree.) Together with Durham Singers and Northern Spirit, members

delivered a lovely concert from their homes to accompany local footage and readings from Reverend Denise Dodd, Chaplain to the Bishop of Durham, Reverend David Wilkinson, Principal of St John's College and the Bishop of Durham himself.

## Social

DIY Burns Night celebration – Thanks to the wonders of modern technology several DCS friends joined together in small groups to raise a glass to Robert Burns immortal memory. Amy Ward (local musician and a Scot) gave a running order and rich information about Burns' life, his interests, his songs and poetry, as well as words for grace and toasts. If you followed the menu suggestions kindly provided by Fiona Gameson then you enjoyed a feast!

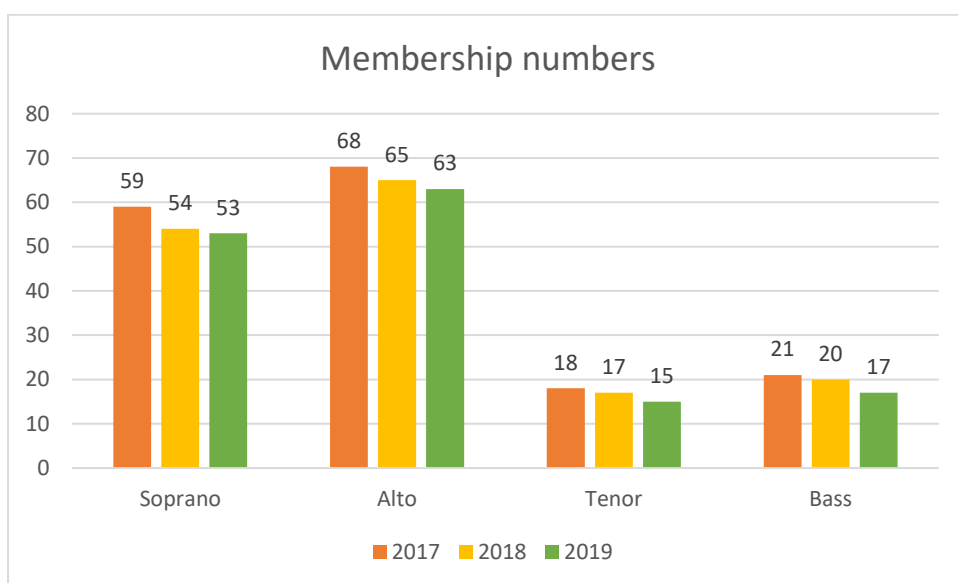
As well as toasting Burns, members toasted the rest of their friends in DCS. Joy Brindle yet again teased the grey cells with a quiz about Burns and Scottish music, happily she provided the answers too. Warm thanks to all who contributed and particularly to Nicky who was the mastermind behind the operation.

## Musical team

A big thank you to Mike for identifying the online opportunities for us to get together this year. All of us who joined in will know it isn't a replacement for singing together in the same physical space, but it was very much appreciated. I know that those involved found this to be a welcome release from the restrictions we have been facing. Thank you to Elizabeth for supporting with those rehearsals and to Alison for supporting our practices on the Nine lessons. Mike and Elizabeth will have faced some extraordinary challenges of their own this year working in education so I would like to recognise how much the society appreciates them investing some additional energy in our online experiences. I would also like to recognise what an immensely difficult year it has been for musicians and send our warmest wishes to Alison and I am sure I represent all of you in saying we can't wait to get her back at our piano.

## Membership

During the 2019/20 season we recorded 148 members. This is shown for individual parts in the chart below and compared with the previous two years year. Membership has reduced slightly again this year although comparison is limited due to the fact we did not run a full season.



Although our rehearsals were stopped, it was great to see so many people participating in our two online events, with around fifty percent of members joining in. It is clear that online rehearsals are not everyone's cup of tea and I am hoping that once we are able to sing together again you will feel able to return and get back to an activity that means so much to us all.

The pandemic hit us mid-season when the majority of our membership subscription had already been paid for the full year. The Committee agreed to use the outstanding subscriptions to fund the costs of our two online experiences. The remainder will underpin our financial position for next year and we are proposing that we do not charge subscriptions to existing members for the first half of the season to ensure members benefit fully from their membership fees from last year.

### Financial position

During the year Sue Massey stepped in as Treasurer taking over from Janis Bell. I would like to record my warm thanks to Janis for the time she has served on the Committee. In her report, Sue records that we go into the next year in a sound financial position. As mentioned previously, subscriptions were used to support our online activities and we intend to carry fees over to cover the first half of our 2021/22 season. Although rehearsals were cancelled we agreed to maintain the honoraria for our musical team. With no concert and room hire costs to pay, together with the income from the January concert we have not suffered financially as a result of the events of this year. Sue's full report is provided separately.

### COVID planning

The Committee have agreed an intention to return to rehearsals in person from September 2021. We are currently exploring options for ensuring a safe environment for members. The experiences of the past year have highlighted to us that there are opportunities to think about what we might do differently and how we can ensure we are more resilient going into the future. We will be considering the timing of our concerts, online rehearsal access, venues and more. Our intention is that any changes are put in place to ensure the continuity of DCS and increase opportunities for members to participate in a way they find safe. Of course, members will be consulted on any proposed changes.

### Committee

Huge thanks, as always, to our friends on the Committee who have given their time to ensure our January concert was enjoyable and have committed their time to ensure DCS remains on a good footing over lockdown. In a time when we have all been facing extraordinary challenges, their diligence in supporting DCS is admirable and I am sure I represent us all when I thank them for their work. Special thanks to those committee members who were due to step down from their roles last October but have remained in their positions to ensure the DCS is well served in these difficult times. It is right that I record in this report that we have a challenging period ahead of us. There are several members of the committee who have come to the end of their term and are not intending to seek a further term. This includes myself (Chair), Penny Middleton (Secretary) and Jim Good (Librarian). Simon Priestley (Concert Manager) and Naomi Walker (Front Of House Director) are also due to stand down but have agreed to remain in post after October if required. Irene Blakemore (Membership Secretary) and Nicky Chater (Social Secretary) have served 3 years and are up for re-election this year.

Although these members are prepared to stay in role until the AGM in October 2021, it is imperative that we identify people willing to take over. Without these roles filled, we will be unable to continue as a Society and I am confident that none of us would like to be in that situation. We are actively seeking members who maybe interested in taking on any of these roles. If you may be interested, please do contact any member of the committee who can talk you through what it is involved.

This year, my colleagues on the committee were:

- Simon Priestley (Vice Chair and Rehearsal and Concert Manager)
- Penny Middleton (Secretary)
- Janis Bell / Sue Massey (Treasurer)
- Annabel Carty (Ticketing)
- Nicky Chater (Social Secretary)
- Irene Blakemore (Membership Secretary)

- James Good (Librarian)
- Naomi Walker (Concert Director and Front of House)
- Victoria Timms (Social Media)
- Geoff McIntyre (General Support/Publicity)
- Simon/Penny – please can you check this list for me?

The Committee were generously supported by:

- Jacqui Durcan (Printing and Publicity)
- Gill Aubrey (Orchestra Arranger)
- Alison Curry (Friends and Sponsorship)
- Fiona Gameson (Extended season activities, rehearsal CDs and carols at the hospital)
- Cathy Earley and Sheila Alty (coffee rota)

### Concluding remarks

It occurred to me this week that in fifty years' time there may be an anthropologist at Durham University studying the human impact of the global coronavirus pandemic of 2020/21. They will be looking for evidence of the impact on society and may come across this report. What would we want them to know? I would want that person to know that the past year has underlined to me why our society exists. The joy our members get from the act of singing and the added joy of singing together with our friends is a constant in our lives that we never expected would be disrupted in such a way. Conversations I have had with members who have experienced hardship, illness and loss of loved ones remind me that our society provides not only enjoyment but also support, comfort and distraction and the lack of that mechanism has been felt keenly by many of you.

This is the last report I will write as Chair of DCS and it has given me the opportunity to reflect on my time in this position. I have realised how important it is to have people willing to give some time to ensure we can all enjoy our time together. I have realised how lucky we are to have such an incredibly talented musical team but most of all how much joy so many of you experience from being a member of DCS. From a personal perspective, I have found this year incredibly difficult and find myself thinking of all the things I could have done and didn't. I would have loved my last year in this post to have been a really strong one but I am going to settle for the relief of knowing that DCS still exists to bring us all happiness for years to come.

Finally, on behalf of myself and my colleagues on the Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families well. As life starts to open up again I hope that you are all starting to feel more optimism for the future. We are all looking forward to seeing you in the autumn.

Katharine Bailey

Chair

April 2021



Registered Charity Number 514557

Founded 1962

## **DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY AGM 2020**

Virtual meeting to be held 5th May 2021 via Zoom

### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 2019 AGM (as sent)
3. Matters arising.
4. Election of Independent Examiner for the Accounts - to elect Paul Latham as Independent Examiner for the Accounts from financial year 2019/20.
5. Treasurer's address and adoption of the Annual Financial Statement (as sent)
6. Adoption of Annual Report - Chair's report circulated prior to the meeting, time allowed only for comments
7. Election of Officers – to retrospectively elect Sue Massey as Treasurer with effect from 1st December 2020. Vote on retention of Kate Bailey as Chair and Penny Middleton as Secretary until October 2021.
8. Election of Committee – vote on all committee members remaining in post till October 2021.
9. Music Director's address – discussion on plans for next year.
10. AOB



Registered Charity Number 514557

Founded 1962

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday 5th May 2021 via Zoom. Those wishing to raise a motion entered their name in the Zoom chat function, and those seconding expressed their support in the same manner. A vote was then taken by a show of hands. The AGM was recorded to enable a subsequent count, after which the record was destroyed.

Copies of the 2019-20 Annual Financial Statement, 2020 Chair's Report and 2019 AGM Minutes had been circulated to members via email on the 30th April 2021

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and was attended by 76 members of the Society.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Eunice Booth, Jeff Dean, Gillian Skinner and Carol Tritton.

### **2. Minutes of the 2019 AGM**

The minutes of the 2019 AGM had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Gill Aubrey proposed the minutes be accepted as a proper record of the 2019 AGM. This was seconded by Val Wooff and unanimously approved by all members present.

### **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **4. Adoption of auditor**

Victoria Simms proposed Paul Latham as independent auditor for the 2019-20 DCS accounts. This was seconded by Simon Priestley and passed unanimously by all members present. It was agreed that the committee would arrange for a small gift of gratitude to be made to Paul on behalf of the Society.

### **5. Adoption of Annual Financial Statement**

The acting Treasurer, Sue Massey gave a brief summary of the Society's financial position, which overall was very good. Expenditure was obviously reduced after the cessation of rehearsals in March 2020 due to rising cases of Covid-19, and the following lockdown. The May concert was also cancelled. Some

payments were made relating to the Gala & Gloria 'virtual' concert, performed by some members of the choir in July 2020.

The 2019-20 Annual Financial Statement had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Nicky Chater proposed the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Rupert Richardson and unanimously approved by all members present.

## **6. Adoption of the Chair's Annual Report**

The Chair's Annual Report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. There were no comments arising but Kate was thanked for providing another engaging and uplifting report, especially given current circumstances. Gill Aubrey proposed the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Victoria Simms and unanimously approved by all members present.

## **7. Election of Officers**

**Honorary Treasurer:** Sue Massey had been co-opted as Treasurer when Janis Bell felt unable to continue in the role at the end of last year. It was proposed that Sue be elected formally as Honorary Treasurer for an initial term of 3 years. This was proposed by Nicky Chater, seconded by Rupert Richardson and unanimously approved by all members present.

**Honorary Secretary and Chair:** Kate Bailey as Chair, and Penny Middleton as Honorary Secretary, have both reached the end of their 5 year tenure and aim to stand down as soon as suitable replacements can be found. Given the current situation, both have agreed to stay on until October 2021 (and beyond) to manage a smooth transition. Christine Everatt proposed Kate and Penny remain in position until October. This was seconded by Richard Clements and unanimously approved by all members present.

## **8. Election of Committee Members**

It was proposed that the rest of the committee also remain in post until October 2021. This motion was proposed by Val Wooff, seconded by John Goodwill and unanimously approved by all members present.

## **9. Musical Director's address**

The Musical Director, Michael Summers, addressed the choir at the end of the meeting.

Mike remarked that there was not as much to report on as previous years because of lockdown, but he wanted to praise the work of the committee and musical team for keeping the Society going in such unprecedented times. He noted that despite the lockdown there were some opportunities to sing, and mentioned the two 'virtual' concerts - the Gala and Gloria in July and Nine Lessons at Christmas. These did present a challenge to many members, who had to rehearse alone without the support of the other voices. Nevertheless, we rose to the occasions and both performances were a great success and well received.

Mike briefly discussed ideas for an informal concert/performance to be held at Wharton Park in July. This would feature perhaps ten choruses from the Messiah, and take the form of 3 to 4 virtual rehearsals

on Zoom in advance of a 'live' informal concert in the park. Members would turn up for a short rehearsal on the day, accompanied by a small orchestra, and then perform for free to family and friends afterwards. Mike stressed that all plans are obviously subject to change depending on government guidance.

He then went on to discuss plans for the return to live rehearsals in September, and the requirement to follow regulations for choirs when issued. Also the need to be flexible and respond to changes, possibly at very short notice, particularly with regards concerts and events. The aim would be to make rehearsals as accessible as possible for members, whatever their circumstances, possibly with a mix of virtual and live rehearsals. Mike also reminded those present that by September we will not have sung together for over 18 months, so it will take some time to get back into the swing of things, and re-attune to each other.

He spoke of changing the concert format to present a lunchtime concert at the cathedral in November, since rehearsals at this time have often been very well attended in the past. The suggestion was to prepare something well-known, like Mozart's Requiem, which would have considerable popular appeal for both members and audience. At Christmas, Mike proposed doing another joint concert with other local choirs, and that this would be a mixed virtual and live event.

He ended by stressing that although returning to singing in these times would present its own challenges it also brought an exciting opportunity to explore new ways of doing things. To that effect a member's survey would be sent out over the summer to gauge interest in the various proposals and ascertain people's hopes and concerns regarding returning in September. Finally, he reiterated how much he was looking forward to seeing everyone again, hopefully in July, or failing that September.

Kate thanked Mike for his comments and there was another round of applause for the Musical Director.

### **Any other business**

The committee proposed that no subscription should be levied for the period from September 2021 to January 2022. This was proposed by Naomi Walker and seconded by Val Wooff and unanimously approved by all members present.

The meeting ended at 8.00pm.

Opening balances 01/09/19				<b>27,653.02</b> Credit
	Unpresented cheque 2019			(5,856.00) Deficit
Concerts	Income	£	9,089.98	
	Expenditure	£	10,961.63	(1,871.65) Deficit
General	Income	£	18,701.83	
Rehearsal	Expenditure	£	6,912.51	11,789.32 Surplus
Sundry	Income	£	1,186.55	
	Expenditure	£	1,964.25	(777.70) Deficit
Interest received				70.69 Credit
Closing balance 31/08/20				<u><u>31,007.68</u></u> Credit
Closing balances 31/08/20				
	HSBC Current	£	3,991.62	
	HSBC Deposit	£	1,272.17	
	HSBC No 2	£	8.55	
	HSBC memb	£	12,809.49	
	CCLA Deposit	£	12,925.85	
	Total			<b>£ 31,007.68</b> Credit

**Account Balance for Durham Choral Society 2019 - 2020**

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Concert Expenditure</b>			<b>Concert Income</b>		
Concert Halls	£ 2,673.81	£ 5,227.75	Tickets members	£ 2,354.58	£ 6,131.59
Orchestra	£ 3,677.57	£ 7,950.00	Tickets friends	£ 1,280.00	£ 1,594.00
Soloists	£ 697.00	£ 2,400.00	Tickets doors	£ 1,134.00	£ 946.00
Hire/Purchase/postage scores	£ 98.72	£ 34.38	Tickets Gala	£ 2,193.30	£ 4,191.40
Hire of lighting/staging	£ 653.86	£ 1,032.36	Wegottickets	£ 1,707.00	£ 599.50
PRS payments	£ 246.67	£ 50.00	Programmes sales	£ 421.10	£ 771.66
Printing of tickets*	£ -	£ 251.19			
Printing of handbills *	£ -	£ 360.00			
Printing of programmes	£ 354.00	£ 633.64			
Hire of instruments	£ 260.00	£ 1,769.80			
Summer Gala & Gloria project	£ 2,300.00	£ -			
	<b>£ 10,961.63</b>	<b>£ 19,709.12</b>		<b>£ 9,089.98</b>	<b>£ 14,234.15</b>
<b>Rehearsal Expenses</b>			<b>Rehearsal Income</b>		
Rehearsal Rooms DJS bill	£ -	£ 5,419.50	Member subscriptions	£ 17,809.49	£ 17,473.83
Rehearsal Fees(director/accompanists)	£ 5,510.00	£ 5,780.00	Tax reclaimed*	£ -	£ 2,890.26
Officer Expenses	£ 74.84	£ 31.62	Rehearsal coffee*	£ 193.09	£ 424.60
Making Music sub/insurance	£ 613.00	£ 613.00	Amazon commission	£ 91.09	£ 113.15
Hire/Purchase/postage of vocal scores	£ 611.47	£ 344.65	Sale/ Hire of scores*	£ 478.46	£ 727.80
Rehearsal CDs*	£ 103.20	£ 143.50	Sale of CDs*	£ 129.70	£ 120.00
Printing memb cards*	£ -	£ 58.00			
	<b>£ 6,912.51</b>	<b>£ 12,390.27</b>		<b>£ 18,701.83</b>	<b>£ 21,749.64</b>
<b>Sundry Expenses</b>			<b>Sundry income</b>		
Royal Albert Hall	£ 414.00	£ 315.00	Royal Albert Hall	£ 414.00	£ 315.00
AGM and Dinner	£ 762.75	£ 1,304.00	AGM and Dinner	£ 765.55	£ 1,172.00
Xmas charities*	£ 600.00	£ 715.00	Donation from sale of CDs	£ -	£ 345.85
Purchase of folders	£ 187.50	£ -	Sale of folders*	£ 7.00	£ 42.00
Website development/tech	£ -	£ 373.75			
Gift	£ -	£ 16.95			
	<b>£ 1,964.25</b>	<b>£ 2,724.70</b>		<b>£ 1,186.55</b>	<b>£ 1,874.85</b>
			<b>Interest</b>		
			HSBC deposit	£ 2.48	£ 2.16
			CCLA Charities	£ 68.21	£ 69.29
				<b>£ 70.69</b>	<b>£ 71.45</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 19,838.39</b>	<b>£ 34,824.09</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 29,049.05</b>	<b>£ 37,930.09</b>
<b>Closing balances 31/8/20</b>			<b>Opening balances 1/9/19</b>		
HSBC current	£ 3,991.62	£ 13,517.14	HSBC current	£ 13,517.14	£ 4,538.59
HSBC Deposit	£ 1,272.17	£ 1,269.69	HSBC deposit	£ 1,269.69	£ 1,267.53
HSBC Membership acct	£ 12,809.49	£ -	memb C/F	£ -	£ 88.00
CCLA Charity deposit	£ 12,925.85	£ 12,857.64	CCLA Charities Deposit	£ 12,857.64	£ 12,788.35
HSBC A/C no 2	£ 8.55	£ 8.55	HSBC A/C 2	£ 8.55	£ 8.55
Total funds at year end	<b>£ 31,007.68</b>	<b>£ 27,653.02</b>		<b>£ 27,653.02</b>	<b>£ 18,691.02</b>
Uncleared cheques		£ 5,856.00		£ 5,856.00	
	<b>£ 31,007.68</b>	<b>£ 21,797.02</b>		<b>£ 21,797.02</b>	<b>£ 18,691.02</b>
	<b>£ 50,846.07</b>	<b>£ 56,621.11</b>		<b>£ 50,846.07</b>	<b>£ 56,621.11</b>

\* denotes that further income and expenditure pertinent to this item appears in next year's accounts

**Christmas Concert Balance**

Held 14th Dec 2019 Elvet Methodist

Expenditure		Income	
Organist	£ 100.00	Member Ticket Sales	£ 329.64
Programmes	£ 129.00	Friends Tickets	£ 190.00
Tickets Printing	£ 76.66	Door Tickets	£ 534.00
Rent Elvet	£ 130.00	Gala tickets	£ 100.80
PRS Payment	£ 50.00	We got tickets	£ 182.00
Fliers	£ 90.00	Programme sales	£ 121.10
Music hire fee	£ 5.00	Music hire Income	£ 13.00
Staging	£ 25.80		
Pianist	£ 150.00		
	<b>£ 756.46</b>		<b>£ 1,470.54</b>
	Profit	<b>£ 714.08</b>	
Charity contributions:	Blood Cancer Reasearch		£350.00
	Project(Elvet)		£250.00
	Durham County Youth Choir		£125.00

**Concert account for Wood and Faure performed at Durham Cathedral 25th Jan 2020 with Sir Thomas Allen and John Lewis Orchestra**

Expenditure		Income	
Durham Cathedral	£2,543.81	Members ticket sales	£1,986.94
Organ hire	£260.00	Friends tickets	£545.00
Orchestra and Accommodation	£3,677.57	Gala Box Office	£2,092.50
Soloists and expenses	£447.00	WeGet Tickets	£1,525.00
Lighting	£628.06	Door Takings	£600.00
Programmes	£225.00	Programmes	£300.00
Ticket printing	£76.66	Choir Music	£374.00
Fliers	£0.00		
Score Hire	£20.00		<b>£7,423.44</b>
PRS est	£400.00		
Choir Music Postage est	£20.00		
		Loss	<b>-£874.66</b>
	<b>£8,298.10</b>		

**Recording for Gala and Gloria July 2020**

Expenditure	
Gala and Gloria tracks	£1,200.00
Videography	£1,100.00
	<b>£2,300.00</b>

## ADDITIONAL NOTES TO 19 20 ACCOUNTS

Full membership fees were collected in 2019. 2020 was the year dominated by 6 months of the pandemic (March to August). Some expenditure invoices were late and some income was not banked till the next financial year for reasons which will be set out in the Chairman's report. A true picture of the financial year's activity cannot be shown in simple income and expenditure accounts. However the Concert Balances reflect income and expenditure from both financial years.

The following items will appear in the 20 21 ledger, but pertain to 19 20 finances. Note that money for the library also includes activity for the Haydn and Schubert scores which have not been performed so do not appear in concert balances.

Invoices	Expenditure	Cash	Income
DJS rent	£3980.00	CD	£15.50
Prompt CDs	£42.00	Coffee sales	£67.09
Fliers Dec	£90.00	Folder sales	£77.00
Membership cards	£36.00	Score hire fees	£655.00
Ticket printing	£222.97	Score sale	£13.50
Durham Music Trust	£125.00	HMRC Gift Aid	£3621.41
John Lewis CDs	£60.00		
Postage of John Lewis scores			
TOTAL	£4555.97		£4449.50

PRS (Performing Rights Society) submission has been made and lies with the Cathedral. This is likely to be an expenditure of £400.

Some members are holding tickets for the Royal Albert Hall which has been postponed to 2021. This has been channelled through our accounts but does not affect the balances.

The Christmas Concert (2019) produced a profit which has been distributed to charity as shown on the concert balances.

Our memorable last concert with Sir Tom Allen and Elizabeth Woods performing This Joyous Night (Woods) and the Faure Requiem, was well supported and made a negligible loss. Cathedral concerts are expensive to stage and can make losses of up to £5000 which the members subsidise with their subscriptions. This contributed to the healthy financial position that the Society finds itself in.

The Society has 32 Friends who only received a proportion of the value of their subscription so this represents somewhere in the region of between £545 and £640 depending what nominal value is put on these tickets as part of the Friends' subscription. There were also two advance ticket sales for the May concert (£38) which did not take place.

Fortunately the financial position of the society has been fairly secure which has allowed us to make a virtual recording and videography of Gala and Gloria to support the Brassfest in July.

## Independent Examiner's Report

### To the Trustees of DURHAM CHORAL SOCIETY:

I report on the account for Durham Choral Society for the financial year September 2019 – August 2020, which is set out on the Account Balance Sheet attached.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation: you consider that the audit requirements of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

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

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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed PRM

Date 23/2/21

Durham

## Independent Examiner's Report

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As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation: you consider that the audit requirements of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

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

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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed PRM

Date 23/2/21

Durham