

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Annual Report & Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**Registered Charity: 800398**

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**Contents**

	<b>Page</b>
Legal and Administrative Details	3
Trustees' Report	3- 7
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Accounts	12 - 19

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

<b>Registered Address</b>	6th Floor, Capital Tower 91 Waterloo Road London SE1 8RT
<b>Trustees</b>	Ben Karp ( <i>Chairman</i> ) Kate Bone Ray Carlson Chris Siva-Prakasam
<b>Bankers</b>	TSB Bank plc 7 Highland Parade Barnet Hertfordshire EN4 0DA
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Chaweevan Williams, FCCA Verdant Accountants Limited 20-22 Wenlock Road London, N1 7GU
<b>Investment Managers</b>	M&G Group M&G House Victoria Road Chelmsford CM1 1BF

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31st July 2024.

### **Trustees**

The Trustees are members of English Baroque Choir ("the Choir" or "the Charity" or "the Trust") with the requisite ability and time to be involved in the administration of the Trust. Appointments are conferred by the voting membership at the Annual General Meeting

### **Principal activity**

The principal activity of the Charity is the performance of classical choral music.

### **Objects**

The Objects of the Charity are for the public benefit and as set out in its Trust Deed are to promote, maintain, improve and advance education of the public in the fields of choral music, church music, opera and other classical works and musical and vocal compositions of all kinds.

### **Organisation**

#### **(i) Membership**

The Charity is organised as an amateur choir with up to eighty auditioned members. Regular rehearsals are held to enable the performance of up to six concerts per year.

#### **(ii) Trustees and Committee**

The Trustees and a Committee administer the Choir. The Trustees and Committee are elected from the membership by the membership at the Annual General Meeting

The Trustees and Committee consist of unpaid volunteers upon whom the Charity is dependent for its continued existence. Meetings are held at regular intervals and include consideration of financial resources and planning for future performances.

#### **(iii) Patrons and Sponsors**

The Charity, like most choirs, performs a repertoire of music that is necessarily dependent on the generosity and support of its Patrons and Sponsors. This is an important source of financial support for the Choir, particularly from sponsorship of specific concerts.

Sponsorship income is also sought from grant making bodies and businesses to contribute towards the costs of major concerts or commissions of new music

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

(Continued)

### **(iv) Volunteers**

The choir depends on a small number of volunteers, all of whom are singing members, to organise, coordinate, and administer its activities, namely rehearsing and performing public concerts. These volunteers have the following main functions: Chairman, Concert Planner, Treasurer, Publicity Coordinator, Concert Manager, Tickets, Membership/Recruitment, and Minutes Secretary.

### **Reserves Policy**

The reserves policy of the Charity is to retain sufficient resources to provide adequate working capital and risk control for its programme of orchestral concerts and musical events. The Committee keeps under review the financial resources required for a provisional concert plan for the next three years.

### **Concert Contingency Fund**

The Charity faces a small, but significant risk of a major shortfall of income on each concert it promotes, particularly from its more expensive orchestral concerts. The Charity designated a fund in 2000 to earmark resources in the event of an unexpected call on funds, due to an income shortfall or unbudgeted costs caused by a disruptive event (for instance a transport strike or adverse weather conditions) beyond the control of the Trustees. The fund is reviewed annually and is primarily represented by investments in *Charifund* income units and deposits at TSB Bank plc.

### **General Fund**

The General Fund provides for all the working capital needs of the Charity, including deposits for future hire of concert venues. The size of this fund will necessarily fluctuate each year as concert results and fundraising activities are often unpredictable. The main financial objective is to ensure that sufficient resources are always maintained to meet the budgeted costs of future concerts and keep the Concert Contingency Fund fully funded.

### **Financial results**

The net result for the year was a surplus of £7,880 (2023: deficit of £5,499). The Charity had net assets of £36,576 at the year-end (2023: £28,696). The Trustees are satisfied with the results for the year and are confident that adequate resources exist for the Charity to continue as a going concern.

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

(Continued)

### **Chairman's review of activities**

Harry Bradford continued to lead us for the 2023/24 season, our 46th. We began with an open rehearsal, which was successful in attracting and subsequently recruiting some new singers. The Come and Sing day in February 2024 also brought in some extra voices. Over the season, the number of singers has steadily increased.

We held the following concerts/events:

- November 2023 – The Night Sky at St Gabriel's Church SW1. This exciting programme attracted a large audience. This was our first concert at St Gabriel's, which we found to be good value relative to many other London churches, but pleasant and well-located.
- December 2023 – Christmas concert featuring Charpentier's Messe de minuit at St Gabriel's Church SW1. This also attracted a large and enthusiastic audience. We invited a children's charity "Noah's Ark" to present their mission and collect money.
- February 2024 – Come and Sing Day featuring Duruflé's Requiem at St Cyprian's Church NW1. This highly enjoyable event was appreciated by guests and members alike. It was well-attended, with a few guests wishing to join us.
- March 2024 – Buxtehude's Membra Jesu nostri at St James's Church Sussex Gardens W2. This evocative music was beautifully accompanied by soloists from Endelienta Baroque, and by the Arculo Concert of Viols. All the vocal solos were performed by members of the choir, more than half taking part, which is an indication of how strong the choir is. Again, a good audience.
- July 2024 – Songs of Serenity and Solace at St Gabriel's Church SW1. For this concert, we had the services of Helen Raggatt, a professional oboist. Harry devised a contemplative programme with several works for oboe and choir.

Our programme for next season includes:

- October 2024 – Come and Sing Day featuring Bach's Christmas Oratorio at St Cyprian's Church NW1.
- December 2024 - Bach's Christmas Oratorio at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square SW1 with orchestra and professional soloists.
- January 2025 – Come and Sing Day featuring Mozart's Requiem at St Cyprian's Church NW1.
- March 2025 – Lamentations at St Gabriel's Church SW1.
- July 2025 – Summer concert on the theme of "Flowers" at St Gabriel's Church SW1.

Our 47th season has begun and has been positive in terms of quality and financial security. The goals are still recruitment and seeking out fund-raising opportunities to finance professional musicians at concerts.

My thanks to my committee and to our talented professional musicians Harry Bradford (MD) and Richard Leach (accompanist).

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT**

(Continued)

**Donations and fundraising**

The Choir received a total of £4,771 (2023: £2,001) in donations. All donations are welcomed as a significant source of assistance towards the running of the choir

**Membership**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Membership on 1 August 2023	10	45
New members	12	8
Leavers	<u>(2)</u>	<u>(3)</u>
Membership on 31 July 2024	<u>60</u>	<u>50</u>

**Musical Director**

Our Musical Director is Harry Bradford is a prize-winning conductor and choral director working in the UK and Europe who has collaborated with a number of the world's finest vocal ensembles including the MDR Rundfunkchor, the Eric Ericsons Kammarkör, the Sixteen and the Swedish Radio Choir.

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees, of English Baroque Choir are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statement in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Trustees.

Ben Karp  
Chairman

Date: 15 April 2025





**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
ENGLISH BAROQUE CHOIR**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of English Baroque Choir (the "Trust") for the year ended 31st July 2024.

**Respective 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 2011 Act").

I report in respect of my examination of Trust's accounts as 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) the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- the accounts did not accord with such 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.



**Chaweevan Williams, FCCA**  
Verdant Accountants Ltd  
20-22 Wenlock Road  
London, N1 7GU

Date: 21 May 2025

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 31 JULY 2024**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Designated funds £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Donations	2	7,707		7,707	4,063
Income from charitable activities	3	26,561		26,561	26,809
Investment income	4	605		605	587
<b>Total</b>		<b>34,872</b>		<b>34,872</b>	<b>31,459</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Raising funds	5	(1,262)		(1,262)	(1,517)
Charitable activities	6	(26,638)		(26,638)	(34,910)
<b>Total</b>		<b>(27,901)</b>		<b>(27,901)</b>	<b>(36,427)</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	908		908	(531)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>7,880</b>		<b>7,880</b>	<b>(5,499)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		(1,200)	1,200		
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>6,680</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>7,880</b>	<b>(5,499)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward	12	15,396	13,300	28,696	34,195
Net movement in funds		6,680	1,200	7,880	(5,499)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22,076</b>	<b>14,500</b>	<b>36,576</b>	<b>28,696</b>

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments	9	10,965	10,057
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	10	3,416	2,634
Cash at bank and in hand		23,440	16,975
		26,856	19,609
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	(1,245)	(970)
Net current assets		25,611	18,639
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>36,576</u>	<u>28,696</u>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>			
Unrestricted funds	12	22,076	15,396
Designated Fund	12	14,500	13,300
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>36,576</u>	<u>28,696</u>

The attached notes form an integral part of this Balance Sheet and should be read in conjunction therewith.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 15 April 2025.

  
Ray Carlson  
Trustee and Treasurer

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Charity information**

English Baroque Choir is a Charitable Incorporated Organization ("CIO"), formerly English Baroque Choir Limited, a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales, having its registered office at 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Capital Tower, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8RT. The application to convert to a CIO was approved by the Charity Commission on 8 April 2025.

**1.1 Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

**1.2 Historical cost convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

**1.3 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.4 Charitable fund**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Designated Funds form part of the General Funds of the Charity. The Charity designates a Fund to account for transactions and resources that have been earmarked for a specific purpose:

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)**

**1.5 Income**

**(i) Subscriptions, concert receipts, sponsorship and donations**

All income is reported gross on an accruals basis except where conditions for receipt have not been met or receipt is not reasonably certain.

Subscriptions are stated net of remissions and provisions for doubtful debts.

Sponsorship income received in advance for a concert is deferred to the period in which the event takes place.

Services donated free of charge are grossed-up within donations and a corresponding expense reported in the appropriate cost category, with the exception of time provided by the members.

**(ii) Fundraising**

Fundraising is stated net of associated expenses.

**1.6 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of operating fundraising events and attracting grants and donations no support cost are allocated to this heading as the estimated usage of such overheads is not significant.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of providing the activities of the Choir, including the costs of rehearsals, and their associated support costs.

Support and governance cost represents costs of operating the charity and complying with charity regulations.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

**1.7 Investments**

Investments are shown at market value at the period end in accordance with FRS 102.

**1.8 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)**

**1.9 Financial Instruments**

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

***Basic financial assets***

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

***Basic financial liabilities***

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

***Derecognition of financial liabilities***

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

**1.10 Taxation**

No provision has been made for taxation as English Baroque Choir is a public benefit entity which is exempt from UK direct taxation on its charitable activities.

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)**

<b>2 Donations</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations and fundraising	4,771		4,771	2,001
Income tax recoverable	2,936		2,936	2,062
	<u>7,707</u>		<u>7,707</u>	<u>4,063</u>

The donations in 2023 totalling £4,063 were attributed to unrestricted funds.

<b>3 Income from charitable activities</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions	13,899		13,899	11,159
Concert income	9,328		9,328	12,486
Sponsorship and grants	200		200	495
Singing day	3,133		3,133	2,669
	<u>26,561</u>		<u>26,561</u>	<u>26,809</u>

Income in 2023 totalling £26,809 was attributed to unrestricted funds.

<b>4 Investment income</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Designated</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest receivable & investment income	605		605	587
	<u>605</u>		<u>605</u>	<u>587</u>

All investment income in 2023 totalling £587 was attributed to unrestricted funds.

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)**

5	Costs of raising funds	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	Total
		funds	funds	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
	Singing day	1,262		1,262	1,517
		<u>1,262</u>		<u>1,262</u>	<u>1,517</u>

The expenditure in 2023 totalling £1,517 is attributable to unrestricted funds.

6	Costs of charitable activities	Unrestricted	Designated	Total	Total
		funds	funds	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
	Rehearsal costs	13,202		13,202	14,507
	Concert expenses	11,558		11,558	19,054
	Management and administration	1,428		1,428	509
	Independent examination fees	450		450	840
		<u>26,638</u>		<u>26,638</u>	<u>34,910</u>

The expenditure in 2023 totalling £34,910 is attributable to unrestricted funds.

**7 Employees**

The average monthly number of persons (including Trustees) employed by the Charity during the year was 0 (2023 - 0).

**8 Trustees**

None of the trustees or any persons connected with them, received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2023 - none).



**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)**

<b>9 Investments</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
699 Charifund units (cost £8,000)		
Balance brought forward	10,057	10,588
Unrealised gain/(loss)	908	(531)
Balance carried forward	<u>10,965</u>	<u>10,057</u>
<b>10 Debtors</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Income tax recoverable	2,936	2,062
Prepayments and accrued income	480	572
	<u>3,416</u>	<u>2,634</u>
<b>11 Creditors</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accruals	450	970
Singing day deferred income	795	
	<u>1,245</u>	<u>970</u>

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)**

**12 Net funds - Unrestricted**

	Brought forward at 01-Aug-23	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward at 31-Jul-24
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	15,396	35,780	(27,901)	(1,200)	22,076
Designated Fund	13,300			1,200	14,500
	<u>28,696</u>	<u>35,780</u>	<u>(27,901)</u>		<u>36,576</u>

	Brought forward at 01-Aug-22	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward at 31-Jul-23
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	21,295	31,459	(36,958)	(400)	15,396
Designated Fund	12,900			400	13,300
	<u>34,195</u>	<u>31,459</u>	<u>(36,958)</u>		<u>28,696</u>

**Analysis of movement on Concert Contingency Fund**

	Venue hire	Conductor	Orchestra	Accompanist soloists and other costs	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	2,500	1,500	5,000	4,300	13,300
Transfer from General fund		100	750	350	1,200
Carried forward	<u>2,500</u>	<u>1,600</u>	<u>5,750</u>	<u>4,650</u>	<u>14,500</u>

**Concert Contingency Fund**

This is a designated fund to earmark resources in the event of an unexpected call on funds, due to an income shortfall or unbudgeted costs caused by a disruptive event beyond the control of the Trustees. This reserve is updated each year to reflect future plans and cost estimates.

**English Baroque Choir**  
**Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st July 2024**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)**

**13 Analysis of Reserves**

	Cash	Debtors	Investments	Creditors	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	19,905	3,416		(1,245)	22,076
Designated Fund	<u>3,535</u>		<u>10,965</u>		<u>14,500</u>
	<u>23,440</u>	<u>3,416</u>	<u>10,965</u>	<u>(1,245)</u>	<u>36,576</u>

	Cash	Debtors	Investments	Creditors	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	13,732	2,634		(970)	15,396
Designated Fund	<u>3,243</u>		<u>10,057</u>		<u>13,300</u>
	<u>16,975</u>	<u>2,634</u>	<u>10,057</u>	<u>(970)</u>	<u>28,696</u>