



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	01	2023		31	12	2023

## Section A

## Reference and administration details

Charity name

The Rowantree Choir

Other names charity is known by

NA

Registered charity number (if any) 801087

Charity's principal address

c/o The Methodist Church

Wellington Road

Bush Hill Park ENFIELD

Postcode

EN12RS

### 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	Jenny Johnson	Chair			
2	David Gilles	Treasurer			
3	Adrian Saull	Secretary			
4	Pauline Martindale	Minutes Secretary			
5	Reem El-Sharouni	Website			
6	Pauline Weatherley	Concert Box Office/Refreshments			
7	Pam Bremner	Welfare and Social Events			
8	Jonathan Rathbone	Music Director (ex officio)			
9	Liz Woolf	Concert Manager			
10	Susan Humphries	Publicity/Marketing			
11	Sandra Leah				
12	Helen Ennis	Music Librarian			

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

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

Type of adviser	Name	Address
none		

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

None

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document  
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution

How the charity is constituted  
(eg. trust, association, company)

Association

Trustee selection methods  
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Elected by all choir members at AGM

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

#### Bush Hill Park Methodist Church

135 Wellington Road, Enfield EN1 2RS

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To promote, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of music in all its aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and by such other ways as the Society through its Committee shall determine from time to time

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

Concerts performed:

Spring Concert at St Stephens Church – Brahms Requiem

Summer Concert at Enfield Baptist Church - Always something there to remind me

Christmas Concert at Enfield Baptist Church – Rutter’s Magnificat and other Christmas Songs

3 Pop up Concerts during the Autumn at St Andrews Church in Enfield, North Middlesex Hospital and Forty Hall.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

All Committee members and Officers are volunteers. The only paid individuals (who both receive fees) are the Music Director and the Accompanist

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

Regular weekly Choir rehearsals which started in January 2023 and led to successful Spring, Summer and Christmas concerts in 2023. There were also 3 pop up concerts in the Autumn term 2023.

Post Covid the Choir's membership had decreased from c120 members at the end of 2019 to c 80 members in January 2022. By the end of 2022 membership had increased to some 90 members. and a larger concert attendance in December gave rise to hopes that the budget deficit in 2022 could be substantially reduced in 2023.

At the end of 2023 there were again some 90 members of the choir with 6 new members joining in January 2024. The increase in membership fees and more concert attendees meant that the end year financial deficit was contained and included a one off sum of some £3000 spent on the new Choir website. This has left the financial position of the choir more stable than it has been since Covid struck in March 2020.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Choir has no fixed overheads or ongoing contractual expenditure. Income from subscriptions, ticket sales at concerts and Gift Aid broadly cover expenditure on rehearsals and concerts. Increased ticket sales for concerts and more new member subscriptions in 2024 will stabilise the Choir's finances further.

The Choir has sufficient funds to support its activities for some six months without any income such that if for any reason there was a catastrophic loss of income and expenditure continued at present levels there would be no unfunded losses.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

See Annual Accounts

## Section F

## Other optional information

### Chair's Report 2023

After a few difficult years – 2020 Lockdown, 2021 Zoom choir, a 2022 comeback but with reduced numbers, we decided to make 2023 the year that Rowantree really picked up again. At the start of the year, we faced gloomy predictions of either raising subscriptions to an eye-watering amount or possibly closing down altogether as funds had diminished substantially.

We started the year on 10 January 2023 working on the Brahms Requiem and some members found it a real challenge. However, for those that persevered, the end result was very worthwhile with a performance in St Stephen's Church on March 25 to a very appreciative audience. Onwards and upwards was our motto.

After Easter the Committee decided we needed to address the problem of falling income. We reorganised the structure of the Committee so that each member had a very specific responsibility and also recruited a number of volunteers to work with the Committee in certain areas – particularly in marketing. Our aim was to increase membership and subscription income and hopefully also increase audience revenue to put the choir on a firmer financial footing. All members were exhorted to do their bit to encourage people to join us and/or to come to our concerts.

The new Website was formally launched in March, has attracted some very positive feedback and gives a more modern image of the choir. A marketing sub-group of 8-10 enthusiastic members was set up in July under the supervision of Sue Humphries. As a result of their efforts articles appeared

in several local publications and our Social Media presence was greatly enhanced – Rowantree was moving into the Instagram era and people had now actually heard of us!

Musically we began work on the summer concert – entitled ‘Always something there to remind me’. This included songs associated with a number of high-profile musicians who had sadly passed away recently. It was by no means as morbid as it may sound and provided a joyful and varied concert for July 2023 at Enfield Baptist Church to a very full and enthusiastic audience.

More innovations took place in September with our first ‘Pop-up concert’ in St Andrews Church in Enfield arranged by Adrian Saull where we reprised items from the summer concert and attracted a lot of attention. We also ran two ‘Open Rehearsals’ at the start of the term – where people were encouraged to come along and sing with us to see if they liked the idea – and were served with cakes to make them feel welcome. Half a dozen or more people turned up at each session and as a result several decided to join the choir, swelling our numbers. Encouraged by these successes we also performed two more ‘Pop-ups’ in November, one at North Middlesex Hospital and one at Forty Hall, both organised by Jane Newcombe. Rowantree’s profile was certainly being enhanced by all of these.

By the time of the Christmas concert on December 16 at Enfield Baptist Church, with Rutter’s Magnificat and an orchestra, we were able to finish the year on a high. We even managed to raise £500 with a raffle organised by Kathy Carroll, in aid of the Nightingale Cancer Support Centre. Membership had substantially increased from the start of the year; audience numbers had also greatly improved and as a result the financial situation was looking much healthier.

There are lots of people to thank. Firstly of course Jonathan for his enthusiasm and good humour and for turning sometimes rather unpromising material into a choir that sounds really good. Thanks also to Judith for her loyal service at every rehearsal – what would we do without her? Thanks to all the members of the committee who do so much – often unnoticed and un-remarked – to keep everything running and they plus the many ‘volunteers’ who help with a myriad of tasks from organising pop-up events to refreshments. Finally, thanks must go to all the choir members who have worked hard this year to recruit both singers and audience and who turn up every week cheerfully, making Rowantree Choir a great place to be.

Jenny Johnson  
Chair  
January 2024

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full name(s)	Jenny Johnson	David Gilles
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
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**Date**

**The Rowantree Choir**  
**Legal and Administrative Details**  
**For the period ended 31 December 2023**

Address for correspondence	119 Claremont Road London E7 0PY
Governing Document	Constitution 31 January 1989 amended 20 June 2017
Charity registration number	801087
Trustees	Jenny Johnson David Gilles Adrian Saull Pauline Martindale Reem El-Sharouni Pauline Weatherley Pam Bremner Jonathan Rathbone Liz Woolf Susan Humphries Sandra Leah Helen Ennis
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd



**The Rowantree Choir**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**For the period ended 31 December 2023**

**Objects of the charity**

To promote, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of music in all its aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and by such other ways as the Society through its Committee shall determine from time to time

**Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements**

Regular weekly Choir rehearsals which started in January 2023 and led to successful Spring, Summer and Christmas concerts in 2023. There were also 3 pop up concerts in the Autumn term 2023.

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#### **Financial review and reserves policy**

The Choir has no fixed overheads or ongoing contractual expenditure. Income from subscriptions, ticket sales at concerts and Gift Aid broadly cover expenditure on rehearsals and concerts. Increased ticket sales for concerts and more new member subscriptions in 2024 will stabilise the Choir's finances further.

□

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#### **Additional notes**

All Committee members and Officers are volunteers. The only paid individuals (who both receive fees) are the Music Director and the Accompanist


#### **Approval**

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

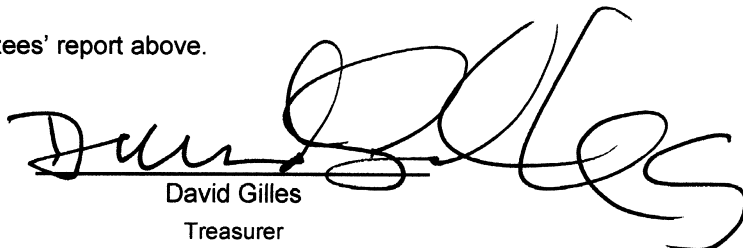
Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_



Jenny Johnson

Chair



David Gilles

Treasurer

24/02/24

**The Rowantree Choir**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund (£)	Restricted Fund (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Total 2022 (£)
<b>Incoming resources</b>	3				
Donations		25	-	25	5
Gift aid receipts		4,264	-	4,264	3,487
Charitable activities		28,099	-	28,099	22,881
Interest income		270	-	270	64
<b>Total</b>		<b>32,658</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,658</b>	<b>26,436</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities	4	36,366		36,366	31,525
<b>Total</b>		<b>36,366</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,366</b>	<b>31,525</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>(3,708.17)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(3,708.17)</b>	<b>(5,089.09)</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(3,708.17)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(3,708.17)</b>	<b>(5,089.09)</b>
Total funds brought forward		20,614	-	20,614	25,703
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>16,906</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,906</b>	<b>20,614</b>

**The Rowantree Choir**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**For the period ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund (£)	Restricted Fund (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Total 2022 (£)
<b>Current Assets</b>	5				
Debtors		4,314		4,314	4,463
Cash at bank and at hand		13,843		13,843	21,992
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>18,157</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,157</b>	<b>26,455</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	1,251		1,251	5,841
<b>Net current assets/ (liabilities)</b>		<b>16,906</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,906</b>	<b>20,614</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>16,906</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,906</b>	<b>20,614</b>
<b>Creditors (amounts falling due after one year)</b>					-
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>		<b>16,906</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,906</b>	<b>20,614</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted income		-	-	-	-
Unrestricted income		16,906		16,906	20,614
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>16,906</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,906</b>	<b>20,614</b>

The accounts have been approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by :

Jenny Johnson (Chair of Trustees)

Signature: 

Date: 24/2/24

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

**The Rowantree Choir**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**For the period ended 31 December 2023**

**1 Basis of preparation and going concern**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£).

**2 Accounting policies**

**2.1 Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**2.2 Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**2.3 Governance costs**

Governance costs comprise auditors' remuneration.

**2.4 Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**2.5 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

**2.6 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and bank accounts with no withdrawal limits.

**2.7 Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount.

**2.8 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the objects of the charity. They are given without further specified purpose and are therefore available as general fund.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

### 3 Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Fund (£)	Restricted Fund (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Total 2022 (£)
Donations and gifts	25	-	25	5
Gift aid	4264	-	4,264	3,487
Membership subscriptions	21149	-	21,149	17,786
	<b>25,438</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,438</b>	<b>21,278</b>
Charitable activities				
Ticket sales	6950	-	6,950	4,995
	<b>6,950</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,950</b>	<b>4,995</b>
Income from investments				
interest income	270	-	270	64
	<b>270</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>32,658</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,658</b>	<b>26,336</b>

### 4 Analysis of expenditure

Governance fees	1165	-	1,165	1,089
Professional fees	18990	-	18,990	19,490
Administration				
Advertising	340	-	340	-
Bank charges	385	-	385	83
Computer & Website	2,943	-	2,943	44
Equipment hire	2,885	-	2,885	2,538
Equipment purchase	144	-	144	-
Gifts	246	-	246	331
Insurances	508	-	508	502
Music purchase	423	-	423	195
Performance fees	4,926	-	4,926	4,375
Printing, Postage and Stationery	9	-	9	216
Refreshments	251	-	251	138
Software	252	-	252	271
Venue hire	2,899	-	2,899	2,254
	<b>36366</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>36,366</b>	<b>31,525</b>

### 5 Analysis of current assets

Debtors				
Accrued income	4306	-	4306	3,487
Prepayments	8	-	8	975.99
<b>Total debtors</b>	<b>4314</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4314</b>	<b>4463</b>
Cash at bank and at hand				
Current account	5199	-	5,199	8,597
Deposit account	8644	-	8,644	13,395
<b>Total cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>13843</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13843</b>	<b>21992</b>
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>18157</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18157</b>	<b>26455</b>

### 6 Analysis of creditors

Creditors	281	-	281	5221
Accruals:	970	-	970	620
<b>Total creditors</b>	<b>1,251</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,251</b>	<b>5,841</b>

### 7 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the period.

### 8 Employees

There were no employees in the period.

# Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

The Trustees Rowantree Choir  
c/o Wellington Road Methodist Church  
Forest Gate  
Greater London  
E7 0PY

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Direction given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5)(b) of the charities Act
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's statement


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

## Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no 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 130 of the Charities Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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:



Name: Martin D C Pringle

Professional qualifications: FIAB

Address: 25 Merton Road, Seven Kings, Ilford, IG3 8PB

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024