



## Trustees' Annual Report

for the period from **1<sup>st</sup> September 2023** to **31<sup>st</sup> August 2024**

Charity name: **Fulham and Hammersmith Choral Society**

Charity registration number: **801597**

### Objectives and Activities

The objects of Fulham and Hammersmith Choral Society (the choir) are the study and practice and the concert performance of choral works, and the furthering of interest in choral music generally, and in particular:

- To rehearse and perform choral music of all kinds;
- To extend the musical knowledge and technique of the choir by instruction and practice;
- To foster and develop friendly relations between choir members;
- To assist other charitable organisations.

These objects are met by activities planned by the trustees, with due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit:

- Weekly rehearsals, based on school terms, of defined programmes of music;
- Three public concerts each year of those programmes;
- Additional community events including 'Come and Sing' days and 'Awaydays';
- Fund-raising through singing, including Christmas carol singing.

### Achievements and Performance

The choir performed its normal three public concerts during the year to 31 August 2024:

- At our Christmas 2023 concert we performed works under a German theme, including Bach Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott and Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme; Mendelssohn Vom Himmel hoch and a selection of Carols at St Gabriel's Church, Warwick Square.
- We returned to St Gabriel's for the Spring 2024 concert, which comprised of Haydn Nelson Mass and Handel The ways of Zion do mourn;
- The Summer 2024 concert, at All Saints' Church, Putney Common saw the choir perform an engaging selection of opera choruses and arias - Bizet Carmen; Borodin Prince Igor; Leoncavallo I Pagliacci; Mascagni Cavalleria Rusticana; Wagner Tannhäuser and Verdi Il Trovatore, La Traviata & Nabucco

On 21<sup>st</sup> October, a subset of the choir provided the choral support for Evensong at Guildford Cathedral for a second year in this imposing venue.

We continued to support the Friends of Fulham Palace in the historic Tudor courtyard at the annual Christmas Fair with carol singing on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, before going on to sing at South Kensington Underground station on December 14<sup>th</sup> – where we raised a very satisfactory £492 for Shelter.

In February, the choir continued its extremely successful “Come & Sing” Days, open to all comers, singing Haydn Nelson Mass, with ticket sales to some 120 singers of whom some 50% were not choir members. This event raised £1,341 for Glass Door, a charity for the homeless.

In the Summer Term, the choir reintroduced its Away Day, this time at the Old Fair of Abinger, a village fair with Middle Ages pilgrim origins. The choir was one of three musical offerings in St James' Church, and the good weather, friendly atmosphere and receptive audience made for an excellent day.

Average membership for the year improved to 84, an increase of 10% on the previous year with the opera choruses in the Summer Term delivering an exceptional boost. Concert income was similar to the previous year, although impacted by disappointing ticket sales for the Spring Term.

## Financial Review

The trustees review the finances, budgets and spend against budget to ensure that there is sufficient subscription income to cover both rehearsal costs and the shortfall of income against expenditure anticipated for the choir's public concerts.

### *Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period*

The choir ended the period with total reserves of £17,677 (£16,752 in 2023) after showing a surplus of £925 (£1,187 surplus in 2023) on annual expenditure of £38,311. This compares with a budget forecast of a surplus of £401.

The main cause of the surplus was that Summer Term membership levels significantly exceeded the budget expectations. As a result, membership fees and associated Gift Aid for the year were £1,293 better than forecast. This, combined with lower-than-expected expenses, meant that our rehearsals showed a surplus of £7,358 instead of the planned £5,016 - £2,342 better than expected.

That rehearsal surplus was offset by two main factors.

1. Our concert finances showed a deficit of £5,434 - £947 more than planned – principally as a result of disappointing Spring Concert ticket sales.
2. Our community singing was in deficit by £68 instead of the budgeted £1,210 surplus. The Spring Term 'Come & Sing' Day surplus was less than expected, partly caused by expenses associated with the short notice change of venue. Our financial strength meant that we could reintroduce the Away Day and associated costs of £670, which had not been in our original budget.

Other expenses (including Making Music membership, insurance, card and ticket sales fees) amounted to £1,130, and we received bank interest of £199.

### ***Reserves policy***

It is the trustees' policy to maintain unrestricted reserves to cover possible shortfalls of income:

- the risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds - in the worst case, the income loss if we had to cancel, at short notice, a public concert with orchestral support;
- provision for future major works

This amount, for 2023-24, is assessed as being within the range of £9,500 to £11,500.

### ***Amount of reserves held***

The unrestricted reserves at the end of the period were £17,677 (£16,752 in 2023).

The trustees recognise that this reserves position is in excess of the reserves policy target. The programme for 2023-24 was adjusted to reflect increased income levels and future years will address surplus reduction whilst not increasing fee / ticket prices above current levels.

### ***Principal sources of income***

The choir does not actively raise funds from external grants and continued to raise income through two primary sources which contributed this year as follows:

- Membership income and associated Gift Aid Tax relief which together raised £24,029;
- Concert income – with ticket sales of £8,093 and refreshment income of £1,779.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The choir is an unincorporated association governed by its Constitution, dated 30<sup>th</sup> April 2007, which defines its objects, membership, administration and finance. This definition includes the arrangements for the election of its officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer) and other committee members, all of whom are trustees.

## **Reference and Administrative details**

Charity name	Fulham and Hammersmith Choral Society
Other name the charity uses	-
Registered charity number	801597
Charity's principal address	64 Seymour Avenue Epsom Surrey KT17 2RR

### *Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity*

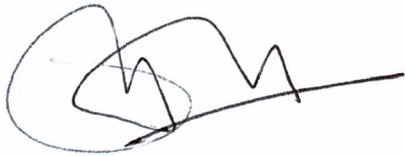

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Susan Hill	Chairman	
2	Carol Quinn	Vice-Chairman and Librarian	
3	Robert Quinn	Treasurer	
4	Lucy Williams	Secretary	
5	Griselda Kellie-Smith	Concert Manager	
6	Patrick Pierron		
7	Sara Borthwick		
8	Penelope Coate		
9	Sarah Jarvis		

There was no person (or body) entitled to appoint trustees.

### **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 Names</b>	Susan Hill	Robert Quinn
<b>Position</b>	Chairman	Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	19 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024	





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Fulham and Hammersmith Choral Society

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

801597

Set out on pages

6 to 10

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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

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 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.

Signed:

Date:

7.1.25

Name:

Helen Colyer

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

I.C.A.E.W.

Address:

5 Mill Hill Road

Norwich

NR2 3DP

Financial Statements for the period ending 31 August 2024

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
for the year ended 31 August 2024

		31 Aug 2024 Total funds £	31 Aug 2023 Total funds £
	Notes		
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>			
<b>Donations and legacies</b>	2	24,106	19,550
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Rehearsals	3	2,307	2,810
Concerts	4	9,992	10,022
Community engagement	5	2,632	3,126
<b>Investments</b> (deposit interest received)		199	68
<b>Total</b>		<b>39,236</b>	<b>35,576</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Rehearsals	6	19,055	19,028
Concerts	7	15,426	12,693
Community engagement	8	2,700	1,531
<b>Other</b>	9	1,130	1,137
<b>Total</b>		<b>38,311</b>	<b>34,389</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>925</b>	<b>1,187</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		925	1,187
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		16,752	15,565
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>17,677</b>	<b>16,752</b>

Financial Statements for the period ending 31 August 2024

**Balance Sheet**

at 31 August 2024

		31 Aug 2024 Total funds £	31 Aug 2023 Total funds £
	Notes		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	-	8
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank		16,028	16,175
Prepayment of expenses		1,555	392
Stocks held		189	279
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>17,772</u>	<u>16,846</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Amounts falling due within 1 year:</b>			
Accrued expenses payable		95	102
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>95</u>	<u>102</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u><u>17,677</u></u>	<u><u>16,752</u></u>

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

### 1. Accounting policies

#### Basis for preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - second edition: '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' and 'FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared, on an activity basis, under the historic cost convention.

#### Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the Trustees are of the view that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern and the accounts continue to be prepared on that basis.

#### 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.

#### Expenditure

Liabilities are expressed 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 relating to that 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.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the annual rate shown below in order to write off the asset over its estimated useful life.

Kitchen equipment	- 20% on cost
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#### Taxation

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.

#### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

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

There were no restricted funds held by the charity during the year ending 31st August 2024, nor for the year ending 31st August 2023.



Financial Statements for the period ending 31 August 2024

<b>2. Donations and legacies</b>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
	£	£
Membership subscriptions	20,185	16,340
Donations	77	87
Gift aid tax rebate	3,844	3,123
	<u>24,106</u>	<u>19,550</u>
<b>3. Rehearsals income</b>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
	£	£
Sales and hire out of music scores	2,232	1,624
Rehearsal tea income	-	1,034
Social evening income	75	152
	<u>2,307</u>	<u>2,810</u>
<b>4. Concerts income</b>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
	£	£
Concert ticket sales	8,093	8,386
Concert refreshment income	1,779	1,468
Other Concert income	120	168
	<u>9,992</u>	<u>10,022</u>
<b>5. Community engagement income</b> <i>(Come and sing days, scratch concerts and other public events)</i>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
	£	£
Community engagement ticket sales	2,632	3,126
	<u>2,632</u>	<u>3,126</u>
<b>6. Rehearsals expenditure</b>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
	£	£
Rehearsal venue hire	6,147	6,210
Music Director's and Accompanist's fees	10,315	10,280
Music scores purchased and hired in	2,128	1,687
Rehearsal & social evening refreshments and other expenses	465	851
	<u>19,055</u>	<u>19,028</u>
<b>7. Concerts expenditure</b>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
	£	£
Concert venue hire	1,809	1,390
Concert equipment hire	1,530	1,818
Concert conductor and accompanist	2,160	2,250
Concert soloists	2,650	1,325
Concert musicians	4,645	3,470
Concert programme & ticket production	1,393	1,167
Concert refreshment expenditure	397	441
Other concert expenses	842	832
	<u>15,426</u>	<u>12,693</u>

Financial Statements for the period ending 31 August 2024

<b>8. Community engagement expenditure</b>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
<i>(Come and sing days, scratch concerts and other public events )</i>	£	£
Other singing, venue hire	250	250
Other singing, conductor	925	620
Other singing, accompanist	533	348
Other singing, soloists	590	270
Other singing, other expenses	402	43
	<u>2,700</u>	<u>1,531</u>
<b>9. Other expenditure</b>	<b>31 Aug 2024</b>	<b>31 Aug 2023</b>
	£	£
Insurance	151	143
Technology costs	113	55
Making Music membership	392	365
Bank / Card Processing fees	395	401
Depreciation	8	24
Other expenditure	71	149
	<u>1,130</u>	<u>1,137</u>
<b>10. Tangible fixed assets</b>		
		<b>Kitchen Equipment</b>
<b>Cost</b>		£
At 1 September 2023		120
Additions		-
At 31 August 2024		<u>120</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 September 2023		112
Charge for the year		8
At 31 August 2024		<u>120</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
At 31 August 2024		<u>-</u>
<b>11. Trustees and related parties</b>		
None of trustees or any persons connected with them received any remuneration, expenses or other benefits from the charity during the year ending 31 August 2024, nor for the year ending 31 August 2023.		
<b>12. Employees</b>		
The charity has no employees.		