

EAST GRINSTEAD CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 801961

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1989-10-12

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

Contact

Address 29A Alders View Drive
East Grinstead
West Sussex
RH19 2DN

Phone 01293786710

Website <http://www.egcs.co.uk/>

Activities

Objects: TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC BY PRESENTATION OF CONCERTS AND OTHER RELEVANT ACTIVITIES.

Activities: Creating a choir from the local community to perform concerts of a high musical standard in local halls and churches supported by orchestras and instrumentalists.

Classification

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

Geography

- East Sussex
- Kent
- Surrey
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£41,025	£38,429	-	-
2024-07-31	£37,976	£33,459	-	-
2023-07-31	£38,500	£32,450	-	-
2022-07-31	£22,704	£28,482	-	-
2021-07-31	£4,324	£5,206	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Janet Cole	Chair	2019-07-04
Gillian Wilton		2024-10-03
Jayne Barry		2025-10-02
Kathryn Elizabeth Draper		2023-09-28
Sheila Mary Walsh		2022-01-17

EAST GRINSTEAD CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 801961

Accounts

Charity Registration Number 801961

East Grinstead Choral Society

Annual report of the Trustees for the period

1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025

Reference and administrative details, trustees and advisers

Registered name	East Grinstead Choral Society
Charity Registration Number	801961
Principal Address	29A Alders View Drive
Current Trustees	Ms Janet Cole (Chair) Ms Sheila Walsh (Treasurer) Mrs Jayne Barry (Secretary); elected on 2 nd October 2025 Mrs Kate Draper Mrs Gillian Wilton

(Current Trustees were elected/re-elected at the AGM on 2nd October 2025)

Other Trustees who served from 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025

Mrs Judi De Lang (Secretary) (stepped down on 31st July 2025)
Mrs Penelope Austin (stepped down on 31st July 2025)

Structure, governance and management

Structure

Trustees	Elected officers as listed above
Management Committee	Trustees and appointed officers fulfil administrative duties, head sub-committees or working groups.
Members	Paid-up members of the Society who pay subscriptions to sing at rehearsals and in performances.
Music Director	A self-employed professional musician, paid part-time to lead rehearsals, conduct performances, recommend the choice of repertoire, soloists and instrumentalists and provide expert musical advice.
Assistant Music Director	A self-employed professional musician, paid part-time to accompany the choir during rehearsals and in performances and to deputise for the Music Director when necessary.

Governance

The Society is an unincorporated association, governed by the Constitution and rules, which were updated in February 2000, reviewed in July 2013 and updated again in July 2015.

The Officers (Chair, Secretary and Treasurer), who are ex-officio Trustees and up to three Independent Trustees, are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustees may appoint two additional co-opted Trustees.

All the Trustees are Members of the Society.

Management

The Society is managed by the Trustees with the assistance of the Working Groups.

Financial Review

The Receipts and Payments schedule for the 12-month period from 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025 is appended to this Report together with the External Scrutiny report.

Cash reserves increased by £2,596 at the year end; although the Trustees knew that the summer concert would be costly as it required a lot of soloists and was in an expensive venue, careful planning meant that we were able to balance it out with two concerts where the requirements were much less. We also started the redevelopment of our website this year, which has given us several benefits, not least, a Members' area. Other notable expenditure in the year related to the auditions and recruitment process for our new Musical Director, Phil Wilcox, who takes up his post on 1 September 2025.

The Society does not hold any assets as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

The next financial review will cover a period of 12 months, from 1st August 2025 to 31st July 2026.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

The Trustees have sought to educate the public in the art and science of music by providing opportunities for singers to participate in, and audiences to listen to, choral works performed in the East Grinstead area. Efforts are continually made to achieve an interesting and varied repertoire performed to a good amateur standard, at a cost which is affordable to both singers and audience.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Society are stated in the Constitution and Rules as being 'to educate the public in the art and science of music, by the presentation of concerts and other relevant activities.'

Membership is open to all sections of the community with no requirement for previous experience or auditions.

Typically, three concerts are held each year, of which at least one will involve engaging a number of professional soloists and orchestral players for a major choral work, and the others will involve a smaller

number of professionals in order to perform an interesting repertoire on an affordable budget. Each concert requires a period of preparation at weekly rehearsals led by the Music Director or Assistant Music Director. The Society seeks to involve local school choirs whenever this is appropriate.

The costs of staging a concert usually exceed ticket sales, the deficit being met from other income, principally subscriptions. The Society also engages in other activities relevant to its objectives, such as voice training and choral workshops, and in diverse forms of social and fund-raising activities.

The Friends of East Grinstead Choral Society continue to support particular projects; the money raised this season contributed to the cost of professional soloists for our Brahms *Ein deutsches Requiem* concert.

The Society is an active member of Making Music.

Applications are occasionally made for grants from local and national bodies, but the Society does not rely on such receipts, which would not have a material effect on the Society's finances.

Achievements and performance


2024-2025 was a challenging, but enjoyable and successful season during which we once more saw a significant increase in membership and an appreciative and growing audience. We held three major concerts: in December we performed Vivaldi's *Gloria* to a full church and in March Brahms *Ein deutsches Requiem* to a smaller, but nonetheless extremely appreciative audience. Our final concert of the year was a sell-out performance of *HMS Pinafore* at our local Arts Centre. We also extended our outreach by singing carols at our local hospital (QVH), which allowed us to connect with the local community, and performing in Barefoot Opera's production of *La Traviata*.


2024 – 2025 was also challenging in terms of our professionals, as our MD, Laurence Williams had requested a sabbatical for the Autumn Term. We were delighted to appoint Ben Markovic as Interim MD and Craig Hudson as Assistant MD for the Autumn Term, then welcomed Laurence back for the Spring Term, before saying a permanent farewell to him after our Brahms concert in March. Craig Hudson took over the baton for *HMS Pinafore* during the Summer Term.

In February 2025 we held auditions for the post of Music Director and were delighted to be able to appoint Phil Wilcox as MD from September 2025 and retain Craig Hudson as Assistant Music Director.

The programme for the coming season 2025- 2026

We are planning three concerts: in early December we will perform Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* accompanied by an orchestra led by local professional violinist George Clifford. This will be followed in March by Fauré's *Requiem* and in June we will be performing a selection of music by British composers as part of the St Swithun's Festival of the Arts and inviting St Mary's Primary School Choir to perform with us.


05.03.2026


5/3/26.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

East Grinstead Choral Society

801961

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/08/24

To

31/07/25

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Members' subscriptions	19,260	-	-	19,260	19,243
Friends	1,300	-	-	1,300	1,675
Gift Aid reclaims	4,412	-	-	4,412	3,927
Concerts	14,580	-	-	14,580	12,302
Interest	768	-	-	768	696
Miscellaneous	705	-	-	705	133
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	41,025	-	-	41,025	37,976
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	41,025	-	-	41,025	37,976
A3 Payments					
Concerts	19,739	-	-	19,739	18,005
Rehearsals	11,785	-	-	11,785	10,850
Cost of scores, folders, scarves & ties	2,156	-	-	2,156	2,420
New website development	1,855	-	-	1,855	-
MD recruitment	1,262	-	-	1,262	-
Other administration	1,632	-	-	1,632	2,185
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	38,429	-	-	38,429	33,459
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	38,429	-	-	38,429	33,459
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,596	-	-	2,596	4,517
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	29,642	-	-	29,642	25,125
Cash funds this year end	32,238	-	-	32,238	29,642

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current account	553	-	-
	Deposit account	31,318	-	-
	Cash in hand	366	-	-
	Total cash funds	32,238	-	-
	<small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</small>			

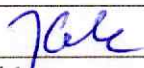

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	JANET COLE	26/02/26
	SHEILA WALSH	26/02/26



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

East Grinstead Choral Society

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 July 25

**Charity no
(if any)**

801961

Set out on pages

1-2

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

**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").

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.

**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:

- 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:

Joanna Unsworth

Date:

16/03/2026

Name:

Joanna Unsworth

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

FCCA

Address:

39 Stockwell Road

East Grinstead

West Sussex, RH19 4BD

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.

EAST GRINSTEAD CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 801961

Accounts

Charity Registration Number 801961

East Grinstead Choral Society

Annual report of the Trustees for the period

1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024

Part A - Matters that all charities must report

A1 Reference and administrative details, trustees and advisers

Registered name	East Grinstead Choral Society
Charity Registration Number	801961
Principal Address	29A Alders View Drive
Current Trustees	Ms Janet Cole (Chair) Ms Sheila Walsh (Treasurer) Ms Judi De Lang (Secretary) Mrs Penelope Austin Mrs Kate Draper

Trustees were elected/re-elected at the AGM on 28th September 2023.

A2 Structure, governance and management

Structure

Trustees	Elected officers as listed above
Management Committee	Trustees and appointed officers fulfil administrative duties, head sub-committees or working parties.
Members	Paid-up members of the Society who pay subscriptions to sing at rehearsals and in performances.
Music Director	A self-employed professional musician, paid part-time to lead rehearsals, conduct performances, recommend the choice of repertoire, soloists and instrumentalists and provide expert musical advice.
Accompanist	A self-employed professional musician, paid part-time to accompany the choir during rehearsals and in performances and to deputise for the Music Director when necessary.

Governance

The Society is an unincorporated association, governed by the Constitution and rules, which were updated in February 2000, reviewed in July 2013 and updated again in July 2015.

The Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer), who are ex-officio Trustees and up to two Independent Trustees, are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustees may appoint two additional co-opted Trustees.

All the Trustees are Members of the Society.

Management

The Society is managed by the Trustees with the assistance of the Management Committee.

A3 Financial Review

The Receipts and Payments schedule for the 12-month period from 1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024 is appended to this Report together with the External Scrutiny report.

The financial out-turn for the year to 31 July 2024 was similar to that for July 2023, but within the figures there were quite a few ups and downs. The Trustees started the year aiming broadly to break-even and the main reason for ending with a surplus was because a lot of people joined to sing Messiah, and it was pleasing that many of the newcomers continued into the spring term. The total deficit on the year's concerts was much as expected, helped by large audiences for both Messiah and the opera concert.

The Trustees have decided to keep subscriptions at their present level for the year 2024-25.

The Society does not hold any assets as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

The next financial review will cover a period of 12 months, from 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025.

A5 Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

The Trustees have sought to educate the public in the art and science of music by providing opportunities for singers to participate in, and audiences to listen to, choral works performed in the East Grinstead area. Efforts are continually made to achieve an interesting and varied repertoire performed to a good amateur standard, at a cost which is affordable to both singers and audience.

Part B — Matters that smaller charities, not subject to statutory audit, must also report

B1 Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Society are stated in the Constitution and Rules as being 'to educate the public in the art and science of music, by the presentation of concerts and other relevant activities.'

Membership is open to all sections of the community with no requirement for previous experience or auditions.

Typically, three concerts are held each year, of which at least one will involve engaging a number of professional soloists and orchestral players for a major choral work, and the others will involve a smaller number of professionals in order to perform an interesting repertoire on an affordable budget. Each concert requires a period of preparation at weekly rehearsals led by the Musical Director. The Society seeks to involve local school children whenever this is appropriate.

The costs of staging a concert usually exceed ticket sales, the deficit being met from other income, principally subscriptions. The Society also engages in other activities relevant to its objectives, such as voice training and choral workshops, and in diverse forms of social and fund-raising activities.

The Friends of East Grinstead Choral Society continue to support particular projects; the money raised this season contributed to the cost of four professional soloists for our *Petite Messe Solennelle* concert.

The Society is an active member of Making Music.

Applications are occasionally made for grants from local and national bodies, but the Society does not rely on such receipts, which would not have a material effect on the Society's finances.

B2 Achievements and performance

2023-2024 was a challenging, but enjoyable and successful season during which we saw a significant increase in membership and an appreciative and growing audience. We held three major concerts: in December we performed Handel's *Messiah* to a full church and, a week later, invited the local community to attend a very well-received "Come and Sing Carols" event. In April we performed Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* to a smaller, but nonetheless appreciative audience. Our final concert of the year was a sell-out performance of popular opera choruses, staged as part of the St Swithun's Festival of the Arts and including the children's choir from St Mary's C of E Primary School. We also extended our outreach by singing carols at Standen (National Trust), allowing us to connect with the local community, and performing in Barefoot Opera's production of *La Cenerentola*.

In January 2024 Laurence Williams, our MD, expressed a wish to take a sabbatical during the autumn term 2024, returning in Spring 2025. We appointed both an Interim MD and a new Assistant MD for the 2024 – 2025 season.

The programme for the coming season 2024- 2025

Three concerts are planned: in early December we will perform Vivaldi's *Gloria* with an orchestra led by local professional violinist George Clifford. This will be followed in March by Brahms *Ein Deutsches Requiem* and in July we will stage a concert performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* at our local theatre, Chequer Mead.

Joelle	Trustee	27.02.25
Sheila M Walker	Trustee	27/2/2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

East Grinstead Choral Society

801961

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/08/23

To

31/07/24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Members	19,243	-	-	19,243	16,470
Friends	1,675	-	-	1,675	2,603
Gift Aid reclaims	3,927	-	-	3,927	4,775
Concerts	12,302	-	-	12,302	13,457
Interest	696	-	-	696	231
Miscellaneous	133	-	-	133	964
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	37,976	-	-	37,976	38,500
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	37,976	-	-	37,976	38,500
A3 Payments					
Rehearsals	20,424	-	-	20,424	19,752
Concerts	10,850	-	-	10,850	9,748
Administration	2,185	-	-	2,185	2,950
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	33,459	-	-	33,459	32,450
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	270
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	270
Total payments	33,459	-	-	33,459	32,720
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,517	-	-	4,517	5,780
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	25,125	-	-	25,125	19,345
Cash funds this year end	29,642	-	-	29,642	25,125

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current account	392	-	-
	Deposit account	29,055	-	-
	Cash in hand	195	-	-
	Total cash funds	29,642	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				

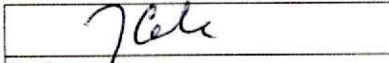

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Portable speaker	Unrestricted funds	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	JANET COLE	27.02.25
	SHEILA WALSH	27/2/25



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

East Grinstead Choral Society

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 July 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

801961

Set out on pages

1-2

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

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.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

Signed:

J Unsworth

Date:

28/02/2025

Name:

Joanna Unsworth

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

FCCA

Address:

39 Stockwell Road

East Grinstead

West Sussex, RH19 4BD

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.

EAST GRINSTEAD CHORAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 801961

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

East Grinstead Choral Society

801961

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/08/22

To

31/07/23

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Subscriptions/Friends/donations	19,567	-	-	19,567	15,995
Gift Aid claim	4,775	-	-	4,775	321
Concert income	12,397	-	-	12,397	5,591
Score income	1,090	-	-	1,090	735
Interest income	231	-	-	231	13
Other income	440	-	-	440	49
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	38,500	-	-	38,500	22,704
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	38,500	-	-	38,500	22,704
A3 Payments					
Concert costs	16,897	-	-	16,897	15,255
Score costs	2,679	-	-	2,679	1,986
Rehearsal venue hire	1,993	-	-	1,993	1,220
Rehearsal professional fees	7,755	-	-	7,755	7,750
MD expenses	-	-	-	-	150
General publicity	-	-	-	-	197
Bank & card charges	199	-	-	199	172
Other costs	2,927	-	-	2,927	1,752
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	32,450	-	-	32,450	28,482
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Speaker	270	-	-	270	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	270	-	-	270	-
Total payments	32,720	-	-	32,720	28,482
Net of receipts/(payments)	5,780	-	-	5,780	5,778
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	19,345	-	-	19,345	25,123
Cash funds this year end	25,125	-	-	25,125	19,345

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF Bank current account	330	-	-
	CAF Bank deposit account	24,368	-	-
	Cash	427	-	-
	Total cash funds	25,125	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

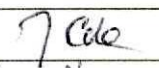
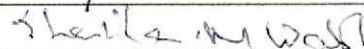
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Speaker	Unrestricted funds	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	JANET COLE	11.04.24
	SHEILA WALSH	11/4/24

Charity Registration Number 801961

East Grinstead Choral Society

Annual report of the Trustees for the period

1st August 2022 to 31st July 2023

Part A - Matters that all charities must report

A1 Reference and administrative details, trustees and advisers

Registered name	East Grinstead Choral Society
Charity Registration Number	801961
Principal Address	2 Limes Avenue, Horley, Surrey RH6 9DH
Current Trustees	Mrs Gillian Olliver (Chair) Ms Janet Cole (Vice Chair) Ms Sheila Walsh (Treasurer) Ms Judi De Lang (Secretary) Mrs Mary Osborn

(Trustees were elected/re-elected at the AGM on 29 September 2022.

A2 Structure, governance and management

Structure

Trustees	Elected officers as listed above
Management Committee	Trustees and appointed officers fulfil administrative duties, head sub-committees or working parties.
Members	Paid-up members of the Society who pay subscriptions to sing at rehearsals and in performances.
Music Director	A self-employed professional musician, paid part-time to lead rehearsals, conduct performances, recommend the choice of repertoire, soloists and instrumentalists and provide expert musical advice.
Accompanist	A self-employed professional musician, paid part-time to accompany the choir during rehearsals and in performances and to deputise for the Music Director when necessary.

Governance

The Society is an unincorporated association, governed by the Constitution and rules, which were updated in February 2000, reviewed in July 2013 and updated again in July 2015.

The Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer), who are ex-officio Trustees and up to two Independent Trustees, are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustees may appoint two additional co-opted Trustees.

All the Trustees are Members of the Society.

Management

The Society is managed by the Trustees with the assistance of the Management Committee.

A3 Financial Review

The Receipts and Payments schedule for the 12-month period from 1st August 2022 to 31st July 2023 is appended to this Report together with the External Scrutiny report.

During the 2022-2023 season, our 70th anniversary season, we continued our recovery post-COVID. The Trustees hoped to break-even over the season and I am pleased to report that the out-turn was that we were able to make a surplus for the year and rebuild our reserves. There were several positive factors behind this:

- Post-COVID audiences recovered to a surprising and pleasing extent leading to increased ticket sales, including a sell-out concert at Chequer Mead.
- We launched the Friends of EGCS, something that had been in the background for a long time, and were delighted and grateful to receive some exceptionally generous donations, including some continuing support paid monthly.
- Membership increased slightly and combined with the small increase in subscription rates, subscription income was a little higher than expected.
- Gift Aid receipts recovered post-COVID following the resumption of subscriptions being paid, which was expected, but we also started claiming Gift Aid more promptly – termly rather than annually – which gave us a one-off cash flow advantage. In the current year I expect Gift Aid to be closer to £3,000.

The Trustees have decided to keep subscriptions at their present level for the current year.

The Society does not hold any assets as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

The next financial review will cover a period of 12 months, from 1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024.

A5 Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

The Trustees have sought to educate the public in the art and science of music by providing opportunities for singers to participate in, and audiences to listen to, choral works performed in the East Grinstead area. Efforts are continually made to achieve an interesting and varied repertoire performed to a good amateur standard, at a cost which is affordable to both singers and audience.

Part B — Matters that smaller charities, not subject to statutory audit, must also report

B1 Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Society are stated in the Constitution and Rules as being 'to educate the public in the art and science of music, by the presentation of concerts and other relevant activities.'

Membership is open to all sections of the community with no requirement for previous experience or auditions.

Typically, three concerts are held each year, of which at least one will involve engaging a number of professional soloists and orchestral players for a major choral work, and the others will involve a smaller number of professionals in order to perform an interesting repertoire on an affordable budget. Each concert requires a period of preparation at weekly rehearsals led by the Musical Director. The Society seeks to involve local school children whenever this is appropriate.

The cost of staging a concert usually exceeds ticket sales, the deficit being met from other income, principally subscriptions. The Society also engages in other activities relevant to its objectives, such as voice training and choral workshops, and in diverse forms of social and fund-raising activities.

In April we formed the Friends of East Grinstead Choral Society as a means of raising sponsorship money for particular projects from our loyal supporters; the money raised this season contributed to the cost of a baroque orchestra for our *Messiah* concert.

The Society is an active member of Making Music.

Applications are occasionally made for grants from local and national bodies, but the Society does not rely on such receipts, which would not have a material effect on the Society's finances.

B2 Achievements and performance

2022-2023 marked our 70th Anniversary and a challenging, but enjoyable and successful season saw a significant increase in membership and an appreciative and growing audience. We held three major concerts: Our 'Christmas Extravaganza' featured Haydn's *Missa Sancti Nicolai* and Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and included St. Mary's CofE Primary School choir. In April we experienced the 'Glory of Brass, Choir, and Organ' in our Anniversary concert following the founding of East Grinstead Choral Society in 1952. Concert repertoire included Rutter's *Gloria* and music of the Italian baroque period. This concert also featured a work by local composer Simon Austin, performed with brass ensemble. Our final concert of the year was a sell-out concert performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado*, performed at the local Chequer Mead Theatre. We also extended our outreach by serenading the High Street with carols and supporting a local charity event allowing us to connect with the local community.

The programme for the coming season 2023- 2024

Three concerts are planned: in early December we will perform Handel's *Messiah* with baroque orchestra led by local professional violinist George Clifford. This will be followed in April by Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* and in June we will support St Swithun's Festival of the Arts by staging "A Night at the Opera", featuring opera choruses, solos and duets. In addition to the children of St Mary's school we will be joined for this concert by two local professional soloists.

J Cole (JANET COLE) 11.04.24
should be written 11/4/24



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

East Grinstead Choral Society

801961

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/08/22

To

31/07/23

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Subscriptions/Friends/donations	19,567	-	-	19,567	15,995
Gift Aid claim	4,775	-	-	4,775	321
Concert income	12,397	-	-	12,397	5,591
Score income	1,090	-	-	1,090	735
Interest income	231	-	-	231	13
Other income	440	-	-	440	49
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	38,500	-	-	38,500	22,704
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	38,500	-	-	38,500	22,704
A3 Payments					
Concert costs	16,897	-	-	16,897	15,255
Score costs	2,679	-	-	2,679	1,986
Rehearsal venue hire	1,993	-	-	1,993	1,220
Rehearsal professional fees	7,755	-	-	7,755	7,750
MD expenses	-	-	-	-	150
General publicity	-	-	-	-	197
Bank & card charges	199	-	-	199	172
Other costs	2,927	-	-	2,927	1,752
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	32,450	-	-	32,450	28,482
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Speaker	270	-	-	270	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	270	-	-	270	-
Total payments	32,720	-	-	32,720	28,482
Net of receipts/(payments)	5,780	-	-	5,780	5,778
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	19,345	-	-	19,345	25,123
Cash funds this year end	25,125	-	-	25,125	19,345

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF Bank current account	330	-	-
	CAF Bank deposit account	24,368	-	-
	Cash	427	-	-
	Total cash funds	25,125	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

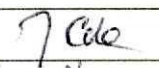
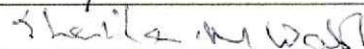
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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	SHEILA WALSH	11/4/24

Charity Registration Number 801961

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J Cole (JANET COLE) 11.04.24
should be written 11/4/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

East Grinstead Choral Society

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 July 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

801961

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2023.

**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").

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.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

Signed:

J Unsworth

Date:

17/04/2024

Name:

Joanna Unsworth

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

FCCA

Address:

39 Stockwell Road

East Grinstead

West Sussex, RH19 4BD

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.

