

chansons

Perth's Chamber Choir



charity reference SC 035974

registered address:

An Laimhrig, Broom Place,
Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5HX

Annual Report for the year 19 June 2024-18 June 2025

Chansons is a chamber choir based in Perth. Its aim is to foster the appreciation of choral music by training the choir's singers and by performing choral music in a variety of venues.

Chansons is an unincorporated association governed under the terms of a constitution adopted by its membership. Chansons is recognised by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator as a charity.

This annual report and the following accounts have been prepared in accordance with the statement of recommended practice (SORP) for charities following the revised Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities, effective from January 2015.

Management of the choir is vested in a committee consisting of three members elected by the choir membership, together with an appointed Musical Director, plus up to two additional Committee members who are co-opted by the Committee. Chansons does not employ any staff. Committee members are the trustees of the charity:


| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|------------|
| Lorraine Trayner | Administrator | Elected |
| Areti Lymperopoulou | Music Director | Ex-officio |
| Craig Tomlinson | Treasurer | Elected |
| John Luke | Publicity | Co-opted |
| David Wilson | Singers | Elected |
| David Willington | Secretary | Co-opted |

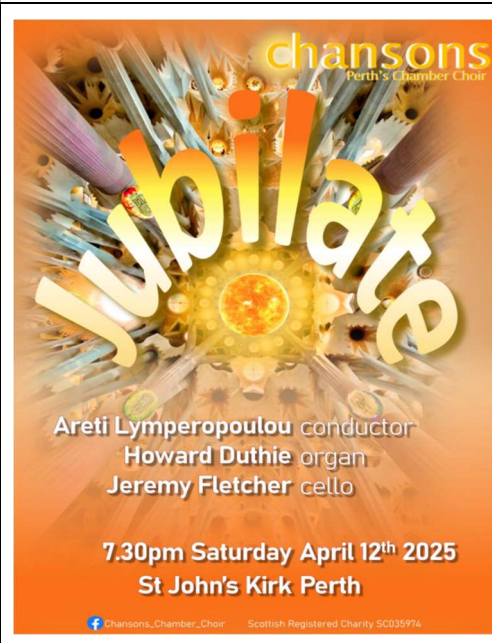
Chansons continues to enjoy the expertise and enthusiastic guidance of our Music Director, Areti Lymperopoulou who seeks to improve and expand our repertoire so that we can perform more ambitious concerts. We enjoy the challenge of learning new repertoire, producing a high quality performance and creating exciting concerts for our audience.

Entry to Chansons is by audition. A reasonable balance across all 4 voice parts is maintained up to a maximum of 40 singers. If there is no vacancy in a voice part then a successful

applicant will be placed on our waiting list until a suitable vacancy occurs. During the past year there were 4 resignations and 4 new appointees. The membership at the close of the choral year was 37 (11 sopranos, 9 altos, 6 tenors, 11 basses). We are always looking for tenors! We are very grateful for the use of the Chapterhouse in Perth's St Ninian's Cathedral for our weekly rehearsals and to our regular talented piano accompanist, Gordon Murch.

Chansons performed 3 successful and enjoyable concerts during the year as follows:

| Concert | Programme |
|---|---|
|  <p>Saturday, 24 August 2024, 7.30pm St John's Kirk, Perth</p> <p>Chansons, Perth's Chamber Choir and Ars Antiqua Kammerchor and Jugendchor. Aschaffenburg</p> <p>Areti Lympelopoulou : Music Director Katrin Ferenz : Music Director Gordon Murch: Pianist</p> | <p><i>Chansons :</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) : Three Shakespeare Songs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Full Fathom Five ii. The Cloud capp'd Towers iii. Over hill, over dale 2. Gustav Holst(1874-1934) : Six Choral Folksongs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. I sowed the sees of love ii. There was a tree iii. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John iv. Song of the Blacksmith v. I love my love vi. Swansea Town <p><i>Ars Antiqua Jugendchor(Youth Choir) :</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Reinis Sejans (*1984) : Vindo (J. Hjerno, arr.) 4. Nils-Eric Foughstedt (1910-1961) : I folksviseton 5. Wilhelm Peterson-Berger (1867-1942) : Vessleblomme 6. Karl-Frederik Jehrlander (*1934, arr.) : Michelle (Beatles) 7. Daryl Runswick (*1946, arr.) : Blackbird (Beatles) <p><i>Ars Antiqua Kammerchor :</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Paul Hindemith (1895-1963) : Six Chansons (Rainer Maria Rilke) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. La Biche (The Doe) iii. Puisque tout passe (Since all is passing) iv. En Hiver (In Winter) vi. Verger (Orchard) 9. Joseph Haas (1879-1960) : Es ist so still geworden 10. Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Nachtwache I ii. Nachtwache II aus op. 104 11. Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847) : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Der König in Thule, op. 67, Nr. 1 ii. Ungewitter, op. 67, Nr. 4 <p><i>Finale : All Choirs sing together</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Stefan Claas : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Hab oft im Kreise der Lieben ii. Es führt über den Main eine Brücke von Stein iii. Auld Lang Syne 13. Trad arr. Ken Johnston (1962 -) : The Piper O'Dundee |

| | |
|---|---|
|  <p>chansons Perth's Chamber Choir</p> <p>Carols for Christmas</p> <p>Areti Lympieropoulou conductor Gordon Murch piano</p> <p>7.30pm Saturday December 7th St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth</p> <p><small>f Chansons_Chamber_Choir www.chansons.co.uk Scottish Registered Charity SC035974</small></p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hodie Christus natus est: Jan P Sweelinck (1562-1621) 2. Adventi ének: Kodály (1882-1967) 3. All in the morning: Trad. Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) 4. Il est ne, le divin enfant: Trad. Arr. Ben Parry (1965-) 5. Beata es Virgo Maria: Giovanni Gabrieli (c.1555-1612) 6. Quittez, pasteurs: French Trad. Arr. John Rutter (1945-) 7. Pat-a-Pan: Trad. Arr. David Rasbach 8. Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen: Michael Praetorius (1571-1621) 9. Psallite 1609: Michael Praetorius (1571-1621) 10. Duo Seraphim: de Victoria (soprano+alto) 11. Susanni, A little child there is y born: Richard Rodney Bennett (1936- 2012) 12. Coventry Carol: Ola Gjeilo (1978-) 13. Wassail song: Trad. Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) 14. Pilgrim Jesus: Bob Chilcott (1955-) <p>INTERVAL</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Bogoroditse Djevo: Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943) 16. E la don don Verges Maria: Mateo Flecha (1481-1553) 17. 'Twas in the moon of winter time' Arr. John Rutter (1945-) 18. Mary Mother: Words Georgia Way, Music Bob Chilcott (1955-) 19. Carol of the Bells: English words Peter J Wilhousky , Music Mykola Leontovich (1877-1921), Arr. Peter J Wilhousky (1902-1978) 20. A Christmas Blessing: Philip W J Stopford (1977-) 21. The Bells of Christmas: Gordon Murch |
|  <p>chansons Perth's Chamber Choir</p> <p>Jubilate</p> <p>Areti Lympieropoulou conductor Howard Duthie organ Jeremy Fletcher cello</p> <p>7.30pm Saturday April 12th 2025 St John's Kirk Perth</p> <p><small>f Chansons_Chamber_Choir Scottish Registered Charity SC035974</small></p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ubi Caritas : Gjeilo (1978) 2. Linden Lea : Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958) 3. Ave Maria : Busto (1949) 4. Hear, my prayer, O Lord : Purcell (1659 - 1695) 5. Largo, Allegro, Aria & Two Variations -Festing (1705 - 1752) arr. Thalben-Ball (1896 - 1987) -Organ Solo 6. Amazing Grace : Ešenvalds (1977) 7. I want to be ready : Hogan (1957 - 2003) 8. Deep River : Arr. Hogan (1957 -2003) 9. Ride the Chariot : Hogan (1957 - 2003) 10. With a Lily in my Hand : Whitacre (1970)(no.2 from Flower Songs) <p>INTERVAL</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Richte mich, Gott (Psalm 43) : Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847) 12. Lobet den Herrnalle Heiden : BMV 230 JS Bach (1685 - 1750) 13. Suite No. 4 in E flat major for solo cello : JS Bach (1685 - 1750) 14. Jehova, Quam Multi : Purcell (1659 - 1695) 15. Jubilate, O be joyful in the Lord (Jubilate Deo) : Purcell (1659 - 1695) |

This year's highlight was the visit to Perth by Ars Antiqua Kammerchor of Aschaffenburg, Germany. Aschaffenburg is twinned with Perth and Chansons has enjoyed a longstanding collaboration and friendship with Ars Antiqua. This was their first visit to Perth since the covid pandemic and since the tragic and untimely death of their choral director, Stefan Claas in 2021. We welcomed back Ars Antiqua members with their new music director, Katrin Ferenz together with members of their youth choir. Our joint concert in St John's Kirk, Perth was a great joy as they are very talented musicians. We also enjoyed taking our visitors on tours of the area, to a Scottish dance class, to a Scottish folksong session and much more. A very busy and enjoyable time was had by us all.

Instead of our usual annual choir barbecue at the beginning of the choral year we hosted a 'Ceilidh' for our visitors from Aschaffenburg – Scottish hospitality at its best! - with folk band and traditional Scottish dancing.

Chansons was very fortunate to receive some welcome financial support for some of the Ars Antiqua visit expenditure from local trust funds, Forteviot and Thompson, as well as from The Perth Common Good Fund. We are most grateful for this additional support.

Ars Antiqua Kammerchor has invited Chansons to Aschaffenburg in April 2026 to perform in a joint concert to celebrate the 70th anniversary of our cities' twinning association.

Other musical highlights for Chansons during the year included singing at the wedding ceremony of one of our members. A very special and joyful experience for us all!

There were also 2 contrasting Christmas events. A small group of Chansons' singers sang Christmas carols and other seasonal songs at Ballathie House Hotel on Christmas Eve. This has become an enjoyable annual event and we are pleased to accept a welcome fee payment to add to choir funds.

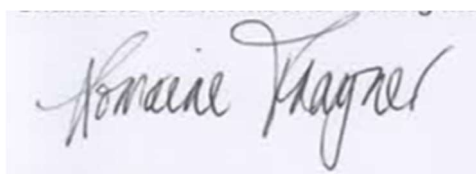
In addition, in December, a group of Chansons singers were once again invited to sing Christmas carols at a special event for some residents and staff at HM Prison in Perth. Our audience certainly enjoyed themselves and enthusiastically joined in with some of the songs. We plan to return next Christmas. We are pleased to offer this seasonal entertainment free of charge.

In financial terms, Chansons aims, as far as possible, to recover the costs of concert performances from ticket sales or performance fees charged. Deficits are met through membership subscriptions, fees charged for performing at weddings and/or other functions, and, for special events, by seeking appropriate grants or sponsorship. Chansons aims to maintain a minimum resting balance of around £4,000 as the amount required to enable concerts to be performed without significant cash flow difficulties.

Chansons opened the year (19 June 2024) with a cash balance of £7,600. of which £2,500 was earmarked funds donated by the Forteviot and Thomson Charitable Trusts for the visit to Perth (August 2024) by Ars Antiqua Kammerchor and Jugendchor of Aschaffenburg, Germany. The year closed (at 18 June 2025) with a balance of £6,316.

Chansons is a member of Making Music, the National Federation of Music Societies.

The independent examiner appointed to examine the accounts is currently Ms Cara McLean.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lorraine Trayner", on a light blue background.

Lorraine Trayner
Choir Administrator
23rd November 2025

chansons

Perth's Chamber Choir

Charity reference SC 035974

Registered address:
An Laimhrig, Broom Place,
Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5HX

Accounts for the year 19th June 2024 – 18th June 2025

- **Independent Examiner Report**
- **Receipts and payments account**
- **Statement of balances**
- **Notes to the accounts**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of 'Chansons'

I report on the accounts of the charity CHANSONS, Scottish Charity SC035974, for the year 19th June 2024 to 18th June 2025, which are set out in the 'Annual Report and Accounts'

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the account in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement:

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement:

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

(i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements have not been met

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and

Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with

Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

or

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

Name : Cara MacLean

Relevant professional qualification :

8 years experience as Treasurer / Accounts / Book-keeper.

Address : ROSE COTTAGE
INVER, DUNKELD
PH18 0JR

Signature :

Cara MacLean

Date :

06/03/2026.

Chansons**Receipts and payments account
for the year ended 18 June 2025****Receipts**

NB figures are rounded to the nearest £ for rep

| | 2024-25 £ Unrestricted | 2024-25 £ Restricted | 2024-25 £ Total |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Donations | | | |
| Members' subscriptions including gift aid | 5,788 | - | 5788 |
| Donations | 100 | - | 100 |
| | 5,888 | 0 | 5,888 |
| Charitable activities | | | |
| Concert income | 6,605 | - | 6605 |
| Friends' membership | 158 | - | 158 |
| | 6,762 | 0 | 6,762 |
| Fundraising activities | | | |
| Other fundraising | 1,835 | - | 1835 |
| | 1,835 | 0 | 1,835 |
| Other income | | | |
| Sponsorship & grants | 900 | - | 900 |
| Other income | 547 | - | 547 |
| | 1,447 | 0 | 1,447 |
| Total receipts | 15,932 | 0 | 15,932 |
| Payments | | | |
| Charitable activities | | | |
| Concert costs | 4,395 | - | 4395 |
| Rehearsal costs | 8,348 | - | 8348 |
| Support costs | 337 | - | 337 |
| | 13,080 | 0 | 13080 |
| Fundraising activities | | | |
| Functions & sales | 4,135 | | 4135 |
| | 4,135 | 0 | 4135 |
| Total payments | 17,215 | 0 | 17215 |
| Surplus/deficit for the year | -1,283 | 0 | -1283 |

Chansons

Statement of balances at 18 June 2025

| | 2024-25 £ | 2024-25 £ | 2024-25 £ |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash and bank | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total |
| Opening cash & bank | 7,600 - | | 7600 |
| Surplus/deficit for year | -1,283 - | | -1283 |
| Closing cash & bank | 6316.7 | 0 | 6316.7 |

Other assets

Gift aid due

Other income

Liabiliites

Other expenses

Signed



March 2026

Administrator Lorraine A Trayner

Chansons

Notes to the accounts

Year ended 18 June 2025

| | 2024-25 | 2023-24 | 2022-23 Restated |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| <i>Concert income - notes</i> | | | |
| Ticket sales | 5,786 | 6,817 | 5,542 |
| Donations | 184 | 626 | 571 |
| Other income | 0 | 117 | 387 |
| | <u>5,970</u> | <u>7,561</u> | <u>6,501</u> |
| <i>Concert costs - notes</i> | | | |
| Professional performers | 766 | 3,088 | 3,262 |
| Venue hire | 1,414 | 1,696 | 1,322 |
| Publicity costs | 271 | 652 | 1,013 |
| Other costs | 493 | 975 | 730 |
| | <u>2,945</u> | <u>6,411</u> | <u>6,326</u> |
| <i>Rehearsal costs - notes</i> | | | |
| Musical director | 4,500 | 3,985 | 3,985 |
| Venue hire | 910 | 900 | 810 |
| Accompanists | 1,460 | 1,375 | 920 |
| Music hire, purchase & donations | 1,478 | 284 | 1,386 |
| | <u>8,348</u> | <u>6,544</u> | <u>7,101</u> |
| <i>Support costs</i> | | | |
| Insurance | 107 | 104 | 99 |
| Making Music Subscription | 230 | 219 | 140 |
| Other costs | 0 | 625 | 115 |
| | <u>337</u> | <u>948</u> | <u>354</u> |

Notes to the Accounts:

1. The accounts are prepared on a cash basis for 2024-25.
2. The format of the accounts follows the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) guidance for smaller charities (in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities).
3. Areti Lymperopoulou was the only Committee member to receive remuneration, specifically for her role as Musical Director for which she received £4500.00, agreed by committee.