



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 September 2022 Period start date  
To 31 August 2023 Period end date

Charity name: City of Bristol Choir

Charity registration number: 1015961

## Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>"To promote, improve, 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 means as the Choir, through its committee, shall determine from time to time."</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p><b>City of Bristol Choir 2022-2023</b></p> <p><b>13 November 2022 – Remembrance Sunday Concert, St George’s Concert Hall, 6pm</b> Blackford’s <i>Pietà</i> and Vaughan Williams; <i>Dona nobis pacem</i>. Soloists Felix Kemp and Rebecca Afonwy-Jones</p> <p><b>17 December 2022 Christmas Spectacular, St George’s Bristol</b> With Bristol Ensemble</p> <p><b>20 December 2022 Festive Fiesta, St George’s, Bristol</b> With Bristol Ensemble</p> <p><b>24 March 2023, That Friday Feeling Concert, All Saints Church, 7:45pm</b> My beloved spake Patrick Hadley Ubi caritas Maurice Duruflé O sing unto the Lord Cecilia McDowall Let all mortal flesh keep silence Edward Bairstow Beati quorum via Charles Villiers Stanford Five Spirituals from A Child of our Time Michael Tippett Organ: Épiphanie Gaston Litaize The Call Gail Randall</p>

	<p>Faire is the heaven William H. Harris  Ave Verum Colin Mawby  Northern Lights Ola Gjeilo  Magnificat from St Paul's Service Herbert Howells</p> <p><b>25 June 2023 Then Sing We All, St George's Concert Hall, 6pm</b></p> <p>Jazz Cantata – Then Sing We All, Iain Farrington  Stars, Night, Music and Light Judith Weir  Two Songs and Sonnets George Shearing  They can't take that away from me George Gershwin  Summertime George Gershwin  Shall I compare thee to a Summer's day Owain Park  Excerpts from Sacred Concert Duke Ellington</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Yes

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policy on grant making	There is no policy but decisions are taken on a case by case basis by the Trustees and the committee for the commission of new musical works and to award Bursary Scholarships for young singers.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Volunteer stewards, committee members, librarian and front of house team are thanked publicly and thanks are published in the concert programmes.
Other	N/A

## Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

### **13 November 2022 – Remembrance Sunday Concert, St George's Concert Hall, 6pm**

The Remembrance Sunday Concert was a resounding success, receiving widespread positive reviews. The program featured impactful performances of Blackford's Pietà and Vaughan Williams' Dona nobis pacem, showcasing the talents of soloists Felix Kemp and Rebecca Afonwy-Jones. The concert not only paid tribute to Remembrance Sunday but also left a lasting impression on the audience with its emotive and powerful musical renditions. The combination of compelling compositions and outstanding soloists contributed to the overall success of the event, earning it high praise from the audience. The composer, Blackford was in attendance and we also collaborated with Bristol Youth Choir to further our objective of supporting emerging music talent.

### **17 December 2022 Christmas Spectacular, St George's Bristol**

City of Bristol Choir accompanied the Bristol Ensemble and delivered the Christmas Spectacular at St George's Bristol that captivated the audience and proved, again, to be a resounding success. This festive event, filled with holiday cheer, featured the choir's renditions of classic Christmas carols and seasonal favourites. The collaboration with the Bristol Ensemble, as always, added a rich musical dimension to the performance, elevating the overall experience.

### **20 December 2022 Festive Fiesta, St George's, Bristol**

As above, but this version of our collaborative concert with the Bristol Ensemble involves a bit more audience participation. There are more carols for the audience to join in with and just generally, there is a slightly more celebratory atmosphere for this concert.

### **24 March 2023, That Friday Feeling Concert, All Saints Church, 7:45pm**

As a slightly new idea /initiative for a concert, CBC put on "That Friday Feeling" in March 2023. The Choir performed a full programme with no interval which meant the running time was shorter, with no interval and was on a Friday night, avoiding clashes with other musical performances in Bristol. It proved to be a spectacular success, leaving the audience enraptured with an evening of diverse, feel-good musical performances. The programme featured a rich selection of choral pieces, spanning various composers and styles, showcasing the versatility and talent of the performers. The musical offering

	<p>seamlessly transitioned through a range of emotions, from the uplifting "Faire is the heaven" by William H. Harris to the serene "Ave Verum" by Colin Mawby. It was a great experiment and having sold out the audience, CBC have resolved to try a similar concert to this formula in March 2024.</p> <p><b>25 June 2023 Then Sing We All, St George's Concert Hall, 6pm</b></p> <p>"Then Sing We All" was an exceptional musical event that unfolded excellently. The evening featured a diverse array of compositions that seamlessly blended Jazz-type genres, captivating the audience with a unique evening experience. The concert included the first performance of Iain Farrington's Jazz Cantata, "Then Sing We All," set the tone for the concert, showcasing a fusion of jazz elements with traditional choral arrangements. This was accompanied by a number of other works including Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert. The fusion of sacred and jazz elements in Ellington's work provided a fitting reflection of the concert's aim; to combine the more traditional choral elements of City of Bristol choir with a small jazz trio. It was a hugely effective concert and even better for being hosted in the beautiful space of St George's concert Hall.</p>
--	---

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

<p>Achievements against objectives set</p>	<p>City of Bristol Choir enjoyed a remarkably successful year from September 2022 to August 2023, marked by a diverse and challenging repertoire that showcased the choir's capability and high musical standards. This period proved to be yet another successful year for the choir, executing some of their key objectives and goals. The primary objectives for the year included commissioning new works, performing in various venues across the city, and fostering extensive collaborations with other performers. These goals were not only met but surpassed, reflecting the choir's commitment to promoting, improving, developing, and maintaining public education in (and appreciation of) the art and gift of music.</p> <p>An additional triumph was witnessed in good ticket sales throughout the year, a testament to the choir's popularity and the effectiveness of its expert, thoughtful programming. This success not only fulfilled the objective</p>
--	---

	<p>of protecting the existing audience but also contributed to the growth of the choir's viewership.</p> <p>The 2022-2023 season was indeed a banner year for City of Bristol Choir, marked by artistic excellence and a commitment to maintaining high musical &amp; performance standards.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	<b>N/A</b>
Investment performance against objectives	<b>N/A</b>
Other	<b>N/A</b>

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The Choir's finances have held up well despite emerging from the difficulties of the pandemic, a large investment in staging in 2020/21, increased costs and two concerts last year in St George's, one of which made a significant loss.</p> <p>An increase in subscription income and an increase in performance fees helped to balance the loss.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>City of Bristol Choir tries to maintain a reserve of at least £5000 to support the Choir's on-going activities and to provide a contingency fund in case of poor ticket sales or unexpected costs. The accompanying Accounts quantify three designated funds (the CBC Bursary Fund, the Commissions Fund and the CBC Tour Fund) and explain their purposes.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Minimum of £5000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the	Para 1.23	N/A

charity continuing as a going concern		
---------------------------------------	--	--

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Subscriptions from members Concert income Grants and awards for specific projects or concerts
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The principal risks to the Choir are first; ensuring that audiences continue to attend concerts given the growing competition for musical performances in and around Bristol and secondly, that membership remains at an optimum level to deliver the aims and objectives of the choir and to generate subscription income. The Trustees continue to review this and the choir's position remains satisfactory.
Other		N/A

### Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Written constitution.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	City of Bristol Choir is an unincorporated association regulated by its constitution, adopted at a specially convened Extraordinary General Meeting of the Choir on 26 <sup>th</sup> November 1992 and amended at specially convened EGMs of the Choir on 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2001, 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2003 and at the AGM on 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2014.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	In accordance with the amended Constitution adopted at the AGM on 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2014, the Trustees are drawn from the members of the Choir and elected by a simple majority of members at the Charity's Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting. They hold office until the next Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election.

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<p>New Trustees are mentored and they meet with outgoing or current Trustees depending what, if any role, they will play on the committee.</p> <p>All Trustees are advised of the expectations and duties of Trustees and their attention is specifically drawn to <a href="http://www.Gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-whats-involved">www.Gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-whats-involved</a></p>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	N/A
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		N/A

**Reference and Administrative details**

Charity name	City of Bristol Choir
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1015961
Charity's principal address	<p>City of Bristol Choir            9 Sandstone Rise, Winterbourne,            Bristol BS36 1BB</p>



**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

**Additional information (optional)****Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

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

N/A
-----

**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A
-----

**Other optional information**

N/A
-----

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ *julia loveless* \_\_\_\_\_

Full name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ JULIA LOVELESS \_\_\_\_\_

Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair etc) \_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR (as of 1st February 2024) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd April 2024 \_\_\_\_\_



**CITY OF BRISTOL CHOIR**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**BALANCE SHEET**

		<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>					<b>2022</b>
		<b>2023</b>					<b>£</b>
Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£	
	Other Funds	CBC Bursary Fund	CBC Tour Fund	Commissions Fund	Total		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	4	10,521			10,521	10,709	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>							
Music Library	1,5	1,917			1,917	1,385	
Stock		0			0	861	
Gift Aid receivable		5,074			5,074	5,309	
Debtors and prepayments		527			527	3,236	
Cash at bank and in hand		10,180	377	98	4,176	14,831	
COIF Deposit Account		1,000			1,000	1,000	
		<u>18,698</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>4,176</u>	<u>23,349</u>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>							
Creditors and Accruals		3,707			3,707	1,452	
		<u>3,707</u>			<u>3,707</u>	<u>1,452</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>14,991</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>4,176</u>	<u>18,836</u>	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>25,512</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>4,176</u>	<u>30,163</u>	
<b>RESERVES</b>							
General Funds		25,512			25,512	24,990	
CBC Tour Fund	6			98	98	(248)	
CBC Bursary Fund	6		377		377	627	
CBC Commissions Fund	6			4,176	4,176	4,176	
		<u>25,512</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>4,176</u>	<u>30,163</u>	

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf

J Loveless  
Chairman

S Pascall  
Treasurer

## **CITY OF BRISTOL CHOIR**

### **ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

##### **1. Accounting policies**

###### **Basis of Accounting**

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic costs in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015), and with the Charities Act 1993. The basis of accounting has not changed during the year

###### **Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties which might affect the ability of the Choir to continue

###### **Public benefit**

The Choir is a public benefit entity

###### **Recognition of income**

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SofA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources; the Trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

###### **Income with related expenditure**

Where income has related expenditure, such as concert income, the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SofA

###### **Grants and donations**

Grants and donations are only included in the SofA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources. From time to time the choir has acted as agent in collecting money from choir members for charitable purposes and gifts. These amounts are not included in the accounts at year end. The total amount excluded was £413.51.

###### **Tax reclaims on donations, subscriptions and gifts**

Income from tax reclaims is included in the SofA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

###### **Contractual income and performance related grants**

This is only included in the SofA once the related services have been delivered.

###### **Investment Income**

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

###### **Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources

###### **Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets comprise folding chairs used in concert performances, which are depreciated over 10 years on a straight-line basis, recording equipment, which is depreciated over five years on a straight line basis, and concert staging, which is depreciated to net residual value over twenty years on a straight line basis.

###### **Music Library**

Items held by the choir for its own use, or for rental by other choirs, are the subject of an annual stocktake. To recognise the reducing value of copies over time, their value is amortised over a period of 5 years, on a reducing balance basis

###### **Stock**

Stock write off comprises compact disc recordings.

**CITY OF BRISTOL CHOIR**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**2. Concert income and expenditure**

Income	Music of	That	Then Sing		2023	2022
	Remembrance	Friday	We All	Celebration		
	£	£	£	£	Total	Total
					£	£
Ticket Sales	6,203	3,560	5,312	0	15,075	17,209
Grants Received	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	6,900
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,203</b>	<b>3,560</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,075</b>	<b>24,109</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Musicians and soloists	9,877	150	1,000	0	11,027	10,981
Venue costs	2,514	300	2,292	0	5,106	5,500
Music Hire	1,328	754	932	0	3,014	964
Programme Costs	295	95	60	0	450	605
Refreshment Costs	0	236	0	0	236	172
Publicity and postage	1,482	987	1,024	0	3,493	3,830
Commission on ticket sales	625	91	569	0	1,285	1,542
Other costs	495	218	1,016	0	1,729	3,039
	16,616	2,831	6,893	0	26,340	26,633
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(9,413)</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>(1,581)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(10,265)</b>	<b>(2,524)</b>

**3. Sale of goods**

Income	Music	CD	2023	2022
	Sales	Sales		
	£	£	Total	Total
			£	£
Income	2,400	0	2,400	166
Expenditure	2,210	0	2,210	
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>166</b>

**CITY OF BRISTOL CHOIR**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

<b>4. Fixed Assets</b>	2023		2022	
	Cost £	Depreciation £	Net Book Value £	£
Brought forward	11,466	(757)	10,709	117
Additions during the year	246		246	11,031
Depreciation charge		<u>(434)</u>	<u>(434)</u>	<u>(439)</u>
Carried forward	<u>11,712</u>	<u>(1,191)</u>	<u>10,521</u>	<u>10,709</u>

**5. Music Library**

	2023 £	2022 £
Net book value b/fwd	1,386	1,586
Additions during the year	1,012	146
Amortization	<u>(480)</u>	<u>(346)</u>
Net book value c/fwd	<u>1,918</u>	<u>1,386</u>

**6. Designated funds**

The CBC Bursary Fund is a designated fund established to provide funds to advance the musical education of young singers, who are required to join the choir during the period for which they are in receipt of bursary funding.

The CBC Tour Fund is a designated fund established to meet the incidental costs associated with overseas and domestic concert tours which the choir may undertake periodically.

**7. Trustee's remuneration and expenses**

No trustees were in receipt of remuneration during the year. Expenses were reimbursed in respect of travelling and subsistence incurred in attending meetings on choir business

**8. Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions during the year.



**Section A**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Charity Name  
City of Bristol Choir

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 August 2023

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1015961

**Set out on pages**

1-5

*(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)*

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

**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:**

*Richard F. Bacon*

**Date:**

18 June 2024

**Name:**

Richard Francis Bacon

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

FCA

**Address:**

8 Eastfield

BRISTOL

BS9 4BQ