

B  **Billingshurst**
C **S** **Choral Society**

Trustees' Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 July 2024

BILLINGSHURST CHORAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT for the YEAR ended 31 JULY 2024

Billingshurst Choral Society is governed by a Constitution. The previous one dated 11 July 2017 was revised, mainly to streamline the composition of the Management Committee, and the new one was approved by Members at the AGM on 12 September 2023. The Charity is registered with the Charity Commissioners, no. 801503. The Charity's postal address is 27 Blackthorn Avenue, Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9GW. The website address is www.billingshurstchoralsociety.org.uk. The Trustees of the Charity are the officers and a number of elected ordinary members. All Trustees are elected or re-elected annually.

Management Committee

During the year, the Management Committee was as follows:-

Keith Paul – Chairman
David Lowe – Vice Chairman (resigned 12 September 2023)
Julie Wilson – Honorary Secretary
Christopher Kirk – Honorary Treasurer
Joy Baggs
Susan Cooper
Catherine Nye
Helen Pullen (resigned 12 September 2023)

The Independent Examiner is Christopher Edwards.

Objects, Organisation and Activities

The Society has two objects: (1) to promote, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of choral music by the study, practice and performance of choral works and by such other means as the Society shall determine, and (2) to support such charitable purpose(s) or charitable institutions as the Society shall decide.

In furtherance of these aims, the Society rehearses from September to June and usually stages three, sometimes four, concerts each season for which it engages such professional soloists and orchestral players as are necessary. Members of the Society pay an annual subscription, and social events and other activities are held to help raise some additional funds. Non-performing memberships are offered to patrons and friends of the Society.

Review of Progress and Achievements

Under the Society's Music Director, Marcio da Silva, there have been three concerts staged in the year, brief details of which are set out below. All three concerts were enjoyable to perform in and enjoyed by the increasing numbers in our audiences.

The Autumn concert, at St Gabriel's Church, comprised a performance of Rossini's Messe Solennelle, with piano and harmonium accompaniment.

The Society decided not to stage a Christmas concert, opting instead to involve various members in local carol singing events, thereby increasing the funds already raised at our concerts for Macmillan Midhurst Palliative Care.

The Spring concert was Mozart's Requiem and Te Deum, again performed in St Gabriel's Church in Billingshurst. The Requiem was marketed as a "Come and Sing" event, as a result of which we were joined by twenty-six non-members. Orchestral support came from the Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra, which also played Mozart's D major Serenade. For this concert, the Society was delighted to receive a grant of £1,500 from Billingshurst Parish Council.

The Summer concert was devoted entirely to chorus arrangements of works from Gilbert & Sullivan operettas and was staged at the Billingshurst Community Centre. It was an enjoyable concert performed to a full hall.

The financial result was a surplus of £715 in the year (2023 – deficit of £(3,985)), resulting in a bank balance of £6,480 (2023 - £5,765).

Policy on Reserves

The Management Committee has worked hard in the post-COVID era to maintain financial stability in a time of increasing costs and a reduction in membership numbers. The Trustees consider it prudent to build on the current level of cash funds to ensure that the Society's objects can be met.

Bankers

The Society's bankers are HSBC, 21 High Street, Storrington, West Sussex RH20 4DR.

Keith Paul
Chairman
On behalf of the Trustees of the Billingshurst Choral Society

Signed on 10 September 2024

BILLINGSHURST CHORAL SOCIETY
Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended 31 July 2024

	2024			2023		
	<u>General Account</u>	<u>Concert Account</u>	<u>Total £</u>	<u>General Account</u>	<u>Concert Account</u>	<u>Total £</u>
Incoming Resources						
Subscriptions – members	8,510	0	8,510	10,095	0	10,095
Gift Aid tax refund	2,244	0	2,244	2,188	0	2,188
Subscriptions – friends and patrons	560	0	560	500	0	500
Donations	937	0	937	276	0	276
Grants	0	1,500	1,500	0	0	0
Advertising revenue	0	1,490	1,490	0	1,070	1,070
Fund raising	2,335	0	2,335	1,665	0	1,665
Interest	78	0	78	100	0	100
Music sales and hire	218	0	218	93	0	93
Concert income – tickets	0	5,140	5,140	0	5,760	5,760
Other	447	1,551	1,998	615	929	1,544
Total Incoming Resources	£15,329	£9,681	£25,010	£15,532	£7,759	£23,291
Expenditure						
Direct Charitable Expenditure						
Musical Director	3,800	1,500	5,300	3,690	1,900	5,590
Accompanist	2,263	800	3,063	2,044	953	2,997
Hall hire	1,323	1,632	2,955	1,503	1,519	3,022
Orchestra / instrument hire	0	4,505	4,505	0	5,688	5,688
Soloists	0	2,300	2,300	0	3,760	3,760
Storage	275	0	275	730	0	730
Printing, publicity	35	1,135	1,170	28	767	795
Music purchase and hire (Note 2)	0	765	765	564	859	1,423
Other	2,882	734	3,616	2,118	524	2,642
Governance Costs						
Administration	346	0	346	630	0	630
Total Expenditure	£10,924	£13,371	£24,295	£11,307	£15,970	£27,277
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources	£4,405	-£3,690	£715	£4,225	-£8,211	-£3,986
Total Cash brought forward at beginning of period			£5,765			£9,751
Total Cash carried forward at end of period			£6,480			£5,765

BILLINGSHURST CHORAL SOCIETY
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 July 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Cash funds	£6,480	£5,765
Other monetary assets		
Debtors	80	0
Gift Aid repayment claim	53	299
Other prepayments	311	280
	<u>£444</u>	<u>£579</u>
Investment assets	<u>£0</u>	<u>£0</u>
Assets retained for the charity's own use		
At approximate historic cost (Note 4)	<u>£4,200</u>	<u>£4,200</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors due within one year	0	0
Accruals	50	250
	<u>£50</u>	<u>£250</u>

Signed on behalf of all the Trustees on 10 September 2024

.....
Keith Paul, Chairman

.....
Christopher Kirk, Honorary Treasurer

BILLINGSHURST CHORAL SOCIETY

Notes to the Accounts for the Year ended 31 July 2024

1. Accounting Policies

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP2005) and the Charities Act 2011. The basis of preparation is 'receipts and payments' under the Charity Commission's Guidance Statement CC3.

2. Depreciation

The Charity does not account for depreciation, as the costs of assets which it holds are written off as expenditure in the year of purchase. Purchases of music scores made in the year amounted to £24 (2023 - £564).

3. Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration, payments or benefits for their volunteering services.

Trustees were reimbursed for expenses properly incurred on Charity business.

Two Trustees (2023 – one) were reimbursed £619 mileage incurred on Society business (2023 - £89). All such expenses were donated back to the Charity by those Trustees.

4. Assets

The Charity's assets, together with the year of purchase and the Trustees' estimates of their value, are as follows:

Musical scores, procured variously over the years (2023 - £4,000)	£4,000
Other assets (2023 - £200)	£200
Total estimate (2023 - £4,200)	£4,200

Other assets comprise an upright piano, a conductor's stand, over thirty music stands, music folders and banners.

5. Detailed Concert Analysis

The analysis of incoming resources and expenditure relating to concerts is attached at page 6, and forms part of these notes to the accounts.

BILLINGSHURST CHORAL SOCIETY
Detailed Concert Analysis for the Year ended 31 July 2024 (Note 5 to the Accounts)

	<u>2024</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Earlier</u> <u>concerts</u>	<u>Autumn</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>Christmas</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>Spring</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Summer</u> <u>2024</u>
Incoming Resources						
Subscriptions – members	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid tax refund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subscriptions – friends and patrons	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants	1,500	0	0	0	1,500	0
Advertising revenue	1,490	0	650	0	420	420
Fund raising	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
Music sales and hire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Concert income – tickets	5,140	0	1,295	0	2,135	1,710
Other	1,551	0	309	0	875	367
Total Incoming Resources	£9,681	£0	£2,254	£0	£4,930	£2,497
Prior year equivalent	£7,759	£0	£1,709	£808	£3,279	£1,963
Expenditure						
Direct Charitable Expenditure						
Musical Director	1,500	0	500	0	500	500
Accompanist	800	0	400	0	200	200
Hall hire	1,632	225	500	0	500	407
Orchestra / instrument hire	4,505	0	915	0	3,240	350
Soloists	2,300	0	1,200	0	900	200
Storage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Printing, publicity	1,135	0	356	0	413	366
Music hire	765	0	307	0	190	268
Other	734	25	180	0	266	263
Governance Costs						
Administration	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	£13,371	£250	£4,358	£0	£6,209	£2,554
Prior year equivalent	£16,062	£92	£4,092	£1,828	£6,842	£3,208
<u>Concert Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources</u>						
Year ended 31 July 2024	-£3,690	-£250	-£2,104	£0	-£1,279	-£57
Year ended 31 July 2023	-£8,303	-£92	-£2,383	-£1,020	-£3,563	-£1,245

BILLINGSHURST CHORAL SOCIETY

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Billingshurst Choral Society

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 July 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner:

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- To examine the Accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement:

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the Accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the Accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement:

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act,
- have not been met; or

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

Signed on 10 September 2024

Christopher Edwards
Durbans
Round Street Common
Wisborough Green
West Sussex
RH14 0AR