



BRIGHTON ORPHEUS CHOIR

Brighton Orpheus Choir

Charity registration No. 260887

Trustees report and Unaudited Financial Statements for year
ending 31st August 2015

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2015.

Charity Name: Brighton Orpheus Choir

Charity registration number: 260887

**Registered Office
and operational
address:**

33 Montacute Rd
Lewes
BN7 1EP

Trustees: Annette Bell - Chairman
Richard Jayawant -Secretary
Elizabeth Hughes - Treasurer
Murray Park (to 2015)
Jane Wrin (to 2015)
Nicola Grunberg (to 2016)
Linda Newson-Ray (to 2016)
Robert Eastwood (to 2017)
Rachel Goode (to 2017)

**Independent
Examiner:**

Reg Squire
14 Windmill Close
Hove
BN3 7LJ

Choir web site - www.brightonorpheus.org

E-mail - secretary@brightonorpheus.org

Charity Structure, Governance and Management

The choir is run in accordance with the constitution (lodged with the charity commission) adopted at the AGM 7th November 2012.

The managing committee are the trustees of the charity.

This provides for 3 officers (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) to be appointed for 1 year at the AGM. Two additional committee members are appointed at the AGM on a rolling 3 year basis. Additional committee members may be appointed on an ex-officio basis by the committee.

All committee members (with the exception of the Musical Director and the Accompanist) must be members of the choir. Nominations to the committee are actively sought by the committee and where more nominations than vacancies are received, an election will be held at the AGM.

Membership of the choir is open to all who are able to pass an audition. The choir seeks to support those with special needs, to allow them to take an active part in the choir.

Activities and Objectives

The objects of the Choir shall be:

- a) to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by the performance of sacred and secular music and by any other means the Trustees see fit, and
- b) to assist charitable institutions.

The choir achieves the first object through:

- a) Maintaining an active rehearsal programme that seeks to develop the musical ability and knowledge of all choir members.
- b) Public performance of musical works to both increase the musical ability of the members and the musical knowledge of the general public.
- c) Running Choral workshops, which are open to the general public to increase the musical ability and knowledge of both choir members and the general public.

The choir achieves the second object through:

- a) Making retiring collections for other charities at the public concerts put on by the choir.
- b) Running fund raising events (such as carol singing) for other charities.

The trustees have paid due regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the choir should undertake.

Achievements and Performance

Last autumn we began the 2014 season with a timely performance of Karl Jenkins' The Peacemakers. With its mixture of sources, styles and atmospheres, it was brought to life in performance by exciting and colourful orchestration and the skill of the Musicians of All Saints. It was good to be joined by a children's choir made up of some members of the Brighton Junior Choir and the Lewes Youth Choir. A retiring collection raised £373 in aid of Parkinson's UK.

We continued our charitable fund raising with our regular carol singing on Brighton Station, where we raised £584 for Shelter.

The preparation of Brahms' beautiful German Requiem provided a contrasting spring term and led to a moving performance with excellent soloists Matthew Sprange and Prudence Sanders. It was with great sadness that many choir members were to sing the Requiem's *Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen* (How lovely are thy dwellings) a month later at the funeral service of Chris Jones. Chris

has been such a contributor to the life of the choir over many years – as a reliable bass singer, but also as a mainstay of the committee in publicity, programmes, website and in painstakingly making rehearsal CDs. Nothing seemed too much trouble for Chris and all he did was with such gentle generosity. We'll miss him very much.

The two summer concerts entitled Summertime were very enjoyable to rehearse and perform: from the mellifluous Cantique de Jean Racine to the rhythmic vitality of Dry Bones. As ever the breadth of musical style stretched and challenged us in ways untested by the larger choral repertoire and by which the ear of the choir is tuned and developed. Unfortunately a proportion of the choir was unable to benefit as numerically the summer choir was smaller than in previous years; combined with other conflicting musical events in the locality, this led to a smaller than usual audience in Lewes. However the soprano soloist, Lynn Deacon was widely appreciated at the first concert as was the Lewes Youth Choir and the talented young string players Eliette Harris and Hanna Ward-Penny at the second.

We also were saddened by the death during the last year of Sheila MacFarlane, who had faithfully served the choir as Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-President for many years.

Financial Review

Total receipts on the unrestricted fund were £24,173 and are detailed in the financial statements.

Total payments on the unrestricted fund were £24,021 and are detailed in the financial statements.

The total balance on the general fund is £26,124.

It is noted that the reserves are above the value defined in the reserves policy. The committee have planned to run a subsidised children's choir starting in September 2015 and this is expected to substantially reduce the reserves.

Reserves Policy

It is the committees policy to try to maintain sufficient reserves in the general fund to cover the expected deficit at any forthcoming public concerts for the current financial year, together with 12 months of salary and rehearsal venue costs as contingency against unforeseen situations. This is £9000 which we do have.

It should be noted that selection of the works to be performed takes into account the current reserves and membership numbers.

There are no restricted funds.

Prepared by

Richard Jayawant - Secretary

Approved by the trustees at their meeting on 6-Oct-2015.

Annette Bell - Chair



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Brighton Orpheus Choir

Accounts year ended 31st August 2015

The accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent 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 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 Report

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 Report

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.

MR. R. SQUIRE
14 WINDMILL CLOSE
HOVE

Signed:



Date: 19. 9. 2015

Brighton Orpheus Choir

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st August 2015

	2,015	2014
	unrestricted	unrestricted
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
<i>Receipts from charitable activities</i>		
Member subscriptions	10,930	12690
Income tax recovered	2,489	2411
Concert income	6,804	9420
	20,224	24521
<i>Voluntary receipts</i>		
Friends	850	810
Donations	35	110
	885	920
<i>Receipts from fund-raising activities</i>		
Rehearsal activities	1,334	1855
September workshop	0	721
Christmas social	358	
Guest evening	520	
Hiring out staging	750	250
Sale of music	0	379
Muriel's lunch + fund		2625
	2,962	5830
<i>Other receipts</i>	102	134
Total Receipts	24,173	31405
PAYMENTS		
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Concert costs	13,329	10663
Conductor	3,473	3578
Accompanist	1,517	1588
Rehearsal rent	2,288	2655
Making Music & Insurance	385	385
Administration & general marketing	107	737
Music purchase	158	2056
Orpheus Young Singers	360	
	21,615	21662
<i>Fund-raising costs</i>		
Rehearsal activities	246	142
September workshop	152	412
Christmas social	187	
Guest evening	296	
Muriel's lunch + fund		3101
	881	3655
<i>Storage boxes, folders, wine glasses</i>	487	
<i>Gifts & Donations</i>	634	
<i>Other payments</i>	404	109
Total payments	24,021	25426
Net receipts (payments) for the year	152	5979
Balance of funds at 1st September 2014	25,972	19994
Balance of funds at 31st August 2015	26,124	25972

Brighton Orpheus Choir

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st August 2015

Assets	2015	2014
Bank Accounts		
HSBC Current Account	25,192	23,976
	<u>25,192</u>	<u>23,976</u>
Prepayments	932	1,996
	<u>26,124</u>	<u>25,972</u>
Breakdown of Funds		
Restricted Funds	0	0
Free Reserves	26,124	25,972
	<u>26,124</u>	<u>25,972</u>

1. Movement in Funds

	Balance 1st September 2014	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Balance 31st August 2015
Restricted Funds	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Unrestricted Funds	25,972	24,173	24,021	26,124
	<u>25,972</u>	<u>24,173</u>	<u>24,021</u>	<u>26,124</u>

Signed by one or two Trustees on behalf of all the members

1. Signed

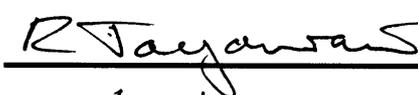


Name (printed) Elizabeth Hughes
(treasurer)

Date:

9.10.15

2. Signed



Name (printed) Richard Jayawant
(Secretary)

Date:

9/10/15