



BRIGHTON ORPHEUS CHOIR

Brighton Orpheus Choir

Charity registration No. 260887

Trustees report and Unaudited Financial Statements for year
ending 31st August 2016

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2016.

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
Linda Newson-Ray (to 2016)
Robert Eastwood (to 2017)
Rachel Goode (to 2017)
Sylvia Reed (to 2018)

**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

At the start of the Autumn term we established the Orpheus Young Singers (OYS) under the direction of Stella Hull and Shona Knight. This youth choir (which is subsidised by the choir) was running with approximately 10 members for most of the year. Setting up this choir required the establishment of relevant safeguarding procedures which are now all in place. Richard Jayawant who is the Designated Safeguarding Officer also attended a 2 day course run by NSPCC.

For the adult choir, last season began with the first part of Handel's much loved Messiah and the little known Hodie by Vaughan Williams. With soloists Shona Knight, Katie Grosset, Stephen Brown and Matthew Sprange and the Musicians of All Saints orchestra, this was a powerful relating of the Christmas story contrasting glorious angelic exultations with the intimate simplicity of the children's narration provided by OYS. During the concert we paid affectionate tribute and made presentation to Muriel Hart, the choir's inspirational accompanist for an astounding 71 years. She and Nicola Grunberg shared this concert and we know Muriel feels she passes the accompanying of the choir into a safe and expert pair of hands. A retiring collection was held in aid of the Martlets Hospice.

Brighton Orpheus Choir

We continued our charitable fund raising with our regular carol singing on Brighton Station, where we raised £496.90 for Shelter.

In the Spring we explored Bach's dramatic and musically demanding St John Passion with Evangelist Nicolas Chisholm, soloists Shona Knight and Corinne Hull and Nicholas Warden's rich sonorous bass singing the role of Christ.

Our summer programme, Pastorale, was performed once only this year by a strong choir with some beautiful unaccompanied singing and a breadth of musical expression which makes this concert both challenging and hugely rewarding. Our newly formed Orpheus Young Singers shared this event with us with enthusiasm and youthful musicality in songs of demanding complexity despite their age and numbers. They have also excelled at their two cameo concerts earlier in the year but they so much enjoy singing with the adults – the Song of the Hebrew slaves being a particular highlight for them. In the words of appreciative parents:

Such a beautiful performance...[She] had a wonderful time at the concert...

It was wonderful...thank you for creating such a brilliant opportunity for the children.

In order to try and strengthen both the adult and children's choir, some of us successfully advertised both BOC and OYS at the local Blaker's Park fete.

Financial Review

Total receipts on the unrestricted fund were £23,897 and are detailed in the financial statements.
Total payments on the unrestricted fund were £27,134 and are detailed in the financial statements.
The total balance on the general fund is £22,888.

It is noted that the reserves are above the value defined in the reserves policy although it can be seen the subsidising of the OYS has reduced the reserves from the level at August 2015. The committee plan to continue to run a subsidised children's choir and this is expected to continue to 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 26-Sept-2016.

Annette Bell - Chair



Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Brighton Orpheus Choir

Accounts year ended 31st August 2016

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 Examiners 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 requirement:
 - 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: 1st Oct 2016

BRIGHTON ORPHEUS CHOIR
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st August 2016 (all funds unrestricted)

	2,016	2,015
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
<i>Receipts from charitable activities</i>		
Member subscriptions	11,145	10,930
Income tax recovered	2,387	2,489
Concert income inc. grant from VW Trust	7,416	6,804
OYS subscriptions	265	
	21,213	20,224
<i>Voluntary receipts</i>		
Friends	405	850
Donations	1,190	35
	1,595	885
<i>Receipts from fund-raising activities</i>		
Rehearsal activities	1,009	1,334
Christmas social	0	358
Guest evening	0	520
Hiring out staging	0	750
	1,009	2,962
<i>Other receipts</i>		
	80	102
Total Receipts	23,897	24,173
PAYMENTS		
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Concert costs	14,188	13,329
Conductor	3,372	3,473
Accompanist	1,922	1,517
Rehearsal rent	1,857	2,288
Making Music & Insurance	385	385
Administration & general marketing	481	107
Music purchase	204	158
Orpheus Young Singers	4,376	360
	26,785	21,617
<i>Fund-raising costs</i>		
Rehearsal activities	101	246
September workshop	0	152
Christmas social	0	187
Guest evening	0	296
	101	881
<i>Storage boxes, folders, wine glasses</i>		
	0	487
<i>Gifts & Donations</i>		
	0	634
<i>Other payments</i>		
	247	404
Total payments	27,134	24,021
Net receipts (payments) for the year	-3,236	152
Balance of funds at 1st September 2015	26,124	25,972
Balance of funds at 31st August 2016	22,888	26,124

Brighton Orpheus Choir
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st August 2016

	2016	2015
Assets		
HSBC Current Account	22110	25793
Less unrepresented cheques	119	601
	21,991	25192
Prepayments	897	932
	22888	26124

Breakdown of Funds

Restricted Funds	0	0
Free Reserves	22888	26124
	22888	26124

Movement in Funds

	Balance 1.9.15	Incoming resources	Outgoing Resources	Balance 31.8.16
Restricted Funds	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
Unrestricted Funds	26124	23897	27134	22888

Signed by one or two Trustees on behalf of all members

1. Signed



Name (printed) Elizabeth Hughes (Treasurer)

Date

28th Sept 2016

2. Signed



Name (printed) Richard Jayawant (Secretary)

Date

28th Sept 2016