

**Annual Report of the Trustees and Accounts
for the year ended 30 June 2025**

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

Brockham Choral Society registered as a Charity in 1982 and is governed by a Constitution which was most recently updated in September 2022. This states the objectives of the Society as being *“primarily the enjoyment of music and also the promotion and development of musical knowledge and competence through the presentation of concerts and in other ways determined from time to time by the Society.”*

Membership is open to all sectors of the community, with no requirement for previous experience or auditions. The Society seeks to involve local area schoolchildren in suitable concerts, for example, we were joined by the Surrey Youth Choir for our performance of J S Bach’s St Matthew Passion in May 2022, and children from local primary schools and youth choirs have taken part in Christmas and other concerts in recent years, and will be participating in our Christmas 2025 concert.

The Trustees of the Society have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission as set out below. The benefits of the Society are enjoyed by both its members and the public who attend the concerts. The concert programme for each year is set within a context of performing a wide range of both familiar and less familiar choral works composed by a variety of composers from different musical periods. The advancement of the arts is thus achieved through the exposure of both choir and audience members to different styles and genres of music.

The Trustees recognise the need to encourage participation of young people either as a member or as a concert attendee. In this way they may be more likely to participate in classical music when older, as participant or attendee. Accordingly, those aged 25 or under who are either in full time education or who are unemployed are granted free membership or discounted tickets, as appropriate.

Typically, three concerts are held each year, usually with professional soloists and orchestral players. Ticket prices are kept affordable with concert deficits being met by a combination of subscription income, fund raising and grants from local and national bodies.

Performances

7 December 2024 St Martin's Church, Dorking	Edward Elgar Mezzo Soprano Orchestra Musical Director	The Music Makers Part Songs Enigma Variations Judy Louie Brown Southern Pro Musica Cole Bendall
5 April 2025 St Martin's Church, Dorking	Joseph Haydn Soprano Tenor Bass Orchestra Pianist Musical Director	The Creation Lorna Murray David Walsh Ross Cumming The British Sinfonietta Marion Lea Cole Bendall
7 June 2025 St Paul's Church, Dorking	What a Wonderful World Concert A selection of songs associated with a former choir member, Fred Harrison, including "The Bass", with music by Ian Assersohn and lyrics by Tony Earnshaw. The concert also featured "Travels with my Pigeon" by Guy Turner. Accompanist Musical Director	Marion Lea David Swinson

Our Professionals

A freelance conductor and vocal coach, Cole Bendall was appointed as Musical Director in January 2020. Cole works on the music staff of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain, and is Musical Director of Woking Choral Society, Holmbury St Mary Choral Society and Surrey Youth Choir, as well as being Artistic Director of The Reid Consort. He is also a Visiting Singing Teacher at Cranleigh and Ewell Castle Schools.

Cole announced his intention of leaving the Society after the Spring Concert; in consequence the Committee is undertaking a competitive recruitment procedure for a new Musical Director and hopes to make an appointment during the 2025/2026 season.

For our Summer Term rehearsals and concert, the Committee appointed a former Musical Director, David Swinson. David is a freelance conductor, organist and pianist, and Director Emeritus of Trinity Boys' Choir, Croydon. David has recently confirmed his availability for the Autumn Concert 2025 and has been appointed accordingly.

The Society values and appreciates the support from our excellent accompanist, Marion Lea, both in rehearsal and on the occasions when she accompanies or is a soloist at a concert.

Review of the Year

There were 52 members during the year, 4 fewer than the previous year. Weekly rehearsals for the Autumn Concert commenced at St John's School in September 2024. A recruitment event for the Elgar 'Music Makers' was held in September 2024 which resulted in a number of visiting singers for this concert. A grant of £500 was received from the Elgar Society; as a condition of this the Society provided free tickets to a number of local schools.

A members' social event with a talk by Sir Brian Unwin was held in October 2024, and a Quiz Evening was held in February 2025. A summer social event consisting of a walk followed by a meal was held in June 2025.

The possibility of a members' singing tour for Summer 2025 was explored, but there was insufficient support to make it viable.

The Society's "Wonderful World" concert in June 2025 was a less formal event, with the audience in St Paul's Church, Dorking sitting at tables where they enjoyed their own food and drink. The concert featured songs previously sung by or associated with the late Fred Harrison, a former member who had left a bequest to the Society. Some funds from this were used to commission a piece entitled "The Bass", with music by local composer, Ian Assersohn, and lyrics by poet, Tony Earnshaw, a member and husband of a previous trustee. The concert also featured an earlier commissioned piece, "Travels with my Pigeon" by Guy Turner, first performed in June 2010.

Finances

The Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2025 are on pages 5 to 10.

At the September 2024 AGM it was agreed that members' subscriptions would be increased from £165 to £180 per annum.

There was an overall deficit on concerts of £8,986, compared to a budgeted deficit of £2,937. A breakdown is shown on page 9 under the heading "Summary of Concert Finances for the Season ended 30 June 2025".

In February 2024 the Society received a legacy of £1,000 from the estate of the late Anne Tennent who had been a very active member for many years. The Committee used this legacy, together with generous donations from members totalling £1,410 towards funding an orchestra for the Spring 2025 concert in place of the originally planned accompaniment of two pianos.

The Society received grants of £2,500 from the Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust, and of £500 from The Elgar Society, for which it is most grateful.

Fundraising efforts this year provided a net income of £2,535, of which £737 is from the Mole Valley Community Lottery. (The Society is one of the registered charities which ticket purchasers can support, with half their ticket cost donated to the charity). A breakdown is shown on page 10.

The total assets movement for the year resulted in a loss of £2,968.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have considered the needs of the Society and have agreed that the Society needs unrestricted funds equivalent to between 50% and 100% of concert expenditure for a typical year to provide cover the Society for un-insured losses in the event that those concerts cannot take place. The general reserve at the end of the year is sufficient for this need.

Administrative Information**Charity Number:** 284300**Office Address:** c/o 37 Fairfield Drive, Dorking. RH4 1JQ**Bankers:** Lloyds Bank, PO Box 1000 Andover
Branch EPSOM (308486)**Insurers:** Insurance: Making Music Commercial Combined Policy, Covea
Insurance, A&B Mills, Dean Clough, Halifax. HX3 5AX**Trustees:**

In October 2015 the Committee agreed the Trustees should be the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer plus up to four other Committee members, as shown below. The Chairman and Committee are elected annually by members present at the Annual General Meeting. The Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are regarded as the key management personnel.

Jane Stride	Chairperson
Briony Bowen	Secretary
Graham Carter	Treasurer
Nick Hands-Clarke	Making Music Representative

Approved by the Trustees on 12 August 2025, and signed on their behalf by

Jane Stride

and

Graham Carter

Brockham Choral Society
Statement of Financial Activities
For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2025

	See Note	TOTAL 2024/2025 £	TOTAL 2023/2024 £
Income			
Concert income	9	9,744	10,221
Members' subscriptions	7	9,480	10,345
Friends' subscriptions	7	550	500
Gift aid on donations and members' subs	8	2,300	2,143
Grants	10		
<i>Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust</i>		2,500	3,000
<i>Elgar Society</i>		500	-
Donations:			
<i>General</i>		2,123	901
<i>Legacies</i>		1,000	3,000
Fundraising:	11	4,887	7,228
Administration	12	-	75
Interest received		109	106
Total incoming resources		33,193	37,519
Expenditure			
Concert expenditure	9	18,730	18,132
Rehearsal costs:			
<i>Musical Director</i>		4,785	4,760
<i>Accompanist</i>		3,405	3,600
<i>Rehearsal venues</i>		2,410	2,040
Administration	12	1,715	1,715
Other expenditure:			
<i>Fundraising costs</i>	11	2,352	3,732
<i>Staging depreciation</i>	4	2,764	2,764
Total resources used		36,161	36,743
Net movement in funds		(2,968)	776
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		24,360	23,584
Total funds carried forward		21,392	24,360

Brockham Choral Society
Balance Sheet for the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2025

	See Note	TOTAL 2024/2025	TOTAL 2023/2024
Fixed Assets		£	£
Tangible assets - staging	4	5,530	8,294
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	5	23	25
Cheque accounts		4,951	5,482
Deposit accounts		10,919	10,811
Total Current Assets		<u>15,893</u>	<u>16,318</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	6	<u>(31)</u>	<u>(252)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>15,862</u>	<u>16,066</u>
Total Net Assets		<u><u>21,392</u></u>	<u><u>24,360</u></u>
Charity Funds		£	£
Unrestricted funds		21,392	24,360
Restricted funds			-
Total Charity Funds		<u><u>21,392</u></u>	<u><u>24,360</u></u>

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of the financial statements.

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 12 August 2025, and signed on their behalf by

Jane Stride and Graham Carter

Brockham Choral Society

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

1. General Notes

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with FRS102 (2019) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Incoming resources from fundraising activities are generally reported gross in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA).

Resources are recognised on an accrual basis based on when they are due. Generally, liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure.

2. Employees

The Charity does not have any employees. The remuneration of the key management personnel for 2024/2025 is £nil (2023/2024: £nil). Pension payments are not applicable and £nil has been paid.

3. Trustees and other related parties

During the year neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration. Some small items of expenditure incurred on behalf of the Society were reimbursed to Trustees.

There were no other related party transactions with Trustees enjoying the same rights of membership as other members of the Society.

4. Tangible Fixed Assets and Investment Assets

New staging was purchased in October 2022 at a cost of £13,822. The Trustees have agreed that this equipment should be depreciated over a period of five years using a straight line depreciation formula:

Staging Value	£
As at 30 June 2024	<u>8,294</u>
Depreciation	
As at 1 July 2024	0
Charge for the year	<u>(2,764)</u>
As at 30 June 2025	<u>(2,764)</u>
Net book value	
As at 1 July 2024	<u>8,294</u>
As at 30 June 2025	<u>5,530</u>

5. Debtors and prepayments

This is in respect of a £23 payment for expenses for AGM being held on 2 September 2025.

6. Creditors and accruals

There were no cheques issued and not cleared at the financial year end. Income received for the 2025/2026 season comprises advance payments totalling £31 from a local business for an advertisement in the programme of the forthcoming Autumn 2025 concert.

7. Subscriptions

At the September 2024 AGM it was agreed that members' subscriptions would be increased from £165 per annum to £180 per annum. At a meeting on 5 September 2024, the Committee confirmed that all members should commit to pay the full subscription for the whole year. The £9,480 raised represents 52 members, and 4 visiting singers for one-term. (2023/24: £10,345 representing 53 full time members and 11 part time).

At the September 2024 AGM it was agreed that Friends' subscriptions would remain at £25 per annum. Friends Subscriptions raised £550 (2023/24: £500).

8. Gift Aid

In accordance with current Making Music advice regarding HMRC Gift Aid regulations the amount claimed for eligible members' subscriptions was based on the full subscription amount. The £2,300 received from HMRC Charities comprised £1,864 from eligible Members' subscriptions and £436 from eligible donations. (2023/24: £2,143 received from HMRC, comprising £1,969 from eligible members' subscriptions and £174 from eligible donations.)

9. Summary of Concert Finances for the Season Ending 30 June 2025

	Autumn 2024 £	Spring 2025 £	Summer 2025 £	TOTAL 2024/25 £	TOTAL 2023/24 £
Income					
Ticket sales	2,752	3,136	1,496	7,384	8,085
Programme sales	164	182	70	416	394
Cushions	-	-	-	0	14
Refreshments	101	233	-	334	198
Advertising revenue	148	148	148	444	438
Guest Singers Fee	150	-	-	150	105
Music hire	388	195	433	1,016	987
Total income	3,703	3,894	2,147	9,744	10,221
Expenditure					
Conductor	535	535	425	1,495	1,525
Musicians	5,708	4,789	350	10,847	9,687
Soloists	400	1,050	-	1,450	2,800
Bumpers	300	150	-	450	280
Music	453	315	594	1,362	1,673
Programme printing	145	175	95	415	395
Venue Hire	534	452	350	1,336	1,099
Refreshments	127	106	-	233	147
Other expenses	168	150	824	1,142	526
Total expenditure	8,370	7,722	2,638	18,730	18,132
Surplus (Deficit)	(4,667)	(3,828)	(491)	(8,986)	(7,911)

There was an overall deficit on concerts of £8,986. This compares to the £2,937 deficit that had been budgeted for at the beginning of the choir year. The increase in the deficit chiefly arises from the following:

- The audience for the Elgar concert was some 55 less than the anticipated 200 resulting in a ticket income £1,100 less than the original budget.
- For the spring concert a two piano accompaniment had been agreed for the Haydn Creation but this was later changed to a full orchestra giving an increase of £4,090 above the original budget.
- The original budget for the summer concert had not envisaged the commissioning of a new work in memory of Fred Harrison at a cost of £770.

“Other expenses” items shown in the table above include the publicity posters and flyers for the concerts, and the towing costs for the staging trailer between its storage location and the concert venue. There is also a small element of commission (1.69%) where tickets have been sold using the choir’s SumUp card reader. The larger figure

for 'other expenses' for the Summer concert includes the costs of commissioning of the new work.

10. Grants

The Society is most grateful this year for the £2,500 grant from the Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust and the £500 grant from The Elgar Society.

11. Fundraising

	Income £	Expenditure £
Books and CD Sales	30	
Carol Singing Meal	276	306
Brian Unwin Evening	1001	218
Elgar Choir Workshop	635	600
Easy Fundraising	31	
Mole Valley Community Lottery	737	
Quiz Evening February 2025	1385	436
Walk and Curry Night	792	792
Totals	4,887	2,352
Net Income	2,535	

The Fundraising net income of £2,535 is £961 lower than last year, but remains significant, reflecting the continued efforts of the social committee in providing significant income generation for the Society, for which the Trustees are most grateful.

12. Administration Expenses

General fund expenses include those for the AGM, John F music files, Making Music membership, performing rights fees, annual insurance, website maintenance, staging trailer servicing and storage, and moving and installing a donated piano into our rehearsal venue. There is also a small element of commission (1.69%) where subscriptions, members' music hire, tickets and the like have been paid for using the choir's SumUp card reader.

13. Other Disclosures

During the period of office of the charity trustees, they or their close family members made donations totalling £830 during 2024/25 (2023/24: £1,313). This includes member and friend subscription income but excludes receipts in respect of ticket sales and hire of music. It also excludes fundraising income. No donations were made with conditions attached which require the charity to alter its existing activities.

No loans or ex-gratia payments have been made (2023/24: £ nil). No termination or redundancy payments have been made (2023/24: £ nil).

The Charity has no material commitments which have not been included in the accounts and has given no guarantees to third parties that could be called on at the year end.