

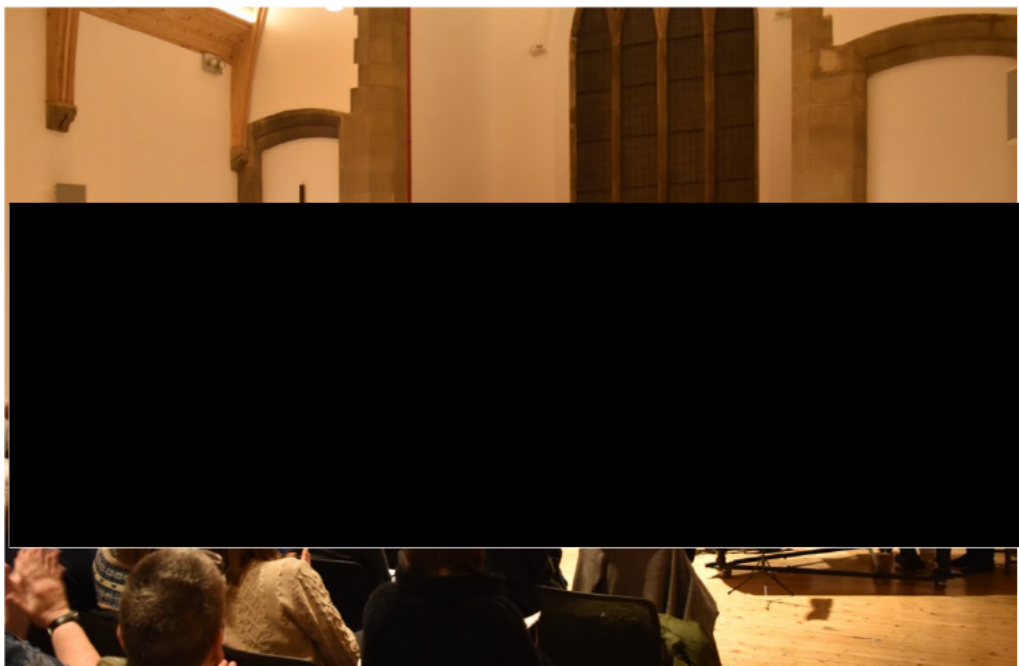
EDINBURGH

SOUTHSIDE CHOIR

Edinburgh Southside Choir

Trustees' Annual Report

1 January – 31 December 2024



Edinburgh Southside Choir – contact details

Principal Address

c/o Flat 9 75c South Oswald Road
Edinburgh
EH9 2HH

Rehearsal address

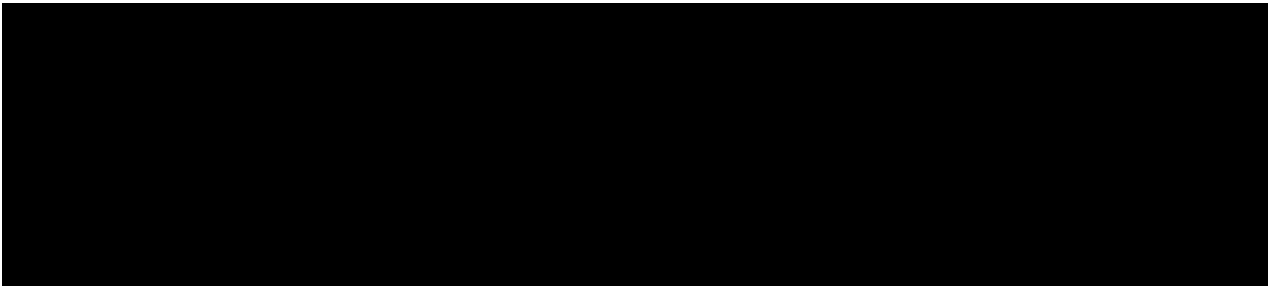
Greyfriars Charteris Centre
138 –140 Pleasance
Edinburgh, EH8 9RR

email address – southsidecommunitychoir@hotmail.com

Website - edinburghsouthsidechoir.org

YouTube - [Southside Community Choir - YouTube](#)

Charity Trustees



Edinburgh Southside Choir

Edinburgh Southside Choir is a SCIO which was incorporated on 15 August 2022 replacing the Southside Community Choir which began in autumn 2010, singing in Southside Community Centre, and became a Charity in October 2017. We meet for an hour and a quarter on Wednesday evenings from mid September – May and since 2018 our main home has been the Greyfriars Charteris Centre but due to the refurbishment and temporary closure of this building between 2019 and 2021 and Covid-19 in 2020/21 we have also met in the adjacent Life Church and operated as a Virtual Choir.

As an organisation our purpose is, through singing,

to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects.

to help improve the mental health and social welfare of both choir members and general public through public concerts.

The Choir was established by our Music Director to enable people of all ages to come together to enjoy singing and all the benefits that accrue from this. Anyone who is interested can join, there is no requirement to read music and we don't have auditions. The Choir includes many who have never sung or have not sung for some years as well as more experienced singers. Singing is good for the soul and the body and we just love to sing – together.



The Choir is a member of 'Making Music', the UK's number one organisation for voluntary music, which supports over 3000 voluntary and amateur music groups around the UK.

<https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/>



Structure, governance and management

At the AGM in April 2022 the members agreed that the Choir should change its governance structure to be a Scottish Charity Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). A new constitution was agreed by the members in June 2022 and the Edinburgh Southside Choir was incorporated on 15 August 2022. The transition was completed in October 2022 when the legacy body, Southside Community Choir, was wound up and its assets transferred to Edinburgh Southside Choir. The day to day management of the Choir is undertaken by the Trustees, known as the Choir Committee. Under the standard SCIO constitution all members of the Choir are eligible to stand for election as Trustees and/or to propose other members for election. We are regulated by and accountable to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, OSCR.

Since 2020 Committee meetings have been by Zoom. The AGM is held in person during a rehearsal. The Trustees of the Edinburgh Southside Choir met 4 times in 2024. The Music Director may attend meetings but may not be a Trustee. The office bearers, Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are nominated by the Trustees. The Trustees are elected annually, at the AGM. No Trustees, nor anyone connected to them, receive remuneration apart from reimbursement of out of pocket expenses incurred for choir purposes.

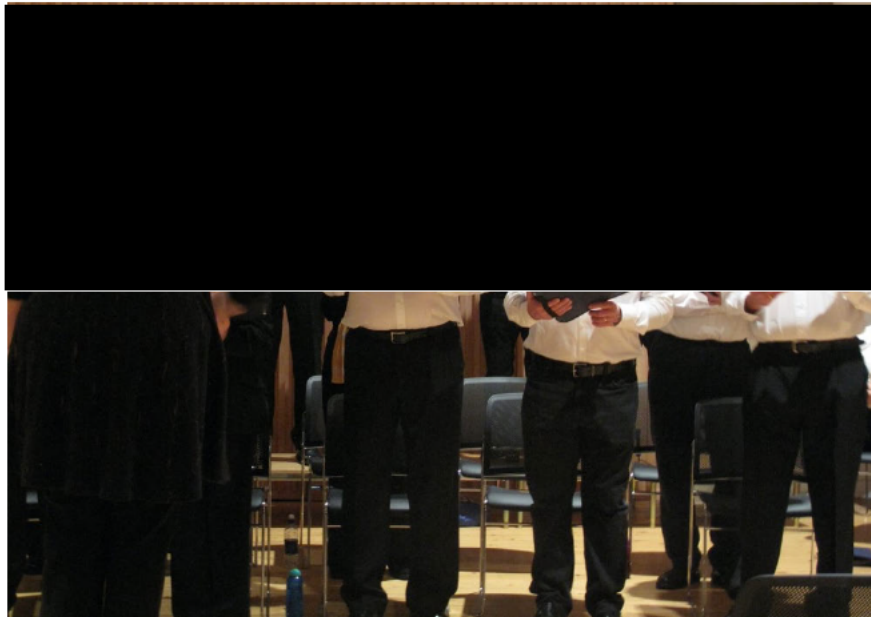
Office bearers 2024





Activities, achievements and performances in 2024

We continued to meet in the Binks Hall, Charteris Centre from January to mid May and returned after the summer break from mid September to early December.



We performed 2 concerts during 2024 at the Charteris Centre. At the Summer concert we were lucky to have a guest performer [REDACTED], violin who accompanied us singing 'The Banks of Doon' before entertaining us with a wonderful performance accompanied by [REDACTED]. There was an excellent attendance of around 80 people.

At our Christmas concert, in early December we were delighted to welcome back [REDACTED] who accompanied us in 'It Came Upon a Midnight Clear' and then entertained us playing 'Clair de Lune' and 'Romanian Folk Dances' by Béla Bartók.

We entered the Edinburgh Music Competition Festival in St Cuthbert's Church in February 2024. This is an annual event and although we did not sing in the competitive section our performance was judged and we received some very positive feedback.



Thanks go to [REDACTED] who spent a lot of time trying to get a new website up and running. After deciding that the platform we were using was not sufficient for our needs, [REDACTED] took up the challenge and managed to find a much more user friendly platform which we are now developing. Very many thanks, [REDACTED] Although people come and go as members the total numbers don't fluctuate too much and by the end of 2024, we had 35 paid up members (12 men and 23 women).



We remain very grateful to everyone who has supported and helped the choir during the year: [REDACTED], our Music Director and to [REDACTED] our accompanist, [REDACTED] our

guest soloist, the staff at Greyfriars Charteris Centre, [REDACTED], who looked after our concert outfits and folders and [REDACTED], alto who took over, [REDACTED], alto and our photographer, [REDACTED], bass and our graphic designer, and everyone who has helped with the weekly setting up of our rehearsal space and the additional organisation required for concerts.



Financial review

Whereas our financial year runs 1 January – 31 December our operating year, for which fees are paid, is September – May. The main source of the Choir's income, over 80%, remains members' fees and subscriptions augmented by the recoveries through the Gift Aid scheme. The Committee agreed to keep fees for 23/24 unchanged from the previous year and to continue allowing people to choose whether they paid annually, termly or monthly. There are concessionary rates and we continue to encourage those members who pay concessionary rates, and who can afford to do so, to include a donation when paying fees. Where applicable such donations also came within the Gift Aid scheme.

The payment to our Music Director includes not only her time in preparing for and leading rehearsals and concerts but also the use of the music which remains her personal property. Payments to our Music Director and Accompanist are reviewed on annual basis.

Concert expenditure includes printing fees, premises hire and performing fees. These were offset by the admission fees for the concert in the Binks Hall. Overall, the concerts made a surplus of £442.

There was an operating surplus of £347 for the year.

Reserves

The period opening reserves were £5,149

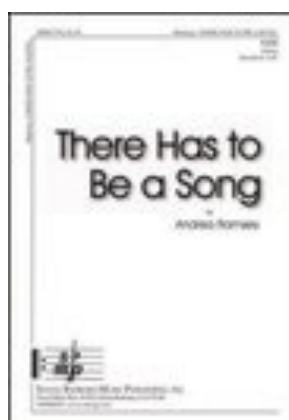
The period end reserves were £5,496. The level of reserves is affected by the fact that some members chose to pay the whole of the 24/25 fees in September 2024. Reserves are equivalent to around 6 months running costs in normal circumstances.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks go to our past Chair [REDACTED] who had served on the Committee since the very beginning. Once again thanks go to [REDACTED] Treasurer, to [REDACTED] who manages the Gift Aid returns and to [REDACTED], the Independent Examiner, for their accuracy and efficiency in producing the annual accounts

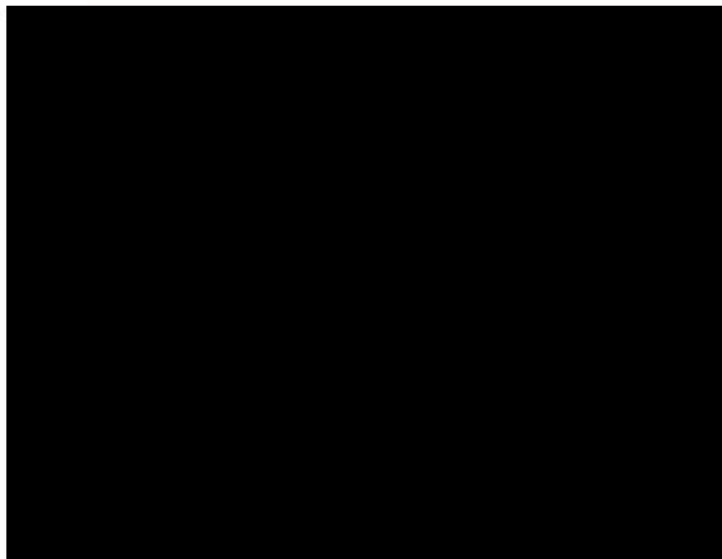
Future Plans

We have resumed face to face Committee meetings prior to rehearsals so this has improved communication and effectiveness. A date for the May 2025 concert is agreed and we will welcome an old friend [REDACTED] as a soloist. And most importantly we will continue to sing, to entertain and to enjoy the music, friendship and laughter of Wednesday evenings.



Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Receipts and Payments Account
For the year ended

December 31, 2024

Edinburgh Southside Choir

Charity Number:

SC051931

2024

Receipts

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Membership Fee | - |
| Subscriptions - Full | 1,173.00 |
| Subscriptions - Concessions | 4,149.00 |
| Concerts | 2,190.00 |
| 3rd Party Fund -raising | - |
| Bank Interest | - |
| Gift Aid | 2,855.04 |
| Donations | 496.48 |
| Miscellaneous Income | - |
| Total Receipts | 10,863.52 |

Payments

Fundraising expenses

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Concerts | 1,747.97 |
| 3rd Party Fundraising/Donation | - |

Payments for charitable activities

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Rent | 3,811.50 |
| Choirmaster | 2,450.00 |
| Accompanist | 2,026.00 |
| Insurance | 188.00 |
| Music | - |
| Admin/Postage & Stationery | - |
| Repairs | - |
| Music Workshop | - |
| Miscellaneous Expenditure | 292.85 |
| Total Payments | 10,516.32 |

Surplus/(Deficit) for year

347.20

Statement of Balances
As at December 31, 2024
Edinburgh Southside Choir
Charity Number: SC051931

2024

Opening Balances

| | |
|------|----------|
| Cash | 10.00 |
| Bank | 5,139.07 |

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Surplus/(Deficit) for year | 347.20 |
| Total | 5,496.27 |

Closing Balances

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Cash | 10.00 |
| Bank | 5,486.27 |
| less outstanding cheques | 0.00 |
| Total | 5,496.27 |



Independent examiners Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024
For Edinburgh Southside Choir
Charity Number: SC051931

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 seeks 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the

1 requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

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.

