

SHOREHAM ORATORIO CHOIR

Charity Registration No. 1042010

Constitution

(Amended Articles re-printed in italics and underlined)

1. **Title:**
The name of the Society shall be The Shoreham Oratorio Choir hereinafter referred to as The Society.
2. **Objects:**
The objects of The Society shall be to educate the public in the arts and sciences, and in particular the art and science of music, in the presentation of concerts and other activities.
3. **Membership:**
The members of The Society shall be those persons who pay the annual subscription at the appropriate rate or rates as shall be determined by the committee, the subscription being payable in advance, and (in the case of performing members) who shall provide such evidence of musical ability as the Committee may require.
4. **Officers and Committee:**
The management of The Society shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of a Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer, the Federal Representative and three other elected members.
The officers (other than the Federal Representative) and other Committee members shall be elected by and out of The Society's members at the Annual General Meeting; they shall hold office for one year and be eligible for re-election. The Federal Representative shall remain in office until replaced. *The Conductor and Organist shall be ex-officio members of The Committee.*
5. **Management:**
All the arrangements for the concerts and other events and the control of the finance shall be in the hands of the committee.
6. **Finance:**
 - a. *The financial year shall end on the 31st August of each year.*
 - b. *A banking account shall be opened in the name of The Society and cheques shall be signed by any two officers of The Society.*
 - c. The Society may receive donations, grants in aid and financial guarantees and tickets for any or all of its concerts and other events may be offered for sale to the public.
 - d. The income and property of The Society wheresoever derived shall be applied solely towards promoting the objects of The Society as set forth above and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred either directly or indirectly to any member or members of The Society except in the payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of The Society.
 - e. In the event of the winding up or dissolution of The Society, any remaining assets (after all liabilities have been discharged) shall not be paid or transferred to any member or members of The Society but shall be transferred to a charitable organisation whose objects are similar to those of The Society and whose rules preclude the distribution of income or assets among its members.

7 **General Meeting:**
Within *six weeks* of the end of each financial year the members shall be summoned to an Annual General Meeting of which at least fourteen days' notice in writing shall have been given.

8 **Audited Accounts:**
The financial accounts shall be audited and submitted to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

9. **Amendments:**
The constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present at an Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that fourteen days' notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members and provided also that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment which shall have the effect of The Society ceasing to be a charity.

The following amendments have been made:

Amendment made by resolution passed at the AGM held on 6th October 1994:

4. **Officers and Committee:**
The Conductor and Organist shall not be members of the Committee, but may attend Committee meetings in a non-voting advisory capacity.

Amendment made by resolution passed at the AGM held on 30th September 1993:

6. **Finance:**
a. The financial year shall end on July 31st.

Amendments made by resolutions passed at an EGM held on 13th December 2001:

6. **Finance:**
b. A Bank or Building Society account shall be opened in the name of The Society and two officers of The Society will be the authorised signatories.

8. **Accounts:**
The financial accounts shall be submitted to the members at an AGM or Special General Meeting to be held no later than six months after the end of each financial year.

Amendments made by resolutions passed at an EGM held on 3rd March 2005:

6. **Finance:**
b. A Bank or Building Society account or Common Deposit account approved under the Charities Act 1993 shall be opened in the name of the Society and two officers of the Society will be the authorised signatories.

7. **General Meeting:**
Within three calendar months of the end of each financial year the members shall be summoned to an Annual General Meeting of which at least fourteen days' notice in writing shall have been given.