

RICHMOND UPON THAMES PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

England & Wales · Charity number 1012682

Details

Other names RICHMOND UPON THAMES MUSIC FESTIVAL

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1992-07-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ARTS AND IN PARTICULAR THE ARTS OF MUSIC SPEECH DRAMA AND DANCE IN ALL THEIR BRANCHES.

Activities: Educational - Provision of performance opportunities for amateurs of all ages in the arts of music, dance and speech

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED - BUT IN PRACTICE RICHMOND AND SURREY AREA
- Richmond Upon Thames
- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-30	£27,015	£20,779	-	-
2024-04-30	£24,123	£28,334	-	-
2023-04-30	£7,623	£9,642	-	-
2022-04-30	£27,131	£26,803	-	-
2021-04-30	£685	£845	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Hilary Frances Dodman	Chair	2020-03-01
Graham Harnes		2020-03-01
HEIDI LANGLEY		2023-07-10
JENNIFER THORNTON		
PAMELA FRAZER		1989-07-06
Susan Anne Bell		2020-03-01

RICHMOND UPON THAMES PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1012682

Accounts

Richmond Performing Arts Festival 2025

Trustees' Report

This year's festival saw a further increase in numbers of participants and an astonishing array of talent across all sections.

I attended each of the sections and was enormously impressed by the sheer size of the Festival. Hundreds of children, young people, parents, teachers and supporters attended the various venues and there was a positive and enthusiastic atmosphere throughout. I look forward to hearing the exact numbers from the Section Heads.

It was excellent to have the Speech and Drama section back in operation. I was impressed by the number of young people taking part in the more formal poetry and prose reading and duologues and monologues in this section.

The Dance Section was huge. The move to Waldegrave School brought Dance back to the borough and it proved to be an excellent venue with plenty of warm up and dressing space and a large on site café that was much appreciated by supporters and families. The catering for volunteers was amazing.

The Vocal Section was as popular and enjoyable as ever with a fascinating mix of classical and pop, traditional and modern. The Choirs event at Duke Street Church was an absolute triumph. The standard of singing and the level of engagement with the audience were just wonderful. I am sure even more choirs and groups will want to take part when they hear how good it was!

The Piano Section had an increased number of entries with an impressive standard of playing across the board. From the tiny tots who need a box to help them reach the pedals to the older students for whom performance is obviously second nature, this section was an extraordinary experience.

The Instrumental Section sessions I attended were equally impressive. Smooth organisation is a hallmark of all the sections and this was no exception with sweets for all competitors as an added bonus! Again the standard of playing is astonishingly high.

I felt all the adjudicators were supportive and sympathetic listeners (and watchers). It was fascinating to watch the dance adjudicator talking quietly to his transcriber throughout each performance!

Last year we were concerned about our financial position which, although improving, was feeling the loss of the Hampton Fund support. I look forward to this year's report from our loyal and hard-working Treasurer, Graham Harmes. I believe numbers of

entries increased across the board and I look forward to an assessment of the impact of this on our figures.

Our Administrator and Section Heads

‘We are entirely reliant for the delivery of the Festival on the wonderful people who organise it and run their Sections with such efficiency, enthusiasm and dedication alongside their many commitments elsewhere.’

I wrote those words for last year’s report and can only reiterate them. So much hard work goes on in the weeks and months before the Festival and without the expertise and generosity of the organisers we would not have the enormous, professionally delivered event that we currently enjoy.

In spite of her bike accident in November, Heidi Pegler, the overall administrator for the whole Festival, has worked tirelessly to deliver a first class event. Everyone involved in the Festival: trustees, patrons, Section Heads, volunteers, young people, parents, teachers, adjudicators and visitors, owes her a huge debt of gratitude for being so efficient, cheerful and encouraging. All this is achieved alongside running the Vocal Section and a busy teaching role in the real world!

We are enormously grateful to Julia Drager for taking on the role of Head for the Instrumental Section from Manuella Jessop. The weekend seemed to go like clockwork from the outside so I hope very much that it felt like that for the organisers too! It was generous of Manuella and her husband to help with the stewarding and organisation on the festival days. We are further indebted to Manuella for keeping our website up to date and full of well-organised information.

Sue Thornton’s Piano Section runs on well-oiled wheels and continues to attract large numbers of entries. Sue’s cheerful and sympathetic approach creates a relaxed atmosphere which I’m sure must help performers to achieve their best.

Lizi Cole ran a successful and enjoyable Section full of talented young show stoppers and some beautifully crafted drama and speaking classes. It was excellent that this Section took place following its absence in 2024.

Natalie Wells ran the enormous Dance Section with cheerful confidence and good humour. So many young people are involved that the organisation of arrival, checking in, warm up rotas, dressing areas and pre-performance line ups has to be carefully managed. It is an impressive operation!

We owe such an enormous debt of gratitude to these hard-working, dedicated and impressive people who, as volunteers, take on their Festival roles with such professionalism and good humour. Their uniformly welcoming approach means that

the young performers are encouraged to perform at their highest level in a relaxed atmosphere.

Thanks to our Festival Stewards

We have many loyal stewards who support the Section Heads in the running of their events. Many of these are friends and family but others are long-standing supporters of the Festival who have played a part in its smooth running for many years. We are enormously grateful to them all.

Thanks to our President and Patrons

We are indebted to our President, Hilary Fisher, and to our patrons for their continued moral and financial support. We are particularly grateful to those who gift aid their patronage.

The Festival Showcase Concert

To be added.

To sum up

Festival 2025 was in my view, a high quality, successful event that reached out to hundreds of young and older, people, offering them the opportunity to perform to their best ability, receive constructive and supportive feedback and experience the excitement of performance in front of an audience. After all these years of its operation, it feels more worthwhile than ever.

*Hilary Dodman
Chairman
May 2025*

**Richmond upon Thames Performing Arts Festival
Balance Sheet
As at 30th April 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Current Assets		
Stock of medals	1490	1297
Cash at Bank	<u>16513</u>	<u>10420</u>
	<u>18003</u>	<u>11717</u>
Current Liabilities		
St Luke's Sponsored Prize	500	600
S&D Prizes	<u>150</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>650</u>	<u>600</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>17353</u></u>	<u><u>11117</u></u>
Represented by:		
Fund bought forward	11117	15328
Surplus/Deficit for the Year	<u>6236</u>	<u>-4211</u>
Fund carried forward	<u><u>17353</u></u>	<u><u>11117</u></u>

Signed: H. Dodman H. Dodman (Chair)

Signed: G. Harmes G. Harmes (Treasurer)

Date: 5th June 2025

I have examined the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Richmond-upon-Thames Performing Arts Festival and in my opinion they give a true and fair view of the Festival's affairs at 30th April 2025, in accordance with the accounts and explanations given to me.

Signed: L. Phillips
Les Phillips (Independent Examiner).

Richmond upon Thames Performing Arts Festival
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 30th April 2025

Income	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Entry Fees	15452	13349
Door Money	10098	10153
Patrons' Fees	365	215
Gift Aid	128	99
Sponsorship	500	0
Donations	145	0
Sponsored Prizes	100	100
Advertising Income	35	0
Bank Interest	<u>192</u>	<u>207</u>
	27015	24123
Expenditure		
Venue Hire	6571	15458
Adjudicators' Fees	5071	5888
Cash Prizes	520	515
Medals	1993	2118
Printing	568	732
Catering	594	827
Advertising	650	0
Website	94	91
Piano Hire	1062	340
Piano Tuning	320	85
Affiliation Fees	470	607
Accompanist's Fees	0	60
Insurances	325	300
Gifts	96	111
First Aid	0	31
Postage & Stationery	107	229
Trophies: New/Engraving	240	0
Play & Perform	258	534
SumUP Devices	0	77
PayPal/SumUp Charges	<u>1840</u>	<u>331</u>
	20779	28334
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u><u>6236</u></u>	<u><u>-4211</u></u>

**Richmond upon Thames Performing Arts Festival
Financial Report
For the year ended 30th April 2025**

Income/Expenditure Account

This year's Festival was very successful and was extremely well received by all participants and contributors, including the return of the Speech & Drama Festival.

Overall Festival Income was £27,015 (£24,123 in 2024) which included sponsorship of £500 from Antony Roberts Estate Agents. We would also like to thank our Patrons for their continued loyal support, generating £365 with an additional £128 in Gift Aid.

Total Expenditure fell to £20,779 from £28,334 in 2024, with venue hire being reduced to £6,571 from £15,438 in 2024. Resulting in an overall surplus of £6,236 in 2025 compared to a deficit of £4,211 in 2024.

Section Accounts

Most Sections greatly improved their financial position from 2024. The Dance Section had a surplus of £5,520 compared to a deficit of £2,778 in 2024, this was achieved by making savings in all areas, but particularly in changing the venue to Waldegrave School costing £2,775 compared to £12,000 in 2024.

The Vocal/Choral Section had a surplus of £1,024 (compared to a deficit of £315 in 2024).

The Instrumental Section made a surplus of £289 compared to £1,238 in 2024, but this was largely due to the venue being free of charge last year & having to pay £780 this year.

The Piano Section incurred a small deficit of £64, but this was due to a late invoice for 2024 Piano Hire of £340 which should have been in last year's accounts. The returning Speech & Drama Festival had a small deficit of £25.

The Showcase Concert last June was well attended & made a surplus of £221.

Balance Sheet

The reserves have increased due to the healthy surplus this year, being £17,353 at 30 April 25 (£11,117 in 2024). The bank account balance was £16,513 at 30th April. The stock of medals totalled £1,490 and the balance of St Luke's Music Society donation is now £500, to sponsor prize awards for a further 5 years.

Independent Examiner

We are very grateful to Les Phillips who has agreed to continue in the role of Independent Examiner this year.

RICHMOND UPON THAMES PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1012682

Accounts

Richmond Festival Trustees Report 2022

"Post-pandemic" recovery and advance we were very pleased to be able to offer a hugely positive report this year. The details follow, but it was wonderful to re-open doors to live performances and to see and hear such high standards of performance in all the sections

Looking ahead with The Play and Perform Platform Adopting the Play and Perform Platform which was essential to keeping the Festival going during lockdown, has continued to bring benefits to all Sections of the Festival particularly in streamlining the administration and has the potential to open up further technological possibilities.

Looking Ahead with our Section Secretaries. We have an excellent team of Section Secretaries to develop all of our performing arts. Our **Stage Dance Section Secretary, Debbie Souter**, was ably supported this year by Natalie Wells, her very experienced assistant. They appear to have found a very satisfactory new home at Jubilee School in Addlestone, but unfortunately this is not in the borough of Richmond upon Thames, where no suitable venue could be found.

Heidi Pegler, our new Vocal Secretary organised a very successful move from virtual to reality at St Luke's Community Centre for the individual classes. While the ensemble classes had to remain virtual this year for want of a suitable venue, she is hopeful that a venue can be found next year. Heidi has also agreed to take on a significant proportion of the administrative responsibilities. Now that so much of the work has been simplified by using the Play and Perform Platform, this role should not be as arduous as in the past.

Manuella Jessop, our new Instrumental Secretary oversaw a successful weekend of strings, wind and brass music and has some exciting ideas for the future of the Section. Manuella has also agreed to manage the Festival's website in the wake of Pam Frazer's retirement. The move of the Piano classes from St Luke's in Kew to St Augustine's in Whitton was successfully managed by **Sue Thornton, our Piano Secretary.**

This year saw the revival of the Speech and Drama Section under **Emma Tinniswood, our new Speech and Drama Secretary**, who was able to put together a successful weekend at St Luke's Community Centre in May - a little later than in previous years, although this has proved to be more convenient and it will be run at the same time next year. This will mean a move from April to end of May/early June for the Festival Showcase, which also worked well.

The Festival Showcase We were delighted to be back in the Normansfield Theatre which proved to be a lovely setting for our Festival Showcase. We were honoured by the presence of the Mayor of Richmond, Councillor Julia Cambridge who was duly impressed by all the talent on display! In celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the AT Stewart

Founder's Cup and a money prize of £50 was awarded to the Chadwick Family Trio, the most entertaining performance chosen from those who had taken part, all of whom performed exceptionally well. The Festival Showcase continues to be a celebration of the high standard of achievement in all the Sections and going forward will be in need of someone to take overall responsibility for its production

With Thanks to Our Stewards We have a small but enthusiastic band of volunteer stewards. This group needs replenishing following the pandemic, but we have an opportunity to fill the gaps with younger colleagues, parents and supporters of our new and younger Section Secretaries. Technology is already streamlining the amount of manpower needed to ensure the smooth running of events, and I am thinking in particular of two new developments necessitated by the pandemic: firstly, the streamlining of what can be provided by way of refreshments and with self-service and secondly, the introduction of the little handheld machine that make cashless payments possible.

Thanks to Our Supporters The Festival is indebted to the Hampton Fund for their continued financial support which continued throughout the pandemic. I would also like to thank all our Patrons, especially those who have been able to gift aid their patronage.

And In Particular As ever special thanks go to Pam Frazer who has been at the heart of the Festival these past forty-five years and is now retiring. She shared twenty-eight of them with Judy Hildesley, the also retiring Chair. Huge thanks to both for all the effort they have put in in securing the health of the Festival as it goes forward. Hilary Dodman will be the next Chair. We know of no one more suitable. It is the hope of every Chair to leave an organisation in good shape to face the future - with a new and enthusiastic team able to embrace technology as well as bring fresh ideas, skills and expertise we confident that the Festival will continue to flourish.

**Richmond upon Thames Performing Arts Festival
Balance Sheet
As at 30th April 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Current Assets		
Stock of medals etc	546	659
Cash at Bank	18798	18954
Prepaid Venue Hire	0	550
Gift Aid due for 21/22	172	322
	<u>19516</u>	<u>20485</u>
Current Liabilities		
Unused Hampton Fund Grant	0	1000
Play & Perform Charges paid May 22	497	0
St Luke's Sponsored Prize	800	900
Advance Receipts for May Festival	872	1566
	<u>2169</u>	<u>3466</u>
Total Assets	<u>17347</u>	<u>17019</u>
Represented by:		
Fund bought forward	17019	17179
Surplus/Deficit for the Year	328	-160
Fund carried forward	<u>17347</u>	<u>17019</u>

Signed: J.C. Hildesley

J. Hildesley (Chairman)

Signed: G. Harmes

G. Harmes (Treasurer)

Date: 8th July 2022

I have examined the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Richmond-upon-Thames Performing Arts Festival and in my opinion they give a true and fair view of the Festivals affairs at 30th April 2022, in accordance with the accounts and explanations given to me.

Signed: Les Phillips
Les Phillips (Independent Examiner).

**Richmond upon Thames Performing Arts Festival
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 30th April 2022**

Income	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Entry Fees	15999	
Door Money	6512	
Grants - Hampton Fund	3500	
Patrons' Fees	490	170
Gift Aid	262	322
Sponsored Prizes	300	188
Refreshment Sales	65	
Bank Interest	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
	27131	685
 Expenditure		
Venue Hire	14199	
Adjudicators' Fees	5907	
Cash Prizes	1190	
Medals	840	
Printing	437	
Catering	523	
Website	161	443
Piano Hire	630	
Piano Transport	354	
Piano Tuning	185	
Affiliation Fees	628	197
Insurances	283	205
Gifts	91	
Postage	15	
Stationery	199	
Play & Perform	687	
Card Reader & Phone	119	
PayPal Charges	<u>355</u>	<u>845</u>
	26803	845
 Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u><u>328</u></u>	<u><u>-160</u></u>

I have examined the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the Richmond-upon-Thames Performing Arts Festival and in my opinion they give a true and fair view of the Festivals affairs at 30th April 2021, in accordance with the accounts and explanations given to me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Phillips', written over a dotted line.

Signed.....

Les Phillips (Independent Examiner).