

Kington Choral Society

Charity Number:1103552

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2025

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Trustees' Annual Report

Aims and charitable objectives:-

Kington Choral Society (KCS) aims to *"foster public appreciation of the art of music of all kinds, by the promotion of public choral concerts and other musical activities, for the society's funds and other general purposes of such charitable institutions or other exclusively charitable purposes as the committee may from time to time decide"*

The Trustees believe that we have met the aims this year with a wide and varied programme

Achievements and Performance:-

2025 has been a busy year and, our objectives above have been fully met.

We said goodbye to Rob Evans last year and welcomed in Simon Harper as our new Director of Music and he has risen to the challenge with huge enthusiasm and professionalism. Welcome, Simon, and we thank you for a fantastic year for KCS !

We kicked off the year in Spring with Rossini's Petite Messe Solonelle which, as Clive pointed out to me was neither "petite" nor "solonelle" and not really a "Messe" either, but was very enjoyable and Simon brought us all to a high standard.

Sadly we lost a long-standing member of the choir, Richard Rathbone. He was a true gentleman and a scholar. His widow Frances donated £1,200 to the society and this funded our Easter concert at St Mary's of Stainer's crucifixion which we performed in his memory.

In May we held our customary workshop which, this year, was focussed on Purcell. The feedback that we received was that all who took part loved it and a few thought that the afternoon session was perhaps too long for tired voices. Many thanks go to both Simon and Paul for making this session a success.

Our summer concert of "The Creation" by Haydn was truly epic with an eighteen piece orchestra to back us up and to give us both inspiration and depth. It was a wonderful evening and enjoyed by everyone who attended and even more so by those who took part !

In the Autumn we performed a mix of sacred songs – (for me the Rachmaninov was absolute bliss !) together with Faure's requiem. We made a stunning sound and it was hugely enjoyable.

We rounded off the year with a carol service at Kington. I think our rendition of "Ding Dong Merrily on High" was up there with the best of them. As Simon always tells us, if you look up and watch him, then we really do make a great sound. Easy enough to do when you know the piece by heart of course !

As is always the case, all members of KCS have worked extremely hard to ensure that the Society remains active and financially buoyant. Our sales at rehearsals, donations for refreshments and the raffle are all important income streams for us and everyone's assistance with this is very welcome and appreciated.

The operation for one week of the charity shop was, once again, a vital tool in our fund raising, raising over £2.065 (gross), and it should be noted that the generous donations at our rehearsals

mentioned above also raised over £2,000 – again! These are really important income streams for us and the efforts made by everyone are much appreciated.

Colin has announced his intention to stand down from the committee in 2026, but has very kindly agreed to continue with the charity shop and raffles etc. at rehearsals. Colin – this is very much appreciated and I believe that very few of us realise quite how much work and effort this takes. Colin – many thanks for your help !

We also must draw everyone's attention to a very generous donation of £10,000 which was made in December 2025. The donor wishes to remain anonymous and that wish will be respected. This really is incredibly generous and the donor expressly wishes for those funds to be used "to encourage our conductor to be venturous with concerts using ensembles and soloists". Both the choir members and the public will see the effect of this with our forthcoming concerts in 2026 which will feature soloists and orchestras to the full. It makes a huge difference to what we can afford to do. We take this opportunity to thank them – it really will make a huge difference to 2026 and part of 2027.

Now we come to the committee's recommendation on subscriptions. This is a topic which we have discussed at great length in committee meetings. We have a very strong Balance sheet as you can see showing total assets of £25,882 compared to last year's £15,855. However, you will also note that this is boosted by the generous donation of £10,000. If that donation had not taken place, the Balance Sheet would be showing almost exactly the same figure as last year, which is why we have taken the decision to put the donation into a separate restricted fund as it is to be used for specific purposes.

We are responsible as a committee for making sure that KCS remains financially viable. Before the donation of £10,000, we had decided to cut back on the costs of our performances given that they tend to struggle to be viable, in spite of all of our other fundraising that we do. We believe in striving to give great musical events that attract people and enthuse them. It is difficult to achieve this without equivalent fantastic support from a variety of musicians, but they come at a cost which, of course we are happy to support. This incredibly generous donation has enabled us to continue to do this, but our cash-flow predictions show that this is not sustainable in the long run.

For this reason, we are recommending a rise in annual subscriptions from £100 to £115.

For the sake of clarity, the committee cannot impose this on members – it is up to you to vote yes or no today at the AGM and we will of course be keen to hear your decision.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the volunteers who help out during the year. Your efforts are fantastic and help our events to go smoothly. It would also be remiss of me not to mention our fabulous committee members. Kate is always there with sourcing the music, Rita (and helpers) just breezes along sorting out food and hospitality, Colin whose contributions I have already mentioned, John for keeping a detailed track of our finances and who has produced this report for the year, Christine for recording everything we do (and also maintaining diplomatic order at times !), and finally Sandie who is always on the case. Sandie's phenomenal work output keeps KCS up there at the top of local choirs.

Structure, Governance and Management:-

We are constituted as an unincorporated Society and our Constitution governs our operation as a charity. All committee members are Trustees.

We hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) and any member of KCS can put themselves forward for election to the committee at the AGM. There are specific posts of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer as well as up to seven general committee members.

The management structure and powers of the committee are detailed in our constitution.


The Trustees and their roles for the year and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report & Financial Statements were:-

Name	Role	Date appt.	Date Resigned
Dick Sawle	Logistics & Staging	27/02/22	current
	Chair	15/04/24	current
Kate Binney	Librarian	27/02/20	current
Rita Bridson	Hospitality	06/02/23	current
John Edgecombe	Treasurer	15/04/24	current
Colin Piers	Fund Raising	03/02/20	current
Sandie Smith	Secretary	03/02/20	current
Christine Woodhead	Minutes/secretarial	05/02/24	current

Declaration:-

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

 13/01/25

Full name:- Dick Sawle

Position: Chair

Kington Choral Society - Charity Number: 1103552 ('the Society')
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 31 December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Society, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Society as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those accounting records; or

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: C. E. Law

Charles Law B.Sc., MBA
Independent Examiner

Oaklands
Glasbury on Wye
Hereford
HR3 5LH

17 January 2026

Receipts & Payments Account

Registered Charity Number: 1103552

Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2025

Receipts and Payment Accounts

		General Fund 2025	Total Funds 2024
<u>Receipts</u>	Note	£	£
Subscriptions		6,360	6,046
Donations	3	11,280	450
Fundraising : At Rehearsals inc Sales	3	2,273	2,442
Fundraising: Community Shop Takings		2,065	2,016
Concerts and Events	3	6,155	7,386
Deposit Account Interest		121	264
Other Income	3	5,369	1,918
Total Receipts		33,622	20,522
<u>Payments</u>			
Musical Director & Accompanists	4	6,300	7,260
Rehearsal Venues	4	1,257	1,256
Fundraising Costs	4	767	770
Concerts and Events	4	12,961	9,145
Administration & Other Payments	5	2,321	6,804
Total Payments		23,605	25,235
Net Receipts/(Payments) for the year		10,017	(4,713)
Cash at Bank and in Hand at 1 January		15,865	20,578
Cash at Bank and in Hand at 31 December		25,882	15,865

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

Kington Choral Society
Registered Charity Number: 1103552

Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2025

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2025


	Note	General Fund £	Restricted Fund 2025 £	Total Funds	Total Funds 2024 £
Cash Funds:					
Lloyds Current Account		3,657		3,657	761
Lloyds Bank Instant Access Deposit Account – General Fund		12,224		12,224	15,104
Lloyds Bank Instant Access Deposit Account - Concert Fund			10,000	10,000	-
Cash in Hand		0			0
		<u>15,882</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>25,882</u>	<u>15,865</u>
Other Monetary Assets:					
Prepayments					
Making Music Membership/Insurance for 2026		582			468
Advance payment for Music Scores for 2026		<u>210</u>			<u>0</u>
		<u>792</u>			<u>468</u>
Assets Retained for the charity's own use:					
Furniture and Equipment		<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>
Liabilities:					
Accruals		0			0
Loan repayable		<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>
		<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>

The notes 1 to 6 form part of these financial statements
The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

Date:

Name :- Dick Sawle

Signature

 13/01/26

Kington Choral Society
Registered Charity Number: 1103552

Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the Accounts

Note

1 Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

The financial statements comprise of the Receipts & Payments schedule, Statement of Assets & Liabilities and associated Notes

2 Funds

General Fund

The General Fund is the charity's unrestricted, undesignated fund available for any of the charity's purposes without restriction

Concert Fund

The Concert Fund is the charity's fund made available from a donation which restricts its use to the support of concert expenses more particularly the hire of musicians and soloists

3 Further Analysis of Receipts

	General Fund <u>2025</u> £	General Fund <u>2024</u> £
Donations:		
Donations from rehearsals	80	50
Other Donations (not concert related)	11,200	400
Total Donations	11,280	450
Fundraising :At Rehearsals:		
Raffle	917	1,193
Refreshments	922	1,001
Sales	434	247
Total fundraising at rehearsals	2,273	2,441
Concerts and Events:		
<i>Spring Concert</i>		
Tickets	1,100	1,380
Bar	244	0
Sponsorship & Donations	0	0
Total Spring Concert	1,344	1,380
<i>Summer Concert</i>		
Tickets	1,542	870
Bar	290	211
Sponsorship & Donations		0
Total Summer Concert	1,832	1,081
<i>Winter Concert</i>		
Tickets	1,850	3,395

Notes

Bar	248	350
Teas	0	0
Sponsorship & Donations	0	0
Total Winter Concert	2,098	3,745

Come & Sing

Tickets	880	1,180
Donations		0
	880	1,180

Total Concerts and Events	6,155	7,386
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Other Income:

Hire & Sales of Scores	485	643
Loan receipt	0	0
Gift Aid Received from HMRC	4,883	1,041
Other (talk/presentation)	0	234
Total Other Income	5,369	1,918

4 Further Analysis of Payments

General	General
Fund	Fund
2025	2024
£	£

Musical Director & Accompanists:

Musical Director:	3,675	4,455
Accompanists	2,625	2,805
Total Musical Director & Accompanists	6,300	7,260

Rehearsal Venues:

Room Hire	1,200	1,200
Heating	57	56
Total Rehearsal Venues	1,257	1,256

Fundraising Costs:

Refreshments	195	296
Raffles	248	297
Community Shop Costs	324	171
On-Line transaction costs (Not concert related)	0	6
Total Fundraising Costs	767	770

Concerts and Events:*Spring Concert*

Soloists/ Conductor/Accompanists	1,850	766
Scores	0	0
Orchestra Performance fees	0	0
Venue	399	300
Bar	202	0
Other	169	0
Advertising/ Programmes	447	123
Online Ticket Transaction Costs	29	28
Total Spring Concert	3,096	1,217

Summer Concert

Soloists/ Conductor/Accompanist	1,250	787
Scores	0	0
Orchestra Performance fees	2,900	0
Venue	225	225
Bar	86	113
Other	689	25
Advertising/ Programmes	400	407
Online Ticket Transaction Costs	23	14
Total Summer Concert	5,572	1,571

Winter Concert

Soloists/ Conductor/Accompanist	1,100	1,900
Scores	0	0
Orchestra Performance fees	0	2,290
Venue	325	484
Bar	90	65
Teas	0	0
Other (flowers, gifts, lighting, page turner)	197	272
Advertising/ Programmes	389	531
Online Ticket Transaction Costs	33	62
Total Winter Concert	2,134	5,603

Easter – Stainer's Crucifixion

Soloists/ Conductor	575	0
Scores	0	
Refreshments	29	
Advertising/ Programmes	130	
	735	

Christmas Carol Concert

Conductor/Accompanist	550	0
Refreshments/Printing/Gift	100	
	650	

Come & Sing

Conductor/Accompanist	500	550
Venue	135	160
Refreshments	28	0
Printing of scores	79	0
Online Ticket Transaction Costs	32	44
Total Come & Sing	775	754

Total Concert & Events

12,961	9,145
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5 Administration & Other Payments:

Making Music – Membership	427	313
Making Music -Insurance	155	155
Making Music -PRS payment	224	84
Website	326	133
Administration & Governance (IE)	381	700
Hire and Purchase of Scores	0	307
Hire and Purchase of Scores re 2026 concert	210	0
Plastic MAPAC folders & chair covers	0	433

	Notes	
Singing lessons for choir members	0	900
Coach hire Kington Junior School	0	300
Clavinova wheels	0	249
Hire Parish hall for committee meetings	140	240
Various items for shop week	29	384
Square reader/iPhone set up costs	46	352
Photographer	0	35
Equipment	0	0
Bursary	0	880
Loan repayment N Cooke	0	700
Xmas Party	137	109
Late payment St Andrews re Mozart concert 2023	0	325
Late payment re Messiah concert 2024	202	0
Other on-line costs	0	3
General publicity and equipment costs	45	202
	2,321	6,804

6 Trustees & Related Party Transactions

During the year, no Trustee received remuneration as Trustee (2024: £0).

Trustees received out of pocket expenses, totalling £1867.69 for 6 trustees (2024: £2134.70 for 6 trustees)