

# GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1118140

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Trust

**Registered** 2007-02-28

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

## Contact

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**Address** G B R T  
PO Box 10704  
Market Harborough  
LE16 0HL

**Phone** 000000000000

**Email** [gbrt@gbrecitaltrust.co.uk](mailto:gbrt@gbrecitaltrust.co.uk)

**Website** [www.gbrt.uk](http://www.gbrt.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public events.

**Activities:** Music development, appreciation and participation for all in the South Leicestershire area.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE
- Leicestershire
- Northamptonshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£64,362	£66,116	-	-
2024-05-31	£79,479	£74,562	-	-
2023-05-31	£54,159	£46,937	-	-
2022-05-31	£15,897	£46,654	-	-
2021-05-31	£25,030	£12,981	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>LINDA PENTLAND</b>	Chair	2018-10-22
DEBBIE JANE SMITH		2018-10-22
Graham Vick		2021-06-14
James Richard Holyoak		2022-06-23
Lucy Ingall		2022-06-23
MRS SUE BENSON		2016-08-17
Mia Stone		2025-03-05
Penelope Anne Nicholson		2025-03-05
Poppy Shortland		2021-05-14

**GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1118140

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# Accounts

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**Great Bowden Recital Trust**

**Financial Report  
2024–25**

*Music development, appreciation and  
participation for all*



## **ABOUT GBRT**

Great Bowden Recital Trust (GBRT) was founded in 2004 and registered as a charitable trust in 2006 with charitable purpose of 'Music development, appreciation and participation for all'. GBRT promotes music in South Leicestershire and North Northamptonshire by running a range of community choirs and ensembles, organising concerts and events and European concert tours, running an annual talent competition for young musicians and singers and providing performance opportunities for primary school children. Surplus funds generated by these activities are used to fund a grant programme for young people in financial need to help to pay for singing and instrumental lessons.

## **GBRT's Trustees**

GBRT is managed by volunteer Trustees and Choir/Ensemble Secretaries. New Trustees are recruited by invitation from the Trustee board and are provided with copies of the most recent accounts. They are also briefed on their legal obligations under charity laws, and on the content of the governing document of the Trust, together with the decision-making processes and recent financial performance.

The trustees during the 2024/25 financial year were:

Sue Benson, Managing Trustee  
Linda Pentland, Finance Trustee and Chairman  
Graham Vick  
Poppy Shortland  
Debbie Smith  
Lucy Ingall  
Jim Holyoak  
Penny Nicholson (appointed March 2025)  
Mia Stone (appointed March 2025)

## **Music Development**

We received 11 applications for funding for our grant programme in 2024/25. Ten of these applications were successful, including 9 continuing students and one new applicant. A total of £3,249 was awarded to fund 384 lessons.

GBRT is a member of the Harborough Alliance for Music Education, a forum to bring together music leads from local schools organised by Robert Smyth Academy. We are also involved with Creative Harborough, an initiative to promote arts activities in the town and encourage more people to get involved.

## **Music Appreciation**

GBRT organised six concerts and gigs during the 2024/25 financial year:

- GBRT Flute Choir and Carnival Drums put on a Make Music Day event inside and outside Corby Cube on 21<sup>st</sup> June



- A special concert to celebrate GBRT's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024 included performances by GBRT Youth Choir, Music Makers and invited previous Junior X Factor prize winners.
- GBRT Community Choir, Flute Choir, Community Orchestra and Men Sing for Movember choir performed at Christmas Concert in the Church of St Peter and St Paul in Great Bowden on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024
- GBRT Junior X Factor Finals on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025
- In May 2025, 78 members of GBRT Community Choir and Flute Choir joined together for an overnight trip to the Cotswolds. Staying overnight in Stratford-upon-Avon, they performed at St Peters' and St Paul's Church in Blockley with Blockley Blokes Choir and Stratford-upon-Avon Town Hall with Fosseyway Chamber Orchestra.

GBRT's choirs and ensembles also took part in the following events organised by other organisations:

- Performances at The Café @ Welland Park:
  - GBRT Community Choir and Carnival Drums, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024
  - GBRT Community Choir Carols in the Park, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024
- GBRT Community Choir carol singing at The Village and Wingates Gallery
- GBRT Carnival Drums performed at Market Harborough Carnival on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024, the Love Food Festival at Wicksteed Park on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and Kettering Christmas Market on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2024
- Members of GBRT Community Choir supported TLC Voices at the Laura Centre Memorial Service in Leicester on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### **Music Participation**

GBRT's five choirs and ensembles – Community Choir and Flute Choir for over-18s, Carnival Drums and Community Orchestra for all ages, and Youth Choir for school years 5-13 - are funded by termly subscription fees which cover the costs associated with running the group as detailed below. Surplus funds are used to fund the charity's general running costs and grant programme.

In September 2024 we launched Men Sing for Movember, a project to encourage more men to try singing in a choir which was inspired by the Men Together in Song project run by Peterborough Sings! We exceeded our target of 30 men with nearly 40 signing up for the project and attending 8 sessions in the Autumn term. Most of the participants continued until the end of the project which culminated in a very special performance of the four songs they had learned in GBRT's Christmas Concert in December. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive with all who completed the feedback form giving a satisfaction score of 5 out of 5. Eight men have gone on to join GBRT Community Choir and the majority of men who hadn't sung in a choir before said that they would like to continue to do so in future. Participants also raised £650 for Movember.

GBRT Junior X Factor 2025 heats were held on 15<sup>th</sup> March and 11 talented young people took place in the Finals Concert on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The competition was supported by a grant from Leicestershire and Rutland Freemasons Charity.

GBRT worked with Robert Smyth Academy, LeicesterShire Music and Harborough Alliance for Music Education to set up a project to provide performance opportunities for local primary school children. GBRT Trustee Graham



Vick went into each school to lead three 90-minute sessions to teach songs to Year 5 children which they then performed together as a massed choir in two concerts along with some of RSA's ensembles and young musicians. The aim of the project is to provide a high-quality music experience for primary school children and to give the children and their parents and carers the opportunity to see what can be achieved at secondary school level in the hope that some will be inspired to want to learn an instrument themselves. Following the success of the pilot project in Autumn 2024, featuring Church Langton, Great Bowden, Meadowdale and Ridgeway primary schools, the project was repeated in Spring 2025 with Farndon Fields, Market Harborough C of E and St Joseph's primary schools and will continue in 2025/26. The project is self-funding with proceeds from ticket sales to parents covering the costs of teaching the songs in school and putting on two performances.

GBRT worked with LeicesterShire Music to bring a new after school Snazzy Strings beginner group to Great Bowden. The group is open to anyone under 18 who wants to try a string instrument with no previous experience or instrument needed.

### **For All**

In September 2023 GBRT was selected as one of four music groups from across the UK to take part in a pilot project on inclusion run by Making Music, the umbrella body for leisure-time music groups. Funded by Arts Council England, INCLUDE aims to help member groups in Levelling Up for Culture Places in England connect with new members of their community and include a wider diversity of people in their normal activities. Diversity means including the widest range of people from our community and recognising, respecting and celebrating each other's differences. This includes a broad range of identities such as ethnicity, disability, neurodiversity, gender, sexuality, and socioeconomic background.

This work continued in 2024/25:

- In June 2024 GBRT Flute Choir and Carnival Drums put on performances inside and outside Corby Cube to celebrate Make Music Day.
- Making Music's INCLUDE project lead, Elizabeth Palmer, supported work with the MD and members of GBRT's Orchestra to help to define the group's aims and purpose more clearly.
- Elizabeth also joined a GBRT Trustee meeting in September 2024 to review the first year of the programme and help to set priorities for the final 6 months.
- Two of GBRT's trustees travelled to London in October to meet in person with representatives of the other pilot groups, Making Music's team and members of the expert panel for a whole day event exploring different aspects of inclusion.
- In February 2025 we held our second inclusion event, inviting members of other local music groups to a discussion about how to break down barriers that might prevent those without previous musical experience from joining our groups. The speaker was Dr Kate Wareham, CEO of the Choir With No Name, a national organisation which supports homeless people by running weekly sessions where they can come together to sing and share a meal.
- In March 2025 GBRT's Managing Trustee Sue Benson took part in a panel discussion alongside the other INCLUDE groups to share some of our learning from the project at an online event to celebrate its successful conclusion Making Music has collated the experiences and feedback from the pilot groups into a series of guidance materials for its members, with GBRT featuring as a case study in a number of them - see <https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/opportunities/making-music-projects/making-music-include>.



GBRT was proud to be involved in the project and will continue to be a member of Making Music's inclusion working group as well as keeping inclusion on the agenda for our own trustee meetings.

### **Legacy**

In 2023 we were very honoured and grateful to receive a generous legacy from the estate of Elizabeth Howe, who was a member of GBRT Carnival Drums and a supporter of our charity. GBRT's trustees have given careful consideration to how best to use these funds to have a long-lasting impact. In Autumn 2024 we awarded the first Elizabeth Howe Bursaries to five primary school students in receipt of Pupil Premium support to enable them to begin cello lessons. These students will be fully funded for their instrument hire and lessons up the end of primary school. Funds from the legacy were also used to repair and update instruments for Carnival Drums.

### **GOING CONCERN**

#### **Subscriptions**

GBRT's main source of income is subscriptions paid by members of its choirs and ensembles. These are paid in advance before the start of each term. MDs are engaged to run these rehearsals on a freelance basis, which allows flexibility. Trustees regularly review the subs income received for each choir and ensemble to ensure that the costs of rehearsals can be met, and are able to adjust the number and/or length of rehearsals offered if necessary. There is currently sufficient surplus generated from subs to fund GBRT's essential running costs and grant programme.

#### **Concerts and Events**

The Trust generates additional income from donations made by audience members at concerts and performances.

#### **Essential Running Costs**

As the Trust does not own or rent any offices or employ any staff, essential running costs (e.g. insurance and independent examiner fees) are relatively modest. The Trust is carrying forward sufficient surplus funds from the 2024/25 financial year to cover all essential costs for 2025/26.

#### **Grant Programme**

The Trust uses any surplus generated from its other activities to fund a grant programme for young singers and instrumentalists who need help to pay for their specialist music lessons. The grant programme is funded from the surplus generated in the previous financial year and amount of funding made available can be adjusted according to the available funds. Grants are awarded for one school year.

#### **Going Concern**

For the reasons set out above, GBRT's Trustees are confident that the Trust will continue to be a going concern throughout the 2025/26 financial year.



<b>INCOME</b>	<b>1st June 2024 - 31st May 2025</b>
Clothing - Hoodies & T shirts, Face Coverings	£10.00
Collection Boxes	£40.52
Donations - General (including staff/admin donations and collection tins)	£722.02
Donations - Performance	£930.88
Event Income (workshops, trips etc)	£2,738.86
Grants	£1,493.50
Other Revenue	£4,018.08
Subscriptions In	£18,641.20
Tour Income	£35,767.13
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£64,362.19</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1st June 2024 - 31st May 2025</b>
Accompanist Fees	£2,278.50
Accounts and Audit	£702.00
Donations Given to Others	£250.00
Equipment Purchased and Repaired	£1,646.25
Garage Hire	£1,440.00
General Expenses	£180.44
Grants Given	£4,524.95
Hoodies and T-shirts, Face Coverings	£570.00
Insurances and PRS fees (including Making Music membership)	£566.00
Junior X Factor Costs	£1,526.90
Marketing (website, posters, flyers)	£1,438.43
Music Purchase	£1,765.50
Musical Director Costs (including CPD and DBS)	£12,210.65
Other event costs	£306.91
Printing, Post and Stationery including PO Box rental	£552.70
Tours	£31,946.08
Venue Hire - Concerts	£734.15
Venues - Rehearsal	£3,363.75
Volunteer and Trustee Costs (meeting room hire, training, gifts)	£113.20
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£66,116.41</b>
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS</b>	<b>-£1,754.22</b>



## GBRT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES SUMMARY

### Monetary Assets

	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2024	31 <sup>st</sup> May 2025
Funds in GBRT Bank Accounts	£21,242.20	£19,487.98

### Creditors

Invoices due to be paid for this period	£0.00	£0.00
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### Reserves

The Trust maintains minimal reserves sufficient to meet its day-to-day requirements

### Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

### GBRT Trustees' Declaration

The Trustees have thoroughly reviewed and understood all aspects of the accounting information for the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025, have had regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and approve, in full, the figures provided within this Report and the Income and Expenditure Summary.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Linda Pentland  
Chair of Trustees

Date: 15/6/2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2025**

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

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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



Alexander West FCA

17 September 2025

**Somerbys Chartered Accountants  
30 Nelson Street  
Leicester  
LE1 7BA**

**GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1118140

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# Accounts

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**Great Bowden Recital Trust**

**Financial Report  
2023-24**

*Music development, appreciation and  
participation for all*



## **ABOUT GBRT**

Great Bowden Recital Trust (GBRT) is a charitable trust, founded in 2004 and registered in 2006, promoting music in Market Harborough and the surrounding area. The Trust's charitable purpose is 'Music development, appreciation and participation for all'.

Music has been proven to have a visible, positive impact on the lives of people of all ages, building confidence, communication and discipline, increasing co-ordination and encouraging social relationships. The Trust continually strives to encourage personal development by using music in all its forms, including running a range of community choirs and ensembles, organising concerts and events in the local area and beyond, European concert tours and an annual Junior X Factor talent competition for young musicians and singers. Surplus funds generated by these activities are used to fund a grant programme for young people in financial need to help to pay for singing and instrumental lessons.

## **GBRT's Trustees**

GBRT is managed by volunteer Trustees and Choir/Ensemble Secretaries. New Trustees are recruited by invitation from the Trustee board and are provided with copies of the most recent Accounts. They are also briefed on their legal obligations under charity laws, and on the content of the governing document of the Trust, together with the decision-making processes and recent financial performance.

The trustees during the 2023/24 financial year were:

Sue Benson, Managing Trustee  
Linda Pentland, Finance Trustee and Chairman  
Graham Vick  
Poppy Shortland  
Debbie Smith  
Lucy Ingall  
Jim Holyoak



## **GBRT's Areas of Activity**

The Trust's activities divide into four key areas:

### **1. Music Development**

GBRT believes that an individual's financial circumstances should never be a barrier for progressing and developing their skill of singing or playing an instrument. The Trust provides grants towards instrumental or vocal lessons for local young people in financial need. We also work with local schools to help to promote music.

### **2. Music Appreciation**

GBRT organises concerts and events including an annual Community Concert which showcases local young singers and instrumentalists, some of whom are performing in public for the first time. The Trust's choirs and ensembles also perform at a range of local and regional concerts raising money for GBRT and for other charities and good causes.

### **3. Music Participation**

The Trust provides opportunities for everyone to become involved in music regardless of age, experience and background. GBRT's five choirs and ensembles have over 150 members. The annual GBRT Junior X Factor competition provides the opportunity for positive feedback from professional musicians and for the finalists to perform on stage to supportive audiences.

### **4. For all**

GBRT believes that music should be accessible to everyone. Inclusion is important to us and we are working to remove barriers to participation. We are proud to be a pilot group for Making Music's INCLUDE project.



### **Music Development**

We received 24 applications for funding for our grant programme in 2023/24 which was nearly 3 times as many applications as 2022/23. Eighteen of these applications were successful, including 7 continuing students and 11 new applicants. A total of £4,614 was awarded to fund 721 lessons. We were very grateful to receive a donation of £1000 from Landmark Practice Development to support our grants programme in addition to the funds we generated from our other activities.

GBRT is a member of the Harborough Alliance for Music Education, a forum to bring together music leads from local schools organised by Robert Smyth Academy. We have also been involved with setting up Creative Harborough, an initiative to promote arts activities in the town and encourage more people to get involved. GBRT was one of 20+ groups to take part in the launch event on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 and we continue to be actively involved in the development of this initiative.

### **Music Appreciation**

GBRT organised four concerts during the 2023/24 financial year:

- GBRT Community Choir, accompanied by a live band and invited soloists, put on a gala concert to raise funds for the local NSPCC branch on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The concert was a huge success and raised £2000 for the NSPCC through ticket sales, donations and raffle tickets.
- GBRT's annual Community Concert on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November provided an opportunity for eight young people to perform on trombone, piano, voice, guitar and French horn. GBRT Youth Choir also took part.
- GBRT Community Choir and Northampton Male Voice Choir performed together in a sold out concert in Market Harborough on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November. This was the first time that the two choirs had performed together and was a great success, raising over £500 for GBRT from ticket sales and donations.
- GBRT Community Choir was joined by Robert Smyth Academy's Secret Choir for a concert in Market Harborough on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, raising over £500 in donations for the school towards the purchase of a new baritone saxophone.

GBRT's choirs and ensembles also took part in the following events organised by other organisations:

- Performances at The Café @ Welland Park:
  - GBRT Community Choir, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023
  - GBRT Community Choir Carols in the Park, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023
  - GBRT Flute Choir, Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- GBRT Carnival Drums at Foxton Locks Fun Day on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023
- GBRT Orchestra Sunday Afternoon Concert at St Peter's Church, Church Langton on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- GBRT Community Choir performed at the Eco Village's Winter Fair on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023
- GBRT Community Choir supported Specsavers Market Harborough's Dickensian fundraiser on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023
- GBRT Carnival Drums performed at Kettering Christmas Market on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023



- Members of GBRT Community Choir supported TLC Voices at the Laura Centre Memorial Service in Leicester on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### **Music Participation**

GBRT runs five choirs and ensembles – Community Choir and Flute Choir for over-18s, Carnival Drums and Orchestra for all ages, and Youth Choir for school years 5-13.

Each group is self-funding as every member pays an affordable termly subscription fee to cover the costs associated with running the group as detailed below. Surplus funds are used to fund the charity's general running costs and grant programme.

Carnival Drums	17 rehearsals
Community Choir	23 rehearsals
Flute Choir	18 rehearsals
Orchestra	17 rehearsals
Youth Choir	18 rehearsals

GBRT launched a new after-school music club, Music Makers, in four primary schools in September 2024 which received an overwhelming response from parents and children. More than 50 children in school years 1-4 took part in the groups during the year and the children came together for a joint performance at GBRT Junior X Factor Finals in March. The club, run by Graham Vick and supported by a team of volunteers, teaches singing, performance skills and the basics of music theory while having fun with warm-up exercises, games, and creating rhythms and sounds using body percussion, speech, rhyme and syncopation.

In addition, GBRT organised a workshop for members of GBRT Flute Choir 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023 led by low flutes specialist Carla Rees, GBRT Community Choir attended UK Choir Festival on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and GBRT Flute Choir took part in the first Birmingham Flute Choir Festival on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

GBRT Junior X Factor heats were held on the weekend of 9/10<sup>th</sup> March and 13 talented young people took place in the Finals Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March. The competition was funded by grants from Market Harborough and the Bowdens Charity and Leicestershire and Rutland Freemasons Charity.

In April 2024, 48 members of GBRT Community Choir took part in a concert tour to Umbria in Italy. The group stayed in Passignano-sul-Trasimeno, overlooking Lake Trasimeno, and performed at the Chiesa San Filippo Neri in Florence, Sala Dei Notari in Perugia and the Teatro in Tuoro overlooking Lake Trasimeno.

### **For All**

In September 2023 GBRT was selected as one of four music groups from across the UK to take part in a pilot project on inclusion run by Making Music, the umbrella body for leisure-time music groups. Funded by Arts Council England, INCLUDE aims to help member groups in Levelling Up for Culture Places in England connect with new members of their community and include a wider diversity of people in their normal activities. Diversity means including the widest range of people from our community and recognising, respecting and celebrating each other's differences. This includes a broad range of identities such as ethnicity, disability, neurodiversity, gender, sexuality, and socioeconomic background. The pilot project which will run until March 2025 and what we learn will be shared with all of Making Music's member groups. Our involvement in the project will focus on our



instrumental groups - GBRT Carnival Drums, GBRT Flute Choir and GBRT Orchestra - but the lessons that we learn will be applied to all of our activities.

The first phase of the project was to get a better understanding of the demographics of our current membership compared to our local area. We asked members to complete an anonymous survey and compared the results to the most recent census data for South Leicestershire and North Northamptonshire. We found that our membership was broadly representative of the general population but the main groups that were underrepresented being 20–35-year-olds and men. GBRT's trustees had a very helpful session with Making Music's project lead Elizabeth Palmer to discuss the results and start to develop an action plan for the project. We decided to focus on the following areas:

- Developing a strategy to ensure that all our activities are as inclusive as possible, such as setting up 'buddy' schemes in our ensembles to make new members feel welcome, reviewing the accessibility of our communications and website, and asking members if there's anything we can do to improve access to rehearsals and resources.
- Encouraging more people to get involved in music making by raising the profile of our activities in North Northamptonshire, looking at ways to encourage more men and 20–35-year-olds to get involved in our choirs and ensembles, and promoting the mental health and social benefits of music.

We have reviewed our online and written communications to ensure that they are accessible by:

- offering a text only digital version of programmes for use with screen readers and online translation services as an alternative to printed programmes.
- reviewing our website to ensure that it meets accessibility standards.
- replacing PDFs on our website with more accessible formats such as HTML and Word documents.
- adding additional information about accessibility at our rehearsal and concert venues to our website and publicity materials.
- making sheet music available in alternative formats for members who need it.
- adding an open question to our registration forms and booking forms to ask whether members have any access needs.

We are working on extending our activities into North Northamptonshire:

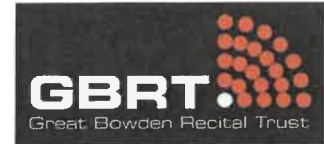
- we organised an inclusion event in Corby on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 for local music groups to discuss ways to encourage men to get involved in music making, with speaker Will Prideaux from Peterborough Sings.
- GBRT Carnival Drums performed at Kettering's Christmas Market in December 2023 and are booked to perform at two more events in Kettering in 2024.

We received a grant of £2000 from Howard Watson Symington Memorial Charity to make a video promoting the mental health benefits of being part of community music making.

### Legacy

We were very honoured and grateful to receive a generous legacy from the estate of Elizabeth Howe, who was a member of GBRT Carnival Drums and a supporter of our charity. GBRT's trustees have given careful consideration to how best to use these funds to have a long-lasting impact.

- Funds were allocated to updating GBRT's sound equipment including the purchase of a digital mixing console, a stage box, 3 monitors and 2 sub-woofers plus cables and accessories. We worked with



Brickworks Studios to design a high-quality and affordable system that will be durable and be flexible enough to cover different types and sizes of events and gigs.

- We purchased a bass flute and an alto flute for GBRT Flute Choir which will add depth to the sound of the group and enable members to have a chance to play lower flutes which they might otherwise not be able to experience as they are less common and more expensive to own.
- Funds have been allocated to GBRT Carnival Drums to repair and update instruments, to GBRT Orchestra to purchase new music and to GBRT Youth Choir to put towards activities to attract and retain new members.
- We are creating “The Elizabeth Howe Legacy Fund” – a project which will encourage primary school pupils to learn musical instruments. It is still in development but is intended to begin early in the 2024-25 academic year and will focus on students who face greater barriers than most to musical participation. We believe that, as a former primary school headteacher, Liz would very much have approved.

## **GOING CONCERN**

### **Subscriptions**

GBRT’s main source of income is subscriptions paid by members of its choirs and ensembles. These are paid in advance before the start of each term. MDs are engaged to run these rehearsals on a freelance basis, which allows flexibility. Trustees regularly review the subs income received for each choir and ensemble to ensure that the costs of rehearsals can be met, and are able to adjust the number and/or length of rehearsals offered if necessary. There is currently sufficient surplus generated from subs to fund GBRT’s essential running costs and grant programme.

### **Concerts and Events**

The Trust generates additional income from donations made by audience members at concerts and performances.

### **Essential Running Costs**

As the Trust does not own or rent any offices or employ any staff, essential running costs (e.g. insurance and independent examiner fees) are relatively modest. The Trust is carrying forward sufficient surplus funds from the 2023/24 financial year to cover all essential costs for 2024/25.

### **Grant Programme**

The Trust uses any surplus generated from its other activities to fund a grant programme for young singers and instrumentalists who need help to pay for their specialist music lessons. The grant programme is funded from the surplus generated in the previous financial year and amount of funding made available can be adjusted according to the available funds. Grants are awarded for one school year.

### **Going Concern**

For the reasons set out above, GBRT’s Trustees are confident that the Trust will continue to be a going concern throughout the 2024/25 financial year.



## Income and Expenditure

For the year ended 31 May 2024

Account	2024
<b>Income</b>	
Clothing - Hoodies T shirts Masks	505.00
Collection Boxes	56.60
Donations - General	1,566.38
Donations - Performance	1,465.21
Event Income	9,445.65
Grants	4,700.00
Other Revenue	20,876.78
Subscriptions In	18,528.79
Tour Income	22,334.32
<b>Total Turnover</b>	<b>79,478.73</b>
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>79,478.73</b>
<b>Administrative Costs</b>	
Accompanist	1,620.50
Accounts and Audit	498.00
Donations Given	2,485.62
Equipment Purchased	8,309.08
Garage Hire	1,285.00
General Expenses	781.27
Grants Given	4,680.63
Hoodies Tshirts Masks	619.50
Insurances and PRS	643.83
Junior X Factor costs	1,217.75
Junior X Factor Prizes	862.19
Marketing	1,361.86
Music	1,243.50
Musical Director	9,895.10
Other Event Costs	6,411.79
Printing, Post and Stationery	608.11
Square Fees	41.15
Tours	28,863.57
Venue Hire - Concerts	773.30
Venues - Rehearsal	2,030.50
Volunteer and Trustee Costs	329.92
<b>Total Administrative Costs</b>	<b>74,562.17</b>
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>4,916.56</b>



## **GBRT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES SUMMARY**

### **Monetary Assets**

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2023</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> May 2024</b>
Funds in GBRT Bank Accounts	£16,325.64	£21,242.20

### **Creditors**

Invoices due to be paid for this period	£0.00	£0.00
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### **Reserves**

The Trust maintains minimal reserves sufficient to meet its day to day requirements

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

### **GBRT Trustees' Declaration**

The Trustees have thoroughly reviewed and understood all aspects of the accounting information for the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024, have had regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and approve, in full, the figures provided within this Report and the Income and Expenditure Summary.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. Pentland'.

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Linda Pentland  
Chair of Trustees

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> December 2024



**Independent Examiners Report  
To the Trustees of Great Bowden Recital Trust  
For the year ended 31 May 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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

 06/01/2025

**Alexander West FCA**

**Somerbys Chartered Accountants  
30 Nelson Street  
Leicester  
LE1 7BA**

**GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1118140

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# Accounts

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**Great Bowden Recital Trust**

**Financial Report  
2022–2023**

*Music development, appreciation and  
participation for all*



## **ABOUT GBRT**

Great Bowden Recital Trust (GBRT) is a charitable trust, founded in 2004 and registered in 2006, promoting music in Market Harborough and the surrounding area. The Trust's charitable purpose is 'Music development, appreciation and participation for all'.

Music has been proven to have a visible, positive impact on the lives of people of all ages, building confidence, communication and discipline, increasing co-ordination and encouraging social relationships. The Trust continually strives to encourage personal development by using music in all its forms, including running a range of community choirs and ensembles, organising concerts and events in the local area and beyond, European concert tours and an annual Junior X Factor talent competition for young musicians and singers. Surplus funds generated by these activities are used to fund a grant programme for young people in financial need to help to pay for singing and instrumental lessons.

## **GBRT's Trustees**

GBRT is managed by volunteer Trustees and Choir/Ensemble Secretaries. New Trustees are recruited by invitation from the Trustee board and are provided with copies of the most recent Accounts. They are also briefed on their legal obligations under charity laws, and on the content of the governing document of the Trust, together with the decision-making processes and recent financial performance.

The trustees during the 2022/23 financial year were:

Sue Benson, Managing Trustee  
Linda Pentland, Finance Trustee and Chairman  
Graham Vick  
Poppy Shortland  
Debbie Smith  
Lucy Ingall (appointed 23/6/2022)  
Jim Holyoak (appointed 23/6/2022)



## **GBRT's Areas of Activity**

The Trust's activities divide into three key areas:

### **1. Music Development**

GBRT firmly believes that an individual's financial circumstances should never be a barrier for progressing and developing their skill of singing or playing an instrument. The Trust actively encourages applications for grants towards instrumental or vocal lessons from local young people in financial need in the Market Harborough area.

### **2. Music Appreciation**

From the outset, GBRT has provided opportunities for audiences to appreciate the very highest quality of musical performance. The Trust organises an annual Community Concert which showcases some of the best local young singers and instrumentalists, some of whom are performing in public for the first time. The Trust's own choirs and ensembles also perform at a range of local and regional concerts raising money for both GBRT and for other charities and good causes.

### **3. Music Participation**

The Trust positively encourages both young and not so young to become involved in music regardless of age, experience and background. GBRT's five choirs and ensembles have over 150 members who bring their enthusiasm and willingness to work as part of a team to every rehearsal.

The annual GBRT Junior X Factor competition is the largest and most established talent competition in the area. The heats and finals provide the opportunity for positive feedback from professional musicians and for the finalists to perform on stage to packed audiences. This fast-growing competition regularly receives positive feedback from participants and audience.



## **EVENTS 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2022 - 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2023**

GBRT's rehearsals and events returned to normal in 2022/23 after the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Choir & Ensemble Rehearsals**

Adult Choir	24 face-to-face rehearsals
Carnival Drums	19 face-to-face rehearsals
Flute Choir	21 face-to-face rehearsals
Orchestra	18 face-to-face rehearsals
Youth Choir	17 face-to-face rehearsals

### **Concerts and Gigs**

Concerts and events organised by GBRT:

- GBRT Adult Choir Cambridge weekend 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- Community Concert, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- GBRT Flute Choir and Orchestra, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Songbook Charity Concert GBRT Adult Choir with TLC Voices, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- GBRT Junior X Factor Heats, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March, and Finals, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- GBRT Flute Choir Cambridge weekend, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Other Concerts and Performances:

- Performances at The Café @ Welland Park:
  - GBRT Flute Choir, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022
  - GBRT Adult Choir and Carnival Drums, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022
  - GBRT Adult Vocal Choir Carol Singing, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022
  - GBRT Carnival Drums, Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023
  - GBRT Flute Choir, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023
- Carnival Drums at Harborough Carnival, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- GBRT Flute Choir at Great Bowden Village Fete on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- GBRT Carnival Drums at Harborough Christmas Fayre on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022
- GBRT Adult Choir at the Bowden Cricket Club Advent Window Reveal on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022
- GBRT Flute Choir at St Peter's Church in Belton-in-Rutland on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023



**SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**1st JUNE 2022 - 31st MAY 2023**

<b>Area of Activity</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Choirs and Ensembles	£12,212.55	£15,566.00	<b>£3,353.45</b>
Concert Tours	£22,040.11	£29,955.78	<b>£7,915.67</b>
Concerts and Gigs	£352.20	£957.13	<b>£604.93</b>
Other Events and Trips	£692.10	£1,392.50	<b>£700.40</b>
GBRT Junior X Factor Competition	£1,788.87	£900.00	<b>(£888.87)</b>
Other Income		£5,387.24	<b>£5,387.24</b>
Grants to Young Singers and Instrumentalists	£3,477.85		<b>(£3,477.85)</b>
Miscellaneous Expenditure	£6,373.01		<b>(£6,373.01)</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£46,936.69</b>	<b>£54,158.65</b>	<b>£7,221.96</b>
<b>BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 2021/22</b>		£9,103.68	£9,103.68
<b>TOTALS FOR 2022/23</b>	<b>£46,936.69</b>	<b>£63,262.33</b>	<b>£16,325.64</b>



## **GOING CONCERN**

The Trust's operations returned to a normal level in 2022/23 after the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Subscriptions**

GBRT's main source of income is subscriptions paid by members of its choirs and ensembles. These are paid in advance before the start of each term. MDs are engaged to run these rehearsals on a freelance basis, which allows flexibility. Trustees regularly review the subs income received for each choir and ensemble to ensure that the costs of rehearsals can be met, and are able to adjust the number and/or length of rehearsals offered if necessary. There is currently sufficient surplus generated from subs to fund GBRT's essential running costs and grant programme.

### **Concerts and Events**

The Trust generates additional income from donations made by audience members at concerts and performances, totalling £437.73 surplus after costs in 2022/23.

### **Essential Running Costs**

As the Trust does not own or rent any offices or employ any staff, essential running costs (e.g. insurance and independent examiner fees) are relatively modest. The Trust is carrying forward sufficient surplus funds from the 2022/23 financial year to cover all essential costs for 2023/24.

### **Grant Programme**

The Trust uses any surplus generated from its other activities to fund a grant programme for young singers and instrumentalists who need help to pay for their specialist music lessons. The grant programme is funded from the surplus generated in the previous financial year and amount of funding made available can be adjusted according to the available funds. Grants are awarded for one school year.

### **Going Concern**

For the reasons set out above, GBRT's Trustees are confident that the Trust will continue to be a going concern throughout the 2023/24 financial year.

## **GBRT CHOIRS & ENSEMBLES**

GBRT runs five choirs and ensembles – Adult Vocal Choir and Flute Choir for over-18s, Carnival Drums and Orchestra for all ages, and Youth Vocal Choir for 10-18 year olds.

Each group is self-funding as every member pays an affordable termly subscription fee to cover the costs associated with running the group as detailed below. Surplus funds are used to fund the charity's general running costs and grant programme.

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Subscriptions (Winter 2022, Spring & Summer 2023)		£15,566.00	
Accompanist Fees (Adult and Youth Vocal Choirs)	£854.00		
Music Purchase and Licences (All Ensembles)	£1,733.05		
Musical Director Fees	£7,264.00		
Rehearsal Venue Hire	£2,361.50		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£12,212.55</b>	<b>£15,566.00</b>	<b>£3,353.45</b>

## **GBRT EVENTS AND TRIPS**

### **GBRT Concert Tours**

The GBRT Adult Choir will be travelling to Umbria in Italy for a concert tour in April 2024. Members' payments will be collected during the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years and paid to the tour company in the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years.

We also organised two weekend trips to Cambridge – for GBRT Adult Choir in October 2022 and GBRT Flute Choir in April 2023.

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Italy 2024 Concert Tour Individuals' Deposits		£21,140.48	
Cambridge October 2022 Individuals' Deposits (Adult Choir)		£7,100.30	
Cambridge April 2023 Individuals' Deposits (Flute Choir)		£1,715.00	
Payments to Club Europe Concert Tours	£15,050.00		
Coach hire (Cambridge October 2022)	£1,225.00		
Restaurant meals (Cambridge October 2022 and April 2023)	£1,426.11		
Holiday Inn Express (Cambridge 2022)	£3,570.00		
Workshop Leader and MD (Cambridge 2023)	£319.00		
Gonville and Caius College (room hire) Cambridge 2022	£450.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£22,040.11</b>	<b>£29,955.78</b>	<b>£7,915.67</b>

### Concerts and Gigs

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
GBRT Flute Choir Welland Park June 2022		£30.10	
GBRT Flute Choir Great Bowden Village Fete August 2022		£36.00	
GBRT Adult Choir and Carnival Drums Welland Park September 2022		£32.34	
Community Concert November 2022		£203.58	
GBRT Adult Vocal Choir Bowden Cricket Club December 2022		£43.20	
GBRT Flute Choir/Orchestra February 2023		£151.40	
GBRT Adult Choir with TLC Voices February 2023		£310.22	
GBRT Junior X Factor Finals March 2023		£150.29	
Venue Hire for Concerts	£352.20		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£352.20</b>	<b>£957.13</b>	<b>£604.93</b>

### Other Events

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
<b>June 2022 – trip to see Calendar Girls at The Little Theatre, Leicester (tickets purchased in 2021/22 financial year)</b>		£176.00	<b>£176.00</b>
<b>November 2022 – Community Concert</b>	£1.50		<b>(£1.50)</b>
<b>March 2023 – TH Birthday Celebration</b>	£625.64	£637.50	<b>£11.86</b>
<b>June 2023 – NSPCC Concert</b>	£50.98		<b>(£50.98)</b>
<b>June 2023 – Afternoon Tea Social</b>	£13.98	£314.00	<b>£300.02</b>
<b>October 2023 – UK Choir Festival</b>		£265.00	<b>£265.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£692.10</b>	<b>£1,392.50</b>	<b>£700.40</b>



**GBRT Junior X Factor 2023 Competition**

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Junior X Factor 2023 Sponsorship (Howard Watson Symington Memorial Charity Harborough)		£900.00	
Prizes – Singing and Instrumental Lessons <sup>1</sup> and Music Store Vouchers, Trophies and Medals	£1,157.00		
Certificates, stationery and general expenses	£219.67		
Venue Hire (Heats and Finals)	£412.20		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,788.87</b>	<b>£900.00</b>	<b>(£888.87)</b>

**OTHER INCOME**

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
General donations and collection boxes		£380.36	
Xero Costs Donation L Pentland		£120.00	
Amazon Smile Donations		£39.64	
Gift Aid (backdated to 2018/19)		£4,847.24	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£5,387.24</b>	<b>£5,387.24</b>

<sup>1</sup> Prize winners have up to a year to claim the funding for lessons, which is paid directly to teachers as and when their fees are due. This figure includes lessons awarded to the 2022 prize winners which were claimed during the 2022/23 financial year. Although total shows a deficit, GBRT provides funding for prizes of singing and instrumental lessons as part of its charitable work to support and encourage young singers and instrumentalists.



## **GRANTS TO YOUNG SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS**

GBRT uses surplus funds from membership subscriptions, concert donations and other fundraising to make grants to support young people who need help to afford singing or instrumental lessons.

In the 2022/23 academic year, the Trust awarded grants for 216 lessons worth £4,176. The figure below is the amount of funding actually paid to singing and instrumental teachers during the 2022/23 financial year.

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Grants to Young Musicians	£3,477.85		<b>(£3,477.85)</b>

## **GBRT MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE**

The Trust believes in complete financial transparency so all other expenditure during this financial year is listed below.

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Independent Examiner Fee	£360.00		
Public Liability & Equipment Insurance <sup>2</sup> and PRS	£169.76		
Making Music Membership Fee	£200.00		
Garage rental for GBRT trailers	£1,320.00		
Equipment Purchase and Repair (Storage boxes, folders, trailer lock, DI box, music stands, microphone stands, earplugs, headphones, towbar, Macbook Pro)	£2,969.90		
Xero Subscription (12 months)	£120.00		
Hoodies and t-shirts	£111.75		
Stationery and Postage	£418.77		
Marketing – banners, posters, flyers	£101.21		
DBS checks	£44.40		
Miscellaneous expenses	£257.22		
Post Office Box Rental (12 months)	£300.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6,373.01</b>		<b>(£6,373.01 )</b>

<sup>2</sup> Reduced cost insurance is offered as part of the membership package for Making Music



## **GBRT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES SUMMARY**

### **Monetary Assets**

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> May 2023</b>
Funds in GBRT Bank Accounts	£9,103.68	£16,325.64

### **Creditors**

Invoices due to be paid for this period	£0.00	£0.00
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### **Reserves**

The Trust maintains minimal reserves sufficient to meet its day to day requirements

## **Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

## **GBRT Trustees' Declaration**

The Trustees have thoroughly reviewed and understood all aspects of the accounting information for the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023, have had regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and approve, in full, the figures provided within this Report and the Income and Expenditure Summary.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. Pentland'.

Date: 27/08/2023

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Linda Pentland  
Chair of Trustees

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023**

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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



1 September 2023

Alexander West FCA

**Somerbys Chartered Accountants  
30 Nelson Street  
Leicester  
LE1 7BA**

**GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST**

England & Wales - Charity number 1118140

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# Accounts

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**Great Bowden Recital Trust**

**Financial Report  
2020–2021**

*Music development, appreciation and  
participation for all*



## **ABOUT GBRT**

Great Bowden Recital Trust (GBRT) is a charitable trust, founded in 2004 and registered in 2006, promoting music in Market Harborough and the surrounding area. The Trust's charitable purpose is 'Music development, appreciation and participation for all'.

Music has been proven to have a visible, positive impact on the lives of young and old alike, building confidence, communication and discipline, increasing co-ordination and encouraging social relationships between individuals and groups of all ages. The Trust continually strives to encourage personal development by using music in all its forms, including running a range of community choirs and ensembles, organising concerts and events in the local area and beyond, European concert tours and an annual Junior X Factor talent competition for young musicians and singers. Surplus funds generated by these activities are used to fund a grant programme for young people in financial need to help to pay for singing and instrumental lessons.

## **GBRT's Trustees**

GBRT is managed by volunteer Trustees and Choir/Ensemble Secretaries. New Trustees are recruited by invitation from the Trustee board and are provided with copies of the most recent Accounts. They are also briefed on their legal obligations under charity laws, and on the content of the governing document of the Trust, together with the decision-making processes and recent financial performance.

The trustees during the 2020/21 financial year were:

Andrew Cartwright, Chairman  
Sue Benson, Managing Trustee  
Linda Pentland, Finance Trustee  
Kathryn Cartwright (appointed 01/07/2020)  
John Dilleigh (resigned 14/04/2021)  
Mark Newcombe  
Poppy Shortland (appointed 10/05/2021)  
Debbie Smith  
Lewis Webb



## **GBRT's Areas of Activity**

The Trust's activities divide into three key areas:

### **1. Music Development**

GBRT firmly believes that an individual's financial circumstances should never be a barrier for progressing and developing their skill of singing or playing an instrument. The Trust actively encourages applications for grants towards instrumental or vocal lessons from local young people in financial need in the Market Harborough area.

Since the Trust was established in 2004, it has approved grants of nearly £4,500 for 7 instruments and of nearly £43,750 for 4,579 lessons.

In the 2020/21 academic year, the Trust awarded grants for 159 lessons worth £2,554.50.

### **2. Music Appreciation**

From the outset, GBRT has consistently provided opportunities for audiences to appreciate the very highest quality of musical performance. The Trust organises an annual Community Concert which showcases some of the very best local young singers and instrumentalists, some of whom are performing in public for the first time. The Trust's own choirs and ensembles also perform at a range of local and regional concerts raising money for both GBRT and for other charities and good causes.

### **3. Music Participation**

The Trust positively encourages both young and not so young to become involved in music regardless of age, experience and background. Five GBRT choirs and ensembles have over 150 members who bring their enthusiasm and willingness to work as part of a team to every rehearsal.

The annual GBRT Junior X Factor competition is the largest and most established talent competition in the area. The heats and finals provide the opportunity for positive feedback from professional musicians and for the finalists to perform on stage to packed audiences. This fast-growing competition regularly receives amazing feedback from participants and audience alike.



## **EVENTS 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2020 - 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2021**

On 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 GBRT's trustees suspended all rehearsals and events until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the exception of the Youth Choir Juniors who were too young to participate in online rehearsals, all choirs and ensembles continued meeting via video conferencing. This has been an important way for members to be able to keep in touch and support each other during the lock down periods.

### **Choir & Ensemble Rehearsals**

Adult Vocal Choir	26 virtual rehearsals
Carnival Drums	2 face-to-face rehearsals and 26 virtual rehearsals
Flute Choir	23 virtual rehearsals
Orchestra	1 face-to-face rehearsal and 21 virtual rehearsals
Youth Choir Juniors	9 pre-recorded videos
Youth Vocal Choir	3 face-to-face rehearsals and 17 virtual rehearsals

### **Concerts and Gigs**

Concerts organised by GBRT:

- Virtual Concert, November 2020 (GBRT Adult Vocal Choir, Carnival Drums, Flute Choir, Orchestra and Youth Vocal Choir plus Junior X Factor 2020 Finalists)

Other Concerts and Performances:

- Harborough Virtual Carnival (GBRT Junior X Factor 2020 Finalists and a virtual Youth Choir Juniors session led by Graham Vick)
- Leics Sing Together virtual concert (GBRT Adult Vocal Choir and Youth Vocal Choir)
- Good Morning Britain news item on choirs (GBRT Adult Vocal Choir)

### **Competitions**

Virtual Junior X Factor 2021 Competition comprising video entries and a virtual Finals Concert on YouTube.

**SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2020 - 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2021**

<b>Area of Activity</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Choirs and Ensembles	£7,459.26	£14,108.00	£6,648.74
Concert Tour		£9,465.30	£9,465.30
Other Events and Trips		(£84.00)	(£84.00)
GBRT Junior X Factor Competition	£847.76	£798.50	(£49.26)
Concerts and Gigs		£165.42	£ 165.42
Other Income		£576.91	£576.91
Donations to Other Charities			
Grants to Young Singers and Instrumentalists	£2,282.20		(£2,282.20)
Miscellaneous Expenditure	£2,391.77		(£2,391.77)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£12,980.99</b>	<b>£25,030.13</b>	<b>£12,049.14</b>
<b>BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 2019/20</b>		£27,811.45	£27,811.45
<b>TOTALS FOR 2020/21</b>	<b>£12,980.99</b>	<b>£52,841.58</b>	<b>£39,860.59<sup>1</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes £27,729.47 deposits for concert tour to Italy due to take place in 2022



## **IMPACT OF COVID-19**

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the way in which the Trust can deliver its objectives. The majority of the Trust's work is normally delivered through face-to-face rehearsals, concerts and events, which were virtually all cancelled during 2020/21. However, the impact on the Trust's financial viability has been less severe thanks to its funding model and relatively low level of fixed overheads.

### **Subscriptions**

GBRT's main source of income is subscriptions paid by members of its choirs and ensembles. These are paid in advance before the start of each term. Most choirs and ensembles have been able to continue rehearsing online which means that members are still able to receive benefit from the subs that they pay. MDs are engaged to run these rehearsals on a freelance basis, which allows flexibility, and there have been cost savings on accompanist and venue fees. Trustees regularly review the subs income received for each choir and ensemble to ensure that the costs of rehearsals can be met, and are able to adjust the number and/or length of rehearsals offered if necessary. There is currently sufficient surplus generated from subs to fund GBRT's essential running costs and grant programme.

### **Concerts and Events**

The Trust would normally generate additional income from donations made by audience members at concerts and performances. However, there has also been a reduction in expenditure on concert venues, MD and accompanist fees and promotion and the net loss of income is sustainable.

### **Essential Running Costs**

As the Trust does not own or rent any offices or employ any staff, essential running costs (e.g. insurance and independent examiner fees) are relatively modest. The Trust is carrying forward sufficient surplus funds from the 2020/21 financial year to cover all essential costs for 2021/22.

### **Grant Programme**

The Trust uses any surplus generated from its other activities to fund a grant programme for young singers and instrumentalists who need help to pay for their specialist music lessons. The grant programme is funded from the surplus generated in the previous financial year and amount of funding made available can be adjusted according to the available funds. Grants are awarded for one school year.

### **Going Concern**

For the reasons set out above, GBRT's Trustees are confident that the Trust will continue to be a going concern throughout the 2021/22 financial year.

## GBRT CHOIRS & ENSEMBLES

GBRT began the year with six choirs and ensembles – Adult Vocal Choir and Flute Choir for over-18s, Carnival Drums and Orchestra for all ages, Youth Vocal Choir for 10-18 year olds and Youth Choir Juniors for ages 5-9. Youth Choir Juniors ceased to operate in March 2021 due to declining numbers and the impact of the pandemic on children’s activities.

Each group is self-funding as every member pays an affordable termly subscription fee to cover the costs associated with running the group as detailed below. Surplus funds are used to fund the charity’s general running costs and grant programme.

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Balance brought forward from Ensemble Accounts 2020/21		£9,547.90	
Subscriptions (Winter 2020, Spring & Summer 2021)		£13,445.00	
Singers Face Covering Purchase	£700.76	£663.00	
Accompanist Fees (Adult and Youth Vocal Choirs)			
Music Purchase and Licences (All Ensembles)	£536.53		
Musical Director Fees	£4,983.97		
Garage Hire for Equipment Trailers x 2	£1,320.00		
Rehearsal Venue Hire *	(£82.00) <sup>2</sup>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£7,459.26</b>	<b>£23,655.90</b>	<b>£16,196.64</b>

## GBRT EVENTS AND TRIPS

### GBRT Concert Tour 2022

The GBRT Adult Choir is due to travel to Northern Italy for a concert tour in April 2022 (postponed from April 2021 due to COVID-19).

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Balance brought forward from Tour Account 2020/21		£18,264.17	
Italy 2022 Concert Tour Individuals’ Deposits		£9,465.30	
Payments to Club Europe Concert Tours			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£27,729.47</b>	<b>£27,729.47</b>

<sup>2</sup> Refund of overpayment from previous financial year

## Other Events

	Expenditure	Income	Surplus/ (Deficit)
<b>Cambridge Concert, May 2020 – Adult Vocal Choir and Orchestra</b>			
Coach Tickets – lapsed cheques		(£24.00)	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>(£24.00)</b>	<b>(£24.00)</b>
<b>Curve Theatre Trip, July 2020 – Youth Vocal Choir</b>			
Ticket Sales – refund of deposits paid		(£60.00)	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>(£60.00)</b>	<b>(£60.00)</b>
<b>TOTAL EVENTS AND TRIPS</b>		<b>(£84.00)</b>	<b>(£84.00)</b>

## GBRT Junior X Factor Competition

	Expenditure	Income	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Junior X Factor 2021 Sponsorship (Market Harborough and The Bowdens Charity)		£750.00	
Prizes – Singing and Instrumental Lessons <sup>3</sup>	£332.00		
Prizes – Music Store Vouchers	£350.00		
Trophies and Medals	£55.50		
Certificates	£23.76		
Venue Hire (Heats)	£0		
Marketing and Postage	£86.50		
Donations from Finals Concert		£48.50	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£847.76</b>	<b>£798.50</b>	<b>(£49.26)</b>

<sup>3</sup> Prize winners have up to a year to claim the funding for lessons, which is paid directly to teachers as and when their fees are due. This figure includes lessons awarded to the 2020 prize winners which were claimed during the 2020/21 financial year. Although total shows a deficit, GBRT provides funding for prizes of singing and instrumental lessons as part of its charitable work to support and encourage young singers and instrumentalists.

## GBRT FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS

### Concerts and Gigs

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Virtual Concert November 2020		£165.42	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£165.42</b>	<b>£165.42</b>

### Other Income

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Donations Towards GBRT's Admin Costs		£285.00	
Xero Costs Donation L Pentland		£120.00	
Amazon Smile Donation		£28.87	
GBRT Collection Box Donations		£23.04	
Germany Tour DVDs		£120.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£576.91</b>	<b>£576.91</b>

## Grants to Young Singers and Instrumentalists

GBRT uses surplus funds from membership subscriptions, concert donations and other fundraising to make grants to support young people who need help to afford singing or instrumental lessons.

In June 2020, GBRT's Trustees decided to reduce the amount of funding allocated to the grant programme in 2020/21 due to uncertainty about the impact that COVID-19 restrictions might have on the Trust's income. The pandemic also made it more difficult to reach potential new applicants, as information would normally be shared through schools and music teachers during the Summer term - schools were closed to most pupils and music lessons were also impacted by the pandemic. The Trustees therefore decided to continue to fund all existing grant recipients but not accept any new applications for the 2020/21 school year.

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Grants to Young Musicians <sup>4</sup>	£2,282.20		<b>(£2.282.20)</b>

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<sup>4</sup> This is the amount of funding actually paid to singing and instrumental teachers during the 2020/21 financial year, rather than the amount of funding approved by Trustees

## **GBRT MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE**

The Trust believes in complete financial transparency so all other expenditure during this financial year is listed below.

	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>
Independent Examiner Fee	£336.00		
Equipment Purchase and Repair (Microphone for broadcasting rehearsals, clear roller banners x 4, mp3 player to loan to ensemble members for virtual recordings)	£470.25		
Public Liability & Equipment Insurance <sup>5</sup>	£132.00		
Making Music Membership Fee	£365.00		
DBS Checks	£6.00		
Xero Subscription (12 months)	£120.00		
Germany Tour DVDs	£143.13		
Website, Domain Name Renewal, SEO	£244.64		
Facebook advertising	£47.45		
Stationery and Postage	£17.39		
Zoom subscription fees for virtual rehearsals	£113.25		
COVID-19 expenses – face shields, wipes, gloves	£77.76		
Dropbox for virtual recordings	£9.99		
Gifts	£31.41		
Post Office Box Rental (12 months)	£277.50		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,391.77</b>		<b>(£2,391.77)</b>

<sup>5</sup> Reduced cost insurance is offered as part of the membership package for Making Music



## **GBRT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES SUMMARY**

### **Monetary Assets**

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2020</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> May 2021</b>
Funds in GBRT Bank Accounts	£27,811.45	£39,860.59

### **Creditors**

Invoices due to be paid for this period	£0.00	£0.00
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### **Reserves**

The Trust maintains minimal reserves sufficient to meet its day to day requirements

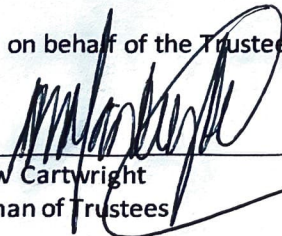
### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

### **GBRT Trustees' Declaration**

The Trustees have thoroughly reviewed and understood all aspects of the accounting information for the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, have had regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and approve, in full, the figures provided within this Report and the Income and Expenditure Summary.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Cartwright  
Chairman of Trustees

Date:

14 June 2021

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>1st June 2018 - 31st May 2019</b>	<b>1st June 2019 - 31st May 2020</b>	<b>1st June 2020 - 31st May 2021</b>
CD/DVD Sales	£210.00	£0.00	£120.00
Clothing - Hoodies & T shirts, Face Coverings	£32.25	£171.25	£663.00
Donations - General (including staff/admin donations and collection tins)	£1,586.39	£597.96	£308.04
Donations - Performance	£3,179.37	£1,130.59	£213.92
Event Income (workshops, trips etc)	£3,368.50	£3,872.12	-£84.00
Other Revenue	£157.13	£264.00	£148.87
Sponsorship	£550.00	£1,150.00	£750.00
Subscriptions In	£17,815.00	£17,050.50	£13,445.00
Tour Income	£20,917.50	£28,407.50	£9,465.30
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£47,816.14</b>	<b>£52,643.92</b>	<b>£25,030.13</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1st June 2018 - 31st May 2019</b>	<b>1st June 2019 - 31st May 2020</b>	<b>1st June 2020 - 31st May 2021</b>
Accompanist Fees	£1,150.00	£850.00	£0.00
Accounts and Audit	£394.00	£450.00	£456.00
CD/DVD costs			£143.13
Donations Given to Others	£862.60	£1,500.00	£0.00
Equipment Purchased and Repaired	£1,645.15	£983.16	£470.25
Event Costs (workshops, trips etc)	£5,295.81	£2,201.27	£0.00
Garage Hire	£1,315.00	£1,335.00	£1,320.00
General Expenses	£177.53	£29.75	£207.00
Grants Given	£3,274.50	£3,138.20	£2,282.20
Hoodies and Tshirts, Face Coverings	£140.65	£536.52	£700.76
Insurances and PRS fees	£609.91	£707.85	£497.00
Junior X Factor Trophies, Vouchers etc	£480.30	£1,072.67	£847.76
Marketing (website, posters, flyers)	£475.70	£444.75	£292.09
Music Purchase	£1,528.39	£511.37	£536.53
Musical Director Costs (including CPD and DBS)	£12,333.03	£8,746.40	£4,983.97
Printing, Post and Stationery	£726.48	£556.86	£294.89
Staff Costs	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Tours	£27,980.90	£10,560.00	£0.00
Venue Hire - Concerts	£453.98	£541.35	£0.00
Venues - Rehearsal	£2,763.50	£2,714.06	-£82.00
Volunteer and Trustee Costs (meeting room hire, training, gifts)	£117.00	£117.10	£31.41
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£61,724.43</b>	<b>£36,996.31</b>	<b>£12,980.99</b>
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS</b>	<b>-£13,908.29</b>	<b>£15,647.61</b>	<b>£12,049.14</b>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF GREAT BOWDEN RECITAL TRUST  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2021.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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



Alexander West FCA

26<sup>th</sup> August 2021

**Somerbys Chartered Accountants  
30 Nelson Street  
Leicester  
LE1 7BA**