

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Reference and administrative details

Charity Name: Friends of St Edmundsbury Cathedral Choirs (FOCC)

Registered Charity Number: 1146575

Charity's Principal Address: 8 College Lane

Bury St Edmunds

Suffolk

IP33 1NN

Names of Trustees:

Name	Office
Tamora Alexander	Chairperson
Josephine Waters	Secretary from 23.11.23
Stephen Dart	Treasurer
Judith Broadway	Membership Secretary
Fiona Knapp	
Philippa Weyers	
Alesia Miller	
Lucy Millard	
Nicola Powles-Glover	
Cristina Budden	
Rebekah Ellis	
Aruna Stannard	
Geoffrey House	
Stewart Alderman	Consultant Trustee
Valerie Moore	Consultant Trustee
Teresa Stark	Consultant Trustee
Katie Game	Secretary and Trustee to 23.11.23

Structure, governance and management

Constitution adopted 09.11.2002, amended 11.03.2012 and 03.02.2021

Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting

The charity has adopted the Cathedral's policies for Safeguarding and Health and Safety and has issued a GDPR statement to members. The charity follows the Cathedral's procedures for Risk Management.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are:

- a) The advancement of the Christian religion by providing support and grants to St Edmundsbury Cathedral Choirs.

- b) To promote education and training in choral singing for members of the St Edmundsbury Cathedral Choirs by providing support and grants to the choirs.
- c) To promote the art of choral music for the public benefit.

The trustees confirm that they have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Grant making

The charity makes grants to St Edmundsbury Cathedral Choirs in order to promote the education and training of choir members and to enhance the choirs' role as a major component in the worship and life of the cathedral and diocese. The grants include funds for the provision of robes, sheet music and the defraying of expenses incurred on visits or tours by the choirs to any part of the world.

In the year 2023 to 2024 the main grants were for the choir tour to Normandy (£25,800) and a CD recording (£5,032) details are shown in the accounts.

Fundraising

The charity raises funds through subscriptions, a 500 Club, running social events, such as a Quiz and Ceilidh, and providing concert services for musical events held in the Cathedral.

Accounts and Independent examiner's statement

These are attached.

Independent Examiner: Stephen Cook,
42 Abbots Gate,
Bury St Edmunds

The trustees thank:

Timothy Parsons for his time as Director of Music and wish him well as he moves to Wells Cathedral.

Tamora Alexander who is stepping down as Chairperson and whose leadership has greatly enhanced our fundraising.

Katie Game for her support as a trustee and as Secretary.

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature: 

Name: Stephen Dart

Position: Treasurer

Date: 27.06.2025

Friends of St Edmundsbury Cathedral Choirs

Balance sheet as at 31 August

	2023	2024
Bank balance	56,024.18	56,226.79
Petty cash	<u>325.00</u>	<u>320.00</u>
Total	<u>56,349.18</u>	<u>56,546.79</u>
Accumulated fund bfwd	42,366.16	56,349.18
Surplus/deficit	<u>13,983.02</u>	<u>197.61</u>
Accumulated fund cfwd	<u>56,349.18</u>	<u>56,546.79</u>

Income and expenditure for the year ending 31 August

Income

	2023	2024
Subscriptions	1,436.00	1,366.00
Bank Interest	177.63	699.85
Donations	719.50	842.00
Gift Aid	423.25	384.25
500 Club	3,500.00	3,400.00
Cake Stall	229.56	52.53
Concert Services	18,389.06	36,946.23
Beetle Drive: Quiz	487.18	1,485.18
Ceilidh	2,242.55	2,357.64
BBQ: Farewell Event	<u>1,337.56</u>	<u>452.67</u>
Total Income	<u>28,942.29</u>	<u>47,986.35</u>

Expenditure

CD		5,032.00
Robes & Jumpers	427.50	131.70
Receptions	161.64	233.01
Chorister Events & Meals	315.00	1,405.65
Psalters	527.33	
Tours	5,500.00	25,800.00
FCOCA	20.00	20.00
Concert Services	5,926.78	13,185.31
Beetle Drive: Quiz	124.33	311.45
Ceilidh	851.60	878.27
BBQ: Farewell Event	652.98	186.07
Insurance	312.51	312.50
Postage & Printing	16.30	17.60
Lottery Registration	20.00	20.00
Sundries	<u>103.30</u>	<u>255.18</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>14,959.27</u>	<u>47,788.74</u>

Surplus/Deficit	13,983.02	197.61
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FRIENDS OF ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL CHOIR
Registered Charity No 1146575

Report to the Trustees on the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the income and expenditure account and balance sheet.

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 Trust'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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Stephen Cook

Stephen Cook MA

42 Abbots Gate
Bury St Edmunds

10th June 2025