

**Report of the Trustees
and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
RAINBOW CHORUS
REGISTERED CHARITY 1161330**

RAINBOW CHORUS
REGISTERED CHARITY 1161330

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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RAINBOW CHORUS
REGISTERED CHARITY 1161330

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The financial statements have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis.

Trustees

The trustees shown below have held office during the whole of the period covered by this report.

Ms Finola Brophy
Mr David Cooper
Ms Beverley Morgan
Ms Carolyn Ansell

The Trustee shown below resigned on 30 August 2024

Mr Edwin Borgars

The Trustee shown below was appointed on 30 August 2024

Mr Anthony Bates

The principal office of the RAINBOW CHORUS is:

St George's Church
St George's Rd, Kemptown
Brighton
England
BN2 1ED

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods	For governance purposes and to ensure efficient oversight and communication, at least one committee member must be appointed as a trustee. The committee may appoint up to a maximum of 5 trustees from within their number. Further external trustees (external to committee, so may or may not be RC members) up to a maximum number permitted by the constitution may be appointed. These external appointments require a majority vote of both the existing trustees and the committee members.

Additional governance issues

All Trustees are and will be provided with the latest 'The Essential Trustee' publication on appointment, together with copies of our Constitution and policies, our latest Annual Report and accounts information.

To ensure effective governance, the Chair of the Trustees is not on the operating Committee and the constitution states the Chair of the Committee may not be the same as the Chair of the Trustees.

Working together with other organisations has been and will continue to be an important part of how Rainbow Chorus operates. Our activities included our usual programme of performances, concerts and gigs, to mark some important dates in the LGBTQ+ calendar including working with Brighton Gay Mens Chorus, Actually Gay Mens Chorus and Marco Nardi our sign language interpreter to produce our joint concert for World Aids Day to raise awareness of issues around HIV and Aids. Working together makes us all stronger and sends clear messages of support and solidarity.

The Rainbow Chorus is part of Proud Voices, the UK and Eire choral network and Legato, the European Association of LGBTQ+ choirs. We also belong to Community Works, a local networking and support organisation.

Membership of all the above organisations helps our reputation and enables us to exchange good practice. It further promotes our activities and allows us to access advice and training which helps us to run the charity and meet our objectives.

Risks

Financially the risks for Rainbow Chorus are:

1. That we may not receive future funding for projects that are grant funded e.g. RC+ and our outreach to the Deaf & sign language user community;
2. That a concert may have to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances;
3. That a concert might make a loss;
4. That our membership numbers fall;
5. That the Trustees take decisions they believe to be in the best interests of the chorus, which are challenged, resulting in a loss to the chorus finances.

We therefore have some reserves in case these risks materialise - see reserves policy. Other risks for loss/damage/injury are covered by an insurance policy that includes public liability and cover for our members and volunteers.

There were no risks arising in the current year.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are:

1. To advance public education in, and appreciation of, the art of choral singing, its study, practice and performance, and to contribute to the quality and range of community events and to assist other charitable causes.
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit of people who are socially excluded on the grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity. This will be achieved by relieving the isolation and needs of those people.
3. To promote equality and diversity for the public benefit by the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, in particular but not exclusively by raising public awareness of discrimination towards and issues affecting the LGBTQ+ community (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer and other associated identities), and in such other ways as are exclusively charitable as the Trustees may from time to time determine.

The trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 and 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

As the largest LGBTQ+ community choir in the South East outside London we actively reach out to the whole community and we welcome Trans members and supporters. Supporting Trans Pride and Trans Day of Remembrance, having a dedicated Trans rep, promoting RC+ (our outreach project) and ensuring that our social media is explicitly inclusive sends a positive message to the Trans community.

We continue to raise awareness of deaf issues and to develop our work with the Deaf and sign language user community. Marco Nardi and colleagues continue to support us using British Sign Language to interpret our main performances. A Rainbow Chorus member, also a BSL interpreter supports the choir in providing BSL training videos for signing in our performances.

In an uncertain world, we continue to hear of discrimination experienced by LGBTQ+ people in our communities and around the world. Rainbow Chorus raises awareness of LGBTQ+ issues through our activities and performances and ensures that we promote and support equality and diversity.

RC+: Thanks to the players of the Postcode Lottery and a grant from Postcode Society Trust, we have continued with RC+, our monthly choir, giving all members of the LGBTQ+ community the opportunity to sing for fun. It is a safe space particularly for less confident or isolated members of the LGBTQ+ community (some living outside Brighton & Hove). It is also a safe space for members of the Trans community who may wish to explore their vocal ability and changing voice. Many members of the weekly Rainbow Chorus choir also enjoy attending RC+.

We also signpost members to other LGBTQ+ services particularly those needing support with their mental health.

We were proud to be part of the Hand-in-Hand choral festival in Bristol in August 2024, attended by over 1400 other LGBTQ_ choir members from 45 choirs across UK & Ireland. Preparations are currently underway to attend the Various Voices choral festival in Brussels in June 2026 where we will be one of 120 LGBTQ+ choirs from 18 countries coming together to sing.

We retain our policy of ensuring no-one is excluded from any of our activities on the grounds of cost and this starts with subscriptions. Some members therefore pay reduced, minimal or no payment. This all helps us to meet our objective of promoting social inclusion. In addition to ensuring none of our members are excluded, we offer a concert ticket concession price at approximately two thirds of our full price tickets. This hopefully helps those members of the public on reduced or lower incomes to be able to attend our concerts. We also provide some free access to service users of a local HIV/AIDS charity to further ensure our performances are as inclusive as possible.

We perform at some community events without charge or with a reduced fee, to further raise our profile and ensure that those in the wider community are aware of discrimination towards and issues affecting the LGBTQ+ community. This year we supported these events with live performances :

- IDAHOBIT (international day against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia).
- Brighton Bear Weekend
- Trans Pride
- Zero HIV Stigma Rally
- The Coast is Queer
- Trans Day of Remembrance
- World Aids Day
- St George's Church Bicentennial concert

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Additional details of objectives and activities

The John Kernaghan Bursary Fund invites applications from any member who would otherwise be unable to take part in our activities, particularly tours away. There is a policy covering application and how decisions are made, with guidelines for applicants and the Trustees, including evidence needed. Applications are anonymised, so that decisions are made on the basis of evidence without favour. We currently have a healthy balance in this fund and are not actively fundraising for it.

Our volunteers are known as our **5th section**: We could not manage to run our concerts and other activities without our 5th section of volunteers, co-ordinated this year by Georgina Moonesinghe and Carolyn Ansell. The 5th section is made up of partners, allies, friends and family of RC members and members of RC+ who carry out a whole range of tasks from planning and preparation, serving food, running bars and stewarding to filming, driving and joining sub groups to work on our fundraising and other activities.

Our Committee members are all volunteers and run Rainbow Chorus with great enthusiasm for both our core activities and extra projects that add value for the wider community. There are also many members who give their own time to help with any number of projects or ongoing work to run the Chorus.

Our MD, accompanist and treasurer invoice us for their time but also contribute a number of hours pro bono. We are extremely grateful to our volunteers, music team, members, the LGBTQ+ and wider community and allies. Their support is always a source of inspiration and encouragement.

Achievements and performance

The following is a timeline of Rainbow Chorus activities and events in which we have taken part during the year to 31st March 2025. In some way each of the activities and events has helped us to further or achieve the aims laid out in the Objectives of our constitution.

May

17. Co-hosted IDAHOBIT in Jubilee Square, Brighton: RC/RC+ is always proud to support this event alongside other LGBTQ+ choirs in Brighton and Hove, to show our solidarity and support for LGBTQ+ people and communities everywhere who continue to experience discrimination, hatred and violence.

June

29. "Pergolesi & Pimms" annual summer concert of The Rainbow Chorus, featuring RC+

July

13. RC performed at Brighton Bear Weekend an LGBTQ+ fundraiser for local community projects.

20. Trans Pride Brighton. This year we were proud to perform at the outdoor event in New Steine Gardens, supporting and celebrating our TNBI family.

21. Zero HIV Stigma Rally, Jubilee Square, Brighton. RC are keen to have this in our annual calendar, in order to support this global initiative organised locally by Lunch Positive. The event raises awareness of those living with or affected by HIV and seeks to support the elimination of HIV stigma.

August

3. Rainbow Chorus takes part in the Brighton Pride parade with our float, celebrating with half a million visitors to the city.

16. Rainbow Chorus enjoyed a 3 day choir festival of LGBTQ+ choirs from across UK and Ireland as they came together to sing at indoor and outdoor venues across Bristol.

October

13. Rainbow chorus was invited to perform at The Coast is Queer, an annual LGBTQ+ literary festival in Brighton.

November

17. Trans Day of Remembrance vigil at Fabrica, Brighton, with a performance by Rainbow Chorus.

December

1. World Aids Day with the joint choirs' concert, co-arranged by Rainbow Chorus, with c. £4000 raised for Lunch Positive. In addition, RC members and trustees took part in the Reading of the Names vigil ahead of the performance, alongside members of the Brighton community.

14. "The Big Festive Rainbow Belter" annual winter concert of the Rainbow Chorus, featuring RC+.

In December 2024, we said farewell to Olly Parr, our Musical Accompanist (MA). Between Olly's departure and the recruitment and arrival of their permanent replacement later in 2025, we were ably supported by Anya Kolesnik as our temporary MA.

January

25. St George's Church, our main rehearsal and performance venue, held a celebratory Bicentennial concert, at which Rainbow Chorus was proud to perform.

In addition to the above we ran 12 RC+ Choir sessions throughout the year.

Financial review

**Brief statement of the
charity's policy on reserves**

Reserves policy

During the year our expenditure varies each month, partly due to some annual membership/website payments. We also purchase our music scores in advance and these costs are necessarily incurred in advance of terms rather than equally spread out over the year. This is the same for voice part file purchases online or their creation if completed by our music team. Our policy of ring fencing funds for specific projects and areas of expenditure ensures we are always aware of the true level of free reserves available for any unforeseen eventuality. However the fluctuating level of monthly expenditure can mean monthly income may not cover that month's expenditure. For these reasons, we need to hold a certain amount of reserves. We also consider it prudent to hold some level of reserves to cover a few months running expenses particularly as grants are often paid following payment of expenditure on receipt of a claim from us.

When adjusted to include credits received (£979) and payments made just after our year end (£2494), the year end reserve balance was £26,449.

Further financial review details

The charity's income is sourced from 5 main areas: Membership subscriptions, grants, fundraising, donations and income from concerts and performances. We continue to be mindful of those members who are on a fixed or suddenly reduced income, or who have had little or no salary increases for a number of years and treat each case individually. This helps us create a balance between maintaining our income level and ensuring anyone can be a member of the chorus irrespective of income.

**Details of any funds materially
in deficit**

None.

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**Details of any debt owed by
the CIO**

None.

**Details of any guarantees
given by the CIO**

None.

Rainbow Chorus
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Receipts and Payments
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Membership Subscriptions	23948	-	23948	23899
Gift Aid	5643	381	6024	4972
Grant Income	-	10304	10304	4809
Concert Income	12868	-	12868	15383
Bursary, Donations to Chorus & Sponsorship	1931	1525	3456	2389
Sundry income & refunds	588	-	588	360
Uniforms & Merchandise	22	499	521	565
Bucket Collections, Grand Draw & Raffles	2404	-	2404	2140
Special Projects (Tours)	-	1335	1335	4273
Bank Interest	237	109	346	284
Previous year reclassification of income	-	-	-	-
<i>Sub total</i>	47641	14153	61794	59074
Asset and investment sales etc	-	-	-	-
<i>Total receipts</i>	47641	14153	61794	59074
Payments				
Music Director & Accompanist's fees	18851	4720	23571	23648
Other musician & professional fees	8570	-	8570	9135
Regular rehearsal costs	2695	678	3373	2445
Performance costs	2947	-	2947	2558
Marketing & publicity	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions & website fees	1052	257	1309	1759
Postage & stationery	399	-	399	1079
Travel	260	4	264	193
Music purchases	4266	699	4965	4081
Insurance	116	39	155	151
Storage	3737	-	3737	3225
Uniforms & Merchandise	-	595	595	-
Special projects	65	3252	3317	12094
Community events	1306	-	1306	1559
Props, equipment & costumes	465	-	465	757
Accountancy	1200	-	1200	990
Donations	-	-	-	-
Sundries	806	-	806	1447
Bank charges	199	-	199	251
<i>Sub total</i>	46934	10244	57178	65372
Asset and investment purchases	-	-	-	-
<i>Total payments</i>	46934	10244	57178	65372
Net of receipts/ (payments)	707	3909	4616	(6298)

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Receipts and Payments
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Last year £
Transfers between funds	-	-		
Cash funds last year end	20,571	2,777	23,348	29,646
Cash funds this year end	21,278	6,686	27,964	23,348

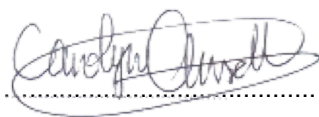
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**Statement of Assets and
Liabilities For the Year Ended 31
March 2025**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Cash funds			
Bank balances	21,278	6,686	27,964
	21,278	6,686	27,964
Other Monetary Assets			
Prepayment	-	110	110
Debtors	125	854	979
	125	964	1089
Liabilities			
Creditors	2174	320	2494
	2174	320	2494

Name of Trustee: ...Carolyn Ansell.....

Signature:



Date of approval: 27-Jan-2026.....

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis.

Incoming resources

Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds represent membership subscriptions (including RC+), gift aid, fundraising unless targeted for a specific purpose, merchandise, website donations and concert income.

Restricted funds

The restricted funds represent grant funding (including RC+), Bursary fund, fundraising targeted for a specific purpose, gift aid, uniforms and monies received for special projects.

Other incoming resources

There are no restrictions on the use of other incoming resources towards achieving the organisations charitable objectives.

Resources expended

Resources expended are accounted for by way of nature and on a receipts and payments basis.

2. PAYMENTS MADE FOLLOWING THE FINANCIAL YEAR END:

Payments were made shortly after the financial year end amounting to £2494 which related to expenses that were incurred in the financial year to 31 March 2025. Amounts owing to Rainbow Chorus at the year end totalled £979; of these £125 was paid just after the year end, with £97 cleared by funds received later in the following year. The remaining £757 relates to amounts due from members to cover expenses already incurred for Various Voices 2026 (Tours). If these credits had been received and the expenses had been paid prior to 31 March 2025, these would have been included in the receipts and payments in this year's financial statements, resulting in a decrease in the net profit and a decrease in cash funds held. The amounts owing to Rainbow Chorus at the year end all relate to funds which are recorded as restricted in our accounts, except for £125. Last year's report advised of expenses to be paid by RC of £1986 and credits owing of £2050, relating to the financial year to 31 March 2024. These amounts are included in this year's figures as it had not been possible to process these before 31st March 2024.

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Report of the Accountants to the Trustees of
Rainbow Chorus

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements of Rainbow Chorus for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 14.

Respective responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I confirm no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records. 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 by the Independent Examiner



Lauren Newman MAAT
Thomas Christopher & Co
7A Church Street
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 1US

Date.....27-Jan-2026