

CHESTER BACH SINGERS

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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CHESTER BACH SINGERS

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

1168644

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

8 Bryn Aur
Gorsedd
Holywell
Flintshire
CH8 8RA

TRUSTEES

Helen Crich
Anna Saunders
Nicola Brooks
Linda Curran
Andy Parsley
Cath Glazzard
Penny Lynch
Alison Soper

Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

**MUSICAL DIRECTOR
REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST**

from April 2025

Emma Baker
Catherine Barnett

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Ian Candlin
6 Fox Lane
Waverton
Chester
CH3 7PQ

BANKERS

HSBC Bank plc
22 High Street
Mold
CH7 1AR

CHESTER BACH SINGERS
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Chester Bach Singers is registered with the Charity Commissioners (No. 1168644)

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Society are to provide, maintain and advance musical education by means of public performance.

ORGANISATION

The Charity is administered by the Trustees who hold regular meetings through the year.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees are elected at the AGM for a three year term and may serve for up to three consecutive terms.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND FINANCIAL RESULTS

This season's concert programme delivered our customary wide range of musical styles and periods, culminating in a performance of J.S. Bach's Mass in B minor, which marked the final concert with our longstanding Musical Director, Martin Bussey.

October 2024

Our October concert was 'Journeying on Together', presenting music of travel and pilgrimage and spanning music from over 900 years. The music of female composers has become an established part of Chester Bach Singers' mixed concerts and here included Hildegard of Bingen (12th century) and the contemporary composer Eleanor Daley.

December 2024

We again presented one carol concert with our traditional blend of familiar and less well known carols. While our repertoire is normally proposed by our Musical Director, this time it was important that Martin Bussey should feel able to select some of his personal favourites, and everyone enjoyed one of his Christmas Medleys with his arrangements of popular Christmas music. Festive refreshments following the concert enabled choir and audience to enjoy each other's company.

January 2025

Our January workshop is a well-established annual event and the work this year was Rossini's Petite Messe Solonelle. Our workshops enable other singers to experience a major work from the choral repertoire while raising funds to support our wider programme of concerts. As usual the workshop was well attended and concluded with an informal performance of the work, attended by a small audience.

March 2025

While an orchestral concert is a regular feature of our annual programmes, this year the Trustees wanted to enable Martin Bussey to finish his tenure as Musical Director with a work and musicians of his choice. We performed Bach's Mass in B minor with our regular partners the 18th Century Sinfonia and six excellent soloists. St. Johns Church was sold out, with some audience members travelling considerable distances to hear Martin's final concert with CBS. Chair of Trustees Helen Crich thanked him for 38 years of service with CBS.

June 2025

In June, we presented our first concert under the baton of our new Musical Director, Emma Baker. 'Taking Flight' included music featuring birds, stars, heaven and introduced us to some less familiar American composers alongside established names such as Howells and Parry.

Financial results

The Trustees are pleased to report that audience numbers have been at least at the levels we anticipated, with ticket sales for the March concert exceeding our estimates by a considerable margin. We undertook some paid carol singing which, together with ticket sales and other income have combined to leave us with reserves £331 higher than last year (this figure excludes the Restricted Fund referred to below).

Members of the choir and other supporters were invited to contribute towards a leaving gift to mark Martin Bussey's retirement after 38 with CBS. This fund will be used to support a concert of Martin's music at a later date. The total raised was £1718.27 and is held within the 'special events' deposit account as a Restricted Fund.

The Trustees set out to recruit a new Musical Director with an open advert which attracted a number of enquiries and applicants. Two were shortlisted and invited to take a short rehearsal with the choir, following which Emma Baker was appointed to take up the role from April 2025.

Members' subscriptions were maintained at £175 per annum by resolution of the members at the AGM.

Over the year the choir achieved a net surplus of £2049 (including the Restricted Fund). We therefore enter the new season with reserves well above our preferred minimum. This allows the Trustees to plan and deliver the annual workshop under the leadership of well known composer Will Todd.

RESERVES

The cash reserves amount to £19546 (including the Restricted Fund to be used for Martin Bussey's 'retirement concert' in 2025/2026). The reserves at 31 August 2024 were £17497. Surplus Funds are invested in two interest bearing accounts. The Trustees consider these reserves are necessary to fund the charity's activities in the forthcoming years.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHESTER BACH SINGERS

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 4 - 6

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND THE EXAMINER

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity considers that an audit is not required for this period (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts (under section 43(3) of the 1993 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7) of the 1993 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 Charities Commissioners. This 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements :
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have not been met.

- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name : I.F.Candlin
6 Fox Lane
Waverton
Chester
CH3 7PQ



14 November 2025.

Chester Bach Society**Receipts & Payments Account for the
Year ended 31 August 2025**

		<u>Year ended 31 August 2025</u>	<u>Year ended 31 August 2024</u>
RECEIPTS			
Donations & Legacies			
Members Subscriptions	7924		7129
Donations	1183		2027
Donations - Martin Bussey retirement	1718		0
Gift Aid , Tax repayment	<u>1326</u>		<u>1166</u>
		12151	10322
Operating Activities to further charity's objects			
Concert Income	9435		8950
Workshop Income	2229		1767
Fees for Performances	<u>800</u>		<u>1200</u>
		12464	11917
Operating activities to generate funds			
Fundraising activities		0	17
Investment Income receipts			
Bank Interest		354	247
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<u>24969</u>	<u>22503</u>
PAYMENTS			
Cost of Fundraising		0	0
Charitable Activities			
Concert expenses	20996		13105
Workshop expenses	<u>721</u>		<u>727</u>
		21717	13832
Management & Administration		1203	1764
TOTAL PAYMENTS		<u>22920</u>	<u>15596</u>
Net receipts (payments) for the year		2049	6907
Unrestricted cash and bank , to begin		17497	10590
Unrestricted cash and bank , to end	17828		
Retricted bank , to end	<u>1718</u>	19546	0
		<u>19546</u>	<u>17497</u>

CHESTER BACH SINGERS

Funds are partially restricted

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

		<u>31 August 2025</u>	<u>31 August 2024</u>
Cash Funds			
Bank Deposit account	unrestricted	15105	13521
Donations - Martin Bussey retirement	restricted	1718	0
Bank Deposit account	unrestricted	2320	3114
Bank Current account	unrestricted	344	798
Cash Float held by the Treasurer	unrestricted	59	64
		<u>19546</u>	<u>17497</u>
Assets retained for own use			
Equipment and music - net realisable value		3097	3097
Equipment and music - nominal value		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Current Asset			
Debtors		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Liabilities			
Sundry creditors		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by :



H.Crich (Chair)



N.Brooks (Treasurer)

The notes on page 6 form an integral part of these financial statements. The funds raised as a gift for Martin Bussey are to be used only for a specific purpose and are to be treated as restricted ,

CHESTER BACH SINGERS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Charities(Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2000,the Statement of Recommended practice (SORP) " Accounting and Reporting by Charities " and with applicable accounting standards.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policy adopted in the preparation of the financial statements is set out below and remains unchanged from the previous period.

Donations made to the Society in recognition of Martin Bussey's retirement can only be used to fund his forthcoming retirement concert and are recognised as being restricted.

Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

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

2 STAFF COSTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Officers ' and Committee expenses for the year comprised :		
Re-imbursed expenses	Nil	Nil
None of the Trustees received remuneration during the year. (2024 : Nil)	Nil	Nil

3 RELATED PARTIES

The Trustees(with the exception of Andy Parsley) are members of the choir and pay the same subscription rate as all other choir members.

4 ASSETS

The Trustees carried out a valuation exercise on the Society's physical assets and music scores in year ended 31 August 2020.

The valuation exercise comprised : -

- establishment of original cost (where possible)
- estimation of realisable value
- estimation of replacement cost.

The Trustees updated their valuation exercise to 31 August 2024 and concluded that those assets had a net realisable value of £ 3097 (2023 : £ 2444). These assets had a nominal value of £ 660 in 2019. They also concluded that the replacement cost of the Society's assets is £ 7566 (2023 : £ 10347). There has been no further evaluation since 31 August 2024.

These values are included for information purposes only.