

AUTORAISE

Charity Registration Number 1170068 (England and Wales)

AUTORAISE

Annual Report and Accounts

For The Year Ended

31 March 2025

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CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name: AutoRaise **Charity Registration Number:** 1170068 **Principal Address:** 80 St Georges Road, Bolton BL1 2DD

Trustees:

- Simon Smith (Chair) – *Appointed during the period*
- Emma Speed (Managing Director)
- Martyn Rowley
- Kate Goodwin
- Christopher Ryder
- Christopher O'Rourke
- Dan Chesney
- Devin Cavanagh
- Guy Williams
- Michael Golding
- Christopher Weeks

Senior Management Team:

- **Managing Director:** Emma Speed

Chair: Simon Smith

Bankers: Barclays Bank

Independent Examiner: Insight Business Solutions

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document Autoraise is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered on 7 November 2016, and is governed by its Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Constitution. In 2025, AutoRaise welcomed a cohort of new trustees, strengthening our governance with fresh insights, expertise, and perspectives. These appointments support our strategic aim to build an inclusive and innovative organisation. Our new trustees bring extensive experience across sectors such as automotive, finance, education, and charity governance.

We are particularly pleased to introduce Simon Smith as our new Chair. Simon, who is the Managing Director & Aviva Repair Lead at Solus/Aviva, brings a wealth of leadership experience in risk management, customer service, and strategic development.

Organisational Structure The charity is managed by the Board of Trustees which meets regularly to manage the affairs of the charity. To ensure operational effectiveness, we have established governance committees focused on key areas such as youth engagement, safeguarding, and finance. The day-to-day operations were significantly bolstered this year by the appointment of a new Managing Director, Emma Speed.

Risk Management and Safeguarding The Trustees have implemented policies to safeguard data and ensure compliance with GDPR and other relevant legal requirements. We have also embedded diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) into our policies to ensure our governance and operational teams reflect the diversity within the automotive sector.

Objectives and Activities

Purpose and Aims Autoraise is a dedicated UK charity committed to addressing critical skills shortages within the automotive repair industry. Established to serve as both an advocate and catalyst for positive change, it strives to promote vocational careers as accessible, rewarding, and vital for the sector's future sustainability.

Public Benefit The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. Our activities benefit the public by relieving unemployment through the promotion of apprenticeships and ensuring the safety of the general public by fostering a skilled workforce capable of repairing vehicles to the correct standards.

Main Activities Throughout 2025, the charity focused on four key areas:

1. **Re-establishing Foundations:** Focusing on sector engagement and partnership development.
2. **Sector Advocacy:** Positioning Autoraise as the authoritative voice championing automotive careers.

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3. **Grassroots Engagement:** Attending events to speak directly to key stakeholders including education audiences.
 4. **Resource Development:** Creating tools for businesses, schools, colleges, and careers advisors.

Achievements and Performance

Strategic Re-launch and Branding The year 2025 was a year of renewal. Following the appointment of Emma Speed as Managing Director, the charity was relaunched with new branding, a renewed purpose, and a new website. A major highlight was the appointment of Richard Hammond and his Smallest Cog Team as patrons; their involvement has significantly increased sector visibility and enabled us to reach wider audiences.

Strengthening Sector Partnerships A core element of our strategy involves fostering strong, impactful partnerships. In 2025, we formalised alliances with influential industry bodies such as the National Body for Repair & the Automotive Industry (NBRA), Thatcham Research, and charities like Ben & DEBRA. These collaborations created a unified front on critical issues like apprentice recruitment and long-term workforce planning. We actively contributed to national consultations on Skills and Apprenticeships led by the NBRA lobbying group.

Public Engagement and Outreach Strategies We executed a broad programme of events to elevate sector visibility. Our flagship events, including ARC360, Automechanika, and LIVE 25 offered platforms for industry leaders and apprentices to connect. Furthermore, our participation at grassroots events like CarFest and the British Motor Show attracted considerable audiences, providing tangible opportunities for young visitors to engage directly with automotive careers through hands-on activities.

Digital Innovation and Inclusion In response to community needs, we developed a suite of interactive online apprenticeship guides and sector-specific career toolkits. We also launched targeted campaigns aimed at women and minority communities to challenge stereotypes and foster greater sector diversity.

Income Generation Summary

Financial Position The Statement of Financial Activities shows a net expenditure for the year, resulting in a decrease in total funds.

- **Total Income:** The charity has diversified income sources through industry donations, sponsorships, grants, and memberships. We successfully introduced a subscription-based membership model and secured grants aligned with our core objectives to expand the bursary scheme.
- **Total Funds:** The total funds carried forward at 31 March 2025 are **£364,596** (2024: £462,241).
- **Cash Position:** The charity retains a healthy cash balance of **£325,472**.

Reserves Policy The Trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. The policy is to hold a level of reserves of 6 months that enables the charity to maintain its core activities during periods of income fluctuation.

Income Generation Strategy We have developed targeted sponsorship packages for large automotive companies seeking to demonstrate Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Our impact stories highlighting apprentice success—proved effective in attracting ongoing support.

Plans for Future Periods

Looking ahead to 2026, as we approach our tenth anniversary, our strategic focus shifts toward expanding sector collaboration and deepening our influence. Key priorities include:

- **Expanding Sector Engagement:** Strengthening partnerships with educational institutions and regional hubs.
 - **Enhancing Digital Content:** Investing in digital storytelling and interactive platforms to inspire young people.
 - **Advocating for Policy Support:** Continuing to influence government policies to embed vocational training within strategic skills frameworks.
 - **Securing Sustainable Income:** Diversifying income streams through strategic corporate partnerships and exploring fee-based training programmes.
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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
 - Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
 - Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
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- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Simon Smith Chair of Trustees Date: [Current Date]

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF AUTORAISE

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 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; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed: A. Marsh

Alison Marsh – Insight Business Solutions, 80 St Georges Road, Bolton BL1 2DD

Date: 5th January 2026

Statement of Financial Activities

		Unrestricted funds 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024
Income from:			
Donations		9,426	10,810
Other trading activities	2	122,984	129,321
Other income	3	9,995	98,414
Total Income		<u>142,405</u>	<u>238,545</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	4	0	48,087
Charitable activities	5	173,080	99,984
Other Costs	6	66,969	50,601
Total Expenditure		<u>240,050</u>	<u>198,672</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		-97,645	39,873
Transfers between funds			
Net movement in funds		<u>-97,645</u>	<u>39,873</u>
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total Funds Brought Forward		462,241	422,368
Total Funds Carried Forward	15	<u>364,596</u>	<u>462,241</u>

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Balance Sheet

		2025	2024
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	3,640	113
Current assets			
Debtors	12	88,198	80,515
Inventory		13,600	17,000
Cash at bank		<u>325,472</u>	<u>510,948</u>
		427,270	608,463
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>-66,314</u>	<u>-146,335</u>
Net current assets		<u>360,956</u>	<u>462,128</u>
Net assets		<u>364,596</u>	<u>462,241</u>
Funds			
Restricted income funds			
Unrestricted income funds	15	<u>364,596</u>	<u>462,241</u>
Total funds		<u>364,596</u>	<u>462,241</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on..... and signed on behalf of the Board by:


Simon Smith - Chair

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

AutoRaise is a charity registered in England and Wales. The principal office is situated at 80 St Georges Road, Bolton, BL1 2DD.

Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)(October 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice. The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The Trustees have considered the working capital of the charity and, at the time of approving the financial statements, have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity, and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds, which are used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors. There were no restricted funds held during the period.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Specifically for grant income, where receipt of a grant is conditional on performance of a specific project, income is accounted for once the Charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Where no conditions are applied to incoming grants, income is accounted for on receipt.

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Charitable activities includes all costs relating to activities where the primary aim is part of the objects of the Charity, along with an apportionment of support costs. Governance costs consist of the costs incurred in the management of the Charity and the costs of meeting its external reporting requirements.

Support costs consist of administration expenses incurred in the day to day management of the Charity, together with the cost of premises used for such activities. These costs are allocated across the categories of charitable expenditure, governance costs and costs of generating funds. Support costs are allocated on a labour basis, using the proportion of staff time allocated to certain activities, on the basis that this forms the fairest method of allocation of such costs.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

IT Equipment	33% Straight Line
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Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. The charity has no bank loans or other more complex financial instruments that require measurement at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the trustees' are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Key assumptions, judgements and estimates

In the opinion of the Trustees' there have been no significant judgements (apart from those involving estimates) made in the process of applying the above accounting policies.

There have been no key assumptions concerning future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

2 Incoming Resources from Other Trading Activities

	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
Partner Income	100,200	102,861
Affiliated Repairer Income	22,784	26,460
	<u>122,984</u>	<u>129,321</u>

3 Other income

	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
Rally income	0	98,414
	<u>0</u>	<u>98,414</u>

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4 Expenditure on Raising Funds

	2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
Staff costs		
Motor expenses		
Travel		
General expenses		
Event costs		
Office expenses	0	48,087
	0	48,087

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Engaging repairers	Raising public awareness	Working with training providers	Developing training	Total 2025
Marketing	8,350	8,350	8,350	8,350	33,399
Staff costs	13,068	13,068	13,068	13,068	52,272
Motor expenses	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	4,800
Travel	1,869	1,869	1,869	1,869	7,475
Consultancy services	16,029	16,029	16,029	16,029	64,116
Event costs	1,590	1,590	1,590	1,590	6,361
Office expenses	893	893	893	893	3,571
Prior year	42,999	42,999	42,999	42,999	171,995
	Engaging repairers	Raising public awareness	Working with training providers	Developing training	Total 2024
Marketing	1,885	1,885	1,886	1,886	7,542
Staff costs	12,248	12,248	12,248	12,249	48,993
Motor expenses	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,112	4,445
Travel	835	835	835	834	3,339
Consultancy services	7,740	7,740	7,740	7,741	30,961
Event costs	35	35	35	34	139
Office expenses	1,141	1,141	1,141	1,142	4,565
	24,995	24,995	24,996	24,998	99,984

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6 Other costs

	2025	2024
Governance costs	1,500	1,500
Legal and professional	6,490	20,764
Bad debts	53,541	24,000
Subscriptions	3,832	2,486
Bank charges and interest	104	108
General expenses	1,085	250
Insurance	944	1,266
Depreciation	558	227
	<u>68,054</u>	<u>50,601</u>

7 Governance costs

	2025	2024
Statutory accounts and Independent examination fee	1,500	1,500
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>

8 Net income for the year

Net income stated after charging:

	2025	2024
Independent examiners remuneration:	0	0
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	558	227
Independent examination fee	1,500	1,500
	<u>2,058</u>	<u>1,727</u>

9 Staff Costs and Emoluments

	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	43,333	43,455
Social security costs	5,805	5,538
Pension	3,134	0
	<u>52,272</u>	<u>48,993</u>

The average number of employees for the year was 1 (2024 1)

10 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

The key management personnel of the Charity comprises the trustees and the Chief Executive Officer.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity including National Insurance and Pension Contributions were £64,547 (2024: £55,593).

No remuneration was paid or payable for the period, directly or indirectly, out of the funds of the Charity, to any Trustee or to any persons known to be connected with any of them, in their capacity as Trustee.

11 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost

At 1 April 2024

Additions

Disposals

At 31 March 2025

IT Equipment

2,190

4,085

6,275

Depreciation and impairment

At 1 April 2024

Depreciation charged in the year

Disposals

At 31 March 2025

2,077

558

2,635

Carrying amount

At 31 March 2025

At 31 March 2024

3,640

113

12 Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

Trade debtors

Prepayments and accrued income

2025

2024

86,880

75,771

1,319

4,744

88,199

80,515

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

Trade creditors

Accruals and deferred income

Other taxation and social security

Other creditors

2025

2024

759

32,303

55,555

73,330

0

20,722

10,000

20,000

66,314

146,355

14 Restricted Income Funds

No restricted income was received during the current or previous period and no restricted funds were held at the year end.

15 Movement in funds

	Balance at 01 April 2024	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 31 March 2025
Unrestricted funds	462,241	142,405	240,050	364,596
	462,241	142,405	240,050	364,596

	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Balance at 31 March 2024
Unrestricted funds	422,368	238,545	198,672	462,241
	422,368	238,545	198,672	462,241

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 March are represented by:

Fixed assets

Current assets

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2025	2024	2024
	Unrestricted funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
Fixed assets	3,640	3,640	113	113
Current assets	427,270	427,270	608,463	608,463
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-66,314	-66,314	-146,335	-146,335
	364,596	364,596	462,241	462,241

