

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

**CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1197192**

**DAINS AUDIT LTD**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**2 Chamberlain Square**  
**Paradise Circus**  
**Birmingham**  
**B3 3AX**

## **LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**

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**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

**Reference and Administrative information**

**Honorary President:** Mr David Cliffe

The Trustees who served during the year are:-

Mrs Charlotte Groves	Chairman
Mr Mike Tighe	Secretary
Dr Paul Ecclestone-Brown	Treasurer & Ticket Officer
Mrs Robina Bettson	Choir Representative
Mrs Minna Andrews	Minutes Secretary
Mr John Skurr	Music Officer
Mr Nigel Lindsell	Choir Representative & Vice Chairman
Mr Stephen Bushill	Membership Secretary

**Principal Address:** Lichfield Cathedral Chorus  
c/o Paul Ecclestone-Brown  
153 Leomansley View  
Lichfield  
WS13 8AU

**Registered Charity Number:** 1197192

**Independent Examiner:** M Gurney FCCA, DChA  
of Dains Audit Ltd  
2 Chamberlain Square  
Paradise Circus  
Birmingham  
B3 3AX

**Principal Bankers:** Cooperative Bank plc  
PO Box 101  
1 Balloon Street  
Manchester  
M60 4EP

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025 (CONTINUED)**

**Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2025**

The members of the Managing Committee present their report along with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 July 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 10 and comply with the Charity's Constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1 January 2019.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

Charity Number 1197192 is governed by its constitution and was registered with the Charity Commission on 17 December 2021 as a CIO.

Under the constitution there must be at least three trustees and not more than twenty. Trustees are appointed at the AGM. One-third of the trustees shall retire from office at each AGM as set out in the Constitution. The retirees are able to stand for re-election provided they have not exceeded 7 years of continuous service. The Trustees normally meet six times per year to consider the Charity's affairs.

New Trustees are appointed from amongst the membership of the chorus.

**Objects, Organisation and Activities**

The Charity is established to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and foster 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 concerts and recitals in the Cathedral Church of Lichfield and elsewhere and to further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit, but in particular by the making of grants and donations.

Members of the chorus comprise:

- a) Performing members, who take part in the performance of choral works; and
- b) Patrons.

All members pay the annual subscription. The rates for 2024/2025 were set as follows:

Full subscription	£175
Students	£25
Patrons	£25 minimum

Ben Lamb, the Director of Music at the Cathedral, is our Musical Director. Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music at Coventry Cathedral, is our Accompanist.

In the event of winding up of the Chorus any surplus assets shall be given or transferred to an organisation having similar objects to those of the Chorus.

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025 (CONTINUED)**

**Achievements and Performances**

Our first concert in November was a large performance of four parts of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*. The choir responded beautifully to a great baroque orchestra resplendent with piccolo trumpets, mournful oboes d'amore and baroque strings. The nave of the Cathedral was nearly full, however the large cost of the professional orchestra meant that the concert ran at a £1,766 loss.

Our Christmas period was marked by three appearances of members of the choir. Two were financially risk free – singing carols at Shugborough Hall and at the Cathedral's Illuminations. The Christmas Carol Concert was put on as one of our three Cathedral concert hires. One quarter of seats were reserved at a low charge to enable us to produce a surplus of £1,061.

Our Summer concert was a departure from our normal in which we joined forces with the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra, Sarum Voices and some magnificent soloists to perform Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*. This was a well-attended concert, but despite our collaboration with the BPO it was an expensive concert to produce. The concert ran at a £2,008 loss.

We ran a midsummer's come and sing Mozart's Requiem at the Coton Centre, Tamworth. This encouraged several new members. The day was enhanced with a professional string quartet. This expenditure was not originally planned, but many members of the choir kindly donated significant amounts so that the event could go ahead in its augmented form.

**Financial Review**

Costs have continued to increase significantly due to global inflationary pressures. The trustees have explored several ways of reducing cost and increasing revenue. We are looking for local corporate sponsorship, to ensure that we keep the price of concert tickets as affordable as possible, whilst being able to work with talented soloists and instrumental performers.

With the societal trend of Thursday night being the "new Friday night". The cathedral is now increasingly finding it hard to make the space available for use by the Chorus for rehearsals as its own commercial needs mean that it has had to increase the marketing of its space as a commercial venue. This means that the trustees have created a relationship with Lichfield Methodist Church for more regular use of its church as a rehearsal venue. This has increased venue hire costs for the Chorus.

After much deliberation, the trustees decided to set subscriptions at £183 per year for the 2025/26 season. Members are now able to pay these as a one-off sum or by continued use of the increasingly popular direct debit arrangement. As always, members who feel that they are unable to pay the full fees are welcome to confidentially request a lower rate to the treasurer or the chairman.

The attached financial statements show the current state of the finances of the CIO organisation, which the Trustees consider to be sound. Free reserves at 31 July 2025 were £26,481 (£25,620 at 31 July 2024). This falls within the range agreed by the Trustees and is held to finance working capital requirements and cover any future shortfall in income.

**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 Charity's aims and objectives and have complied with their duties under the Charities Act 2011.

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025 (CONTINUED)**

**Trustees Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 accounting records which 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. 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 Trustees and signed on their behalf



.....  
Charlotte Groves

Date: 12 February 2026

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2025 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

### **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').

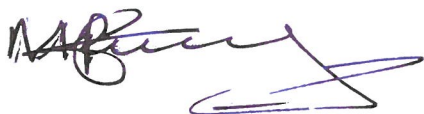
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **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.



Mark Gurney FCCA, DChA  
of Dains Audit Ltd  
2 Chamberlain Square  
Paradise Circus  
Birmingham  
B3 3AX

Date: 12 February 2026

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
<b>Income from:</b>			
Subscriptions and donations	2	20,808	18,233
Concert income	3	13,355	8,888
Income from social events		124	141
Library income		891	1,246
Bank interest and investment income		914	695
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>36,092</b>	<b>29,203</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
General running expenditure	4	9,981	9,879
Concert expenditure	5	17,011	16,452
Expenditure on social events		143	125
Library expenditure		171	249
Scholarship expense		300	(300)
Grants to Lichfield Cathedral		7,532	4,762
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>35,138</b>	<b>31,167</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		954	(1,964)
Unrealised Gain on investment revaluation	8	(93)	1,393
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		861	(571)
Fund Balance brought forward		28,831	29,402
<b>Fund Balance carried forward</b>		<b>29,692</b>	<b>28,831</b>

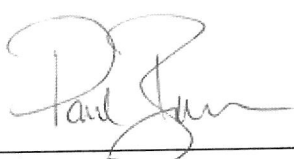


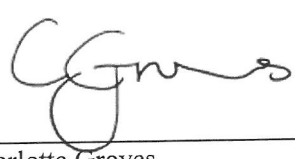
**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS  
BALANCE SHEET  
31 JULY 2025**

	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Music	7	3,211	3,211
Listed Investment	8	19,836	19,929
		<u>23,047</u>	<u>23,140</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
CBF Deposit Account		4,234	3,512
Cooperative Bank		631	405
Cash at hand		169	202
Debtors	9	3,056	3,731
		<u>8,090</u>	<u>7,850</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors	10	(1,445)	(2,159)
		<u>6,645</u>	<u>5,691</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><b>29,692</b></u>	<u><b>28,831</b></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Income Fund		<u><b>29,692</b></u>	<u><b>28,831</b></u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

These Accounts were approved by the Trustees on 12 February 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Ecclestone-Brown  
Date: 12 February 2026

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlotte Groves  
Date: 12 February 2026

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**General**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

These Accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, with the exception of the music, which is included at valuation 31 July 1994 and increased with a purchase of music in August 2023 and investments which are shown at market value.

These accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

**2. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions	16,062	15,217
Tax repayable on Gift Aid income	3,056	2,002
Patrons & Donations	1,690	1,014
	<u>20,808</u>	<u>18,233</u>

**3. CONCERT INCOME**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Concert income:		
Prior year	137	-
Winter	4,806	3,310
Carol Concert	1,840	1,240
Summer	5,516	4,338
Come and sing	1,056	-
	<u>13,355</u>	<u>8,888</u>

**4. GENERAL RUNNING EXPENDITURE**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Conductors and Accompanist	7,550	7,722
Rent of Room	750	593
Sundry Administration Expenditure	94	79
Adverts, Brochures and Website	167	540
Making Music Membership	700	675
Independent Examiner's Fee	720	270
	<u>9,981</u>	<u>9,879</u>

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025 (CONTINUED)**

**5. CONCERT EXPENDITURE**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Concert expenditure:		
Release of provisions from prior year	(85)	(255)
Winter	6,572	6,057
Carol Concert	779	3,277
Summer	7,524	7,373
Come and sing	2,051	
	<u>17,011</u>	<u>16,452</u>

**6. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES**

No Trustee or any person connected with them has received or is due to receive any remuneration or expenses for the year directly or indirectly from the Charity's funds. No expenditure was made in relation to related parties.

**7. MUSIC**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Previously valued 31 <sup>st</sup> July 1994 (Valued for insurance purposes £6,000 at 31 Jul 2024)		
Value at 1 August – year commencement	3,211	2,000
Additions to library	-	1,211
Value at 31 July – year end of holding	<u>3,211</u>	<u>3,211</u>

**8. LISTED INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
857.46 CBF Investment Fund Income Shares		
Market Value at 1 August – year commencement	19,929	18,536
Increase/(Decrease) in Value of holding	(93)	1,393
Market Value at 31 July – year end of holding	<u>19,836</u>	<u>19,929</u>
Historic Cost	<u>9,573</u>	<u>9,573</u>

**9. DEBTORS**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gift aid recoverable	3,056	3,716
Direct Debit - subs	-	15
	<u>3,056</u>	<u>3,731</u>

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL CHORUS**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025 (CONTINUED)**

**10. CREDITORS**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Concert expenditure - performing rights levy payable		32
Concert expenditure		807
Scholarship payment	75	-
Independent examiner	1,320	1,320
Venue hire	50	-
	<u>1,445</u>	<u>2,159</u>

**11 CHARITY MERGER**

The unincorporated charity Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, registered charity number 509833, transferred its assets to Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, a charitable incorporated organisation, registered charity number 1197192 on 5 May 2022.