

MULTITUDE OF VOYCES

England & Wales · Charity number 1201139

Details

Other names MULTITUDE OF VOYCES CIC, MOV

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-11-24

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: 3.1 THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO AREA) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE AREA OF ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE BY THE INCREASE OF INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF MUSICAL CREATIVITY, MUSICAL HISTORY AND RELATED MATTERSb) THE ADVANCEMENT OF ARTS CULTURE AND HERITAGE BY PROMOTING MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE WITH AND BY THOSE FROM UNDERREPRESENTED AND MARGINALISED GROUPS.IN EACH CASE, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

Activities: a) the advancement of education in the area of arts, culture and heritage by the increase of individual and collective knowledge and understanding of musical creativity, musical history and related mattersb) the advancement of arts culture and heritage by promoting music and performance with and by those from underrepresented and marginalised groups .In each case , for the public benefit

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Australia
- Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- United States
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£92,164	£46,901	-	-
2024-03-31	£65,328	£59,285	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Peter George Jeffreys	Chair	2022-09-07
Catherine Julia Margaret Daniels		2024-04-10
Miriam Laila Kimber		2024-08-06

MULTITUDE OF VOYCES

England & Wales - Charity number 1201139

Accounts

Multitude of Voyces

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Charity No: 1201139

Multitude of Voyces

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

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Multitude of Voyces

Legal and Administrative Details

For the year ended 31 March 2025

CHARITY REGISTERED NUMBER

1201139

TRUSTEES

Peter Jefferys

The Revd Canon Jeremy Davies

resigned 11 October 2025

Dr Jonathan Clinch

resigned 11 October 2025

Julia Daniels

appointed 10 April 2024

Miriam Kimber

appointed 6 August 2024

DIRECTOR

Louise Stewart

REGISTERED ADDRESS

7 New Street

Salisbury

SP1 2PH

ACCOUNTANT AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Simon Ellingham FCA DChA

Fawcetts LLP Chartered Accountants

Windover House, St Ann Street, Salisbury, SP1 2DR

BANK

The Co-Operative Bank

Manchester

SOLICITORS

Wilsons (governance law, wills, gifts, legacies)

Alexandra House

Salisbury

SP1 2SB

Lawdit (music copyright law)

4 Brunswick Place

Southampton

SO15 2AN

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 which 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as a CIO registered on 24 November 2022 having previously operated as a CIC from 31 March 2019. The financial report includes the activities prior to conversion. The charity is operated by its trustees who meet periodically. New trustees are recruited from among people who have an interest in furthering the aims of the CIO, with a view to ensuring that all the necessary competencies are represented on the trustee body. The complex nature of the charity's work often necessitates the direct involvement of the Chair and Deputy Chair who are both practising solicitors with relevant specialisms.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have reviewed the risks to which the charity is exposed and they have implemented policies to mitigate the risks which they have identified.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- a) the advancement of education in the area of arts, culture and heritage by the increase of individual and collective knowledge and understanding of musical creativity, musical history and related matters
- b) the advancement of arts, culture and heritage by promoting music and performance with and by those from underrepresented and marginalised groups. In each case, for the public benefit

BACKGROUND AND FINANCIAL REPORT

2024-2025 was the organisation's second complete year as a registered charity having converted from CIC status in November 2022. The director continued to undertake training and to work with the relevant authorities and organisations to ensure the safe and proper running of the charity on behalf of the Trustees. The IT Associate undertook some particular training pro bono to support the charity's growing IT needs. References to income and outgoings in this report used the traditional accounting (accruals basis) method. The charity continued to receive a good level of support from a bank experienced at and interested in supporting small charities.

1. Employees

- a) the charity has no employees: instead, part time self-employed contractors carry out specific tasks on behalf of the Trustees as appropriate to their skills and qualifications and the charity's needs. Three regular contractors (including the Director) carry out the majority of tasks using a combination of paid and voluntary labour and have particular responsibilities as Associates.

Two of the Associates enable the charity to operate part-time year-round with short breaks for public and occasional holidays. The Associates are supported by the Trustees and occasional contractors including specialist consultants. In total the Associates' and other contractors' paid hours make up approximately one FTE gross annual income (2024) which represents exceptional value for money.

The charity works closely with Project Partners – registered charities and CICs whose work enhances and complements the charity's work and who share skills with the charity for mutual benefit and in the public interest.

Due to its intersectional and interdisciplinary work the charity has multiple small connections with individuals and complementary third party organisations (including universities and conservatoires) and the Trustees noted the need for dedicated income to further these links and enable the charity to fulfil its evident potential.

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Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

- b) Louise Stewart remained the Director, having founded the CIC of the same name in 2019; Andrew Stewart remained the IT Associate. The Trustees particularly noted the work of the Publishing Associate Anna Williams, whose expertise enables the charity to create high-quality, professional music publications comparable to those of much larger and more affluent organisations.
- c) The Director noted the highly-skilled pro bono work carried out by Trustees and some contractors, and by Wilsons Solicitors and by Fawcetts Accountants, whose expertise is invaluable to support the specialist work of the charity.
- d) Stakeholders: the charity's Stakeholders are individuals (living and deceased) who represent particular underrepresented or marginalised groups in society, and groups active in the field of professional and amateur music-making and related arts. In the reporting year the charity focussed primarily on church-music by female composers.
- e) The Trustees noted the continued widespread enthusiasm for the charity's serious and impactful work, especially from Stakeholders who felt supported, recognised and protected by the charity, and from Supporters keen to engage with the charity's aims who did not have the time or resources to undertake such work themselves. The Trustees also noted the ongoing challenges to the charity of carrying out innovative and pioneering work within a traditionally conservative and under-funded sector of the Arts.

2. Volunteers

The charity did not have the capacity to fund or to manage the recruitment and appropriate support of new Volunteers in the reporting year. Instead, the charity relied on generous pro bono work from Trustees, Associates and advisors. The recruitment of a Finance Volunteer and a Research Volunteer will be a focus for the next financial year particularly to support the work of the Director and Trustees.

3. Trading income: *The charity's main trading income in the reporting year, which supported some running costs, provided meaningful royalties payments to copyright-holders and supported other project work, was derived from the sale of its publications:*

- a) The anthology volumes **sacred music by women composers, (vols 1/2/3** first pub. 2019/2020/2020) saw a downturn in sales. This was in part due to the ongoing financial crisis in the Arts and Education sectors, in part due to the widespread adoption of these volumes in *previous* years and in part due to the availability of comparable resources published by commercial and other charitable publishers which have lately followed the groundbreaking example set by the *charity* in 2019.
- b) **Digital pdfs** maintained steady sales and enabled Supporters to print individual works economically. The charity continued to receive regular 'repeat orders' from schools, universities, cathedrals and churches throughout the UK and beyond, consolidating and affirming relationships with multiple Supporters from across professional and amateur organisations.
- c) The **publication of historically unpublished works** by the late composer **Elizabeth Poston**, of whose musical and literary estate the charity had recently become the official representative.
- d) **The modern republication** of overlooked works by **Dame Elizabeth Maconchy** (with the kind permission of Cambridge University Press) and a special edition of four works by **Dame Ethel Smyth** which were effectively historically-unpublished works (edited by Maks Adach). In both examples the publications were prepared with the approval and encouragement of the composers' estates.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

4. The charity continued to offer an occasional **printing and proof-reading service** to local charities, community groups and other music groups; this initiative raised money to make prudent and sustainable use of the charity's high-quality printer.

5. **Other income:** In the reporting year the charity received its first significant unrestricted royalties income, from the use of the Poston copyrights gifted to the Charity for its general purposes including the composer's legacy. The majority of funds were used to identify, protect, secure and increase the immediate and future income due to the Charity and to begin to remedy and redress historical complexities. Some income supported the administration of the charity, world premiere recordings of works by Elizabeth Poston and Dame Elizabeth Maconchy (see 12b), historical research relating to several of Poston's underrepresented peers (see 12e), and the Elizabeth Poston Project (see 12f).

6. Grants

- a) The charity did not apply for any grants during the year but began to make plans to seek major grant funding in the next year.
- b) As in previous years the Director noted with concern the historical and current lack of grant funding dedicated to equality for underrepresented composers of church-music and the consequent need to use the charity's limited resources to generate its own income.
- c) She also noted the emotional burden of many requests by marginalised musicians, writers and organisations hoping to engage the charity's support, which was not financially possible.

7. Monetary donations, donations-in-kind and discounted labour in favour of the charity

- a) **Restricted donations:** The charity was grateful to receive regular and one-off donations with Gift Aid for the Elizabeth Poston Project. The encouragement of monthly giving to support both running costs and project work will be a focus in the next financial year.
- b) **Unrestricted donations:** The charity was deeply grateful for several small unrestricted donations, and one large donation from a private benefactor which enabled the continuation of the charity's work in the reporting period. The bulk of the funds were prioritised for the timely payment of contractors' fees and the repayment of some remaining historical loans and other late payments. The donations were enhanced by Gift Aid.
- c) The charity was grateful to receive a donation of £200 from Wilpshire Music School (Blackburn).
- d) The charity was grateful to receive a donation of £1,000 from the Blyth Watson Charitable Trust.
- e) The charity received a donation of £160 from the Chaminade Association in recognition of an article written by the Director for their magazine.
- f) Some income was received via the waiving by Stakeholders of royalties (sheet-music) shares in favour of charity.
- g) Very small occasional donations were received via the online shopping software Easy Fundraising.

8. **Donations-in-kind:** The Trustees noted and greatly appreciated the generosity of Wilsons Solicitors whose specialist pro bono support was valued at £15,000. The Trustees noted and appreciated the donation-in-kind by one Associate of office space and meeting rooms, at a saving to the charity of at least £3,000 per annum in rent, and the provision of computer equipment which could not otherwise be afforded by the charity.

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Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

9. Discounts applied on their invoices by two Associates totalled £3,653.31 and enabled the completion of certain project work. The Trustees noted that in future the charity would need to fund increased contractors' fees for all contractors due to the rising cost of living and the reasonable expectation that self-employed, part-time professional contractors should be rewarded for their work in line with the market rate, without the expectation of them applying discounts or making other material donations.

10. Gifts to the charity :

- a) The charity was grateful to receive the gift of several books pertaining to the Elizabeth Poston estate.
- b) The charity was honoured to be gifted the right of receipt of certain royalties income relating to the late composer Greta Tomlins. Complex work to access and develop these funds is ongoing.
- c) The charity was honoured to receive the gift of the copyright of *A rainbow appears* , a text specially written by Revd Mel Bringle as part of the charity's Inclusive Hymn Project.

11. Gifts or donations-in-kind from the charity to Stakeholders:

- a) The charity donated sheet-music to its Project Partner, Continuum Choral Foundation, to facilitate several public-access recordings and to St Alban's Cathedral through its 'Buy One Give One Free' initiative.
- b) The IT Associate provided technical and publishing advice to an ensemble of young professionals whose aims to raise up under-represented composers were in sympathy with the charity's objects.
- c) The Director continued to support multiple individuals and organisations through networking and signposting.

12. The charity's activities in the reporting year:

Each activity was tested against the charity's own objects and the Commission's public benefit guidance.

Through the year the charity's main work comprised:

- a) Ongoing work of the Trustees with the Director and IT Associate in relation to **governance** and in relation to the **protection of the charity's Poston assets**
- b) **Ongoing research, publication and dissemination of sacred and secular choral works by deceased female composers**
- c) **World premiere recordings** by our charitable Project Partner (Continuum Choral Foundation) **for free access by the general public**
- d) **Research, commissioning, publication and dissemination of new works on themes of social justice** (Inclusive Hymn Project) by diverse composers and writers of all genders, with particular inclusion of those from historically or currently-marginalised groups (**premiered and recorded** by our charitable Project Partners Salford Cathedral Choirs, and St Thomas-on-the-Bourne, Farnham
- e) **Research, advocacy and education around historical and living composers and writers from underrepresented and marginalised groups** in relation to the wider Arts, in particular where those groups' underrepresentation was the result of prejudicial societal norms and where the impact of that underrepresentation continues to marginalise identified communities and limits current knowledge in academic and public discourse in the United Kingdom

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

f) Elizabeth Poston Project Phase 1

i. Legal and other complex and sensitive work **to understand and protect the charity's new longterm assets**, including engagement with commercial entities to assert the charity's new status as the composer's official representative

ii. **Generation of new income** through in-house publications (see 1.c))

iii. **Investigation and claiming of income due to the charity** through the use of her copyright historically and currently

g) ongoing training and development by the Associates for improved **accessibility** of the charity's work especially by those with disabilities and/or learning difficulties

13. a) **Examples of project work: (12.b – research, publication and dissemination of sacred and secular choral works)**

Ethel Smyth (1858-1944): Five German Partsongs nos. 2-5

Edited by Maks Adach from the composer's original manuscripts held at the British Library. These works are known to have been performed in the early 20th Century but all trace of those or any other publications had been lost.

Erschienen ist der herrlich Tag
No. 5 from *Five Sacred Partsongs*

Nikolaus Herman (c.1480-1561) Ethel Smyth (1858-1944)
(after the chorale by Nikolaus Herman)
Edited by Maks Adach

Soprano: Er-schie-nen ist der herr-lich Tag, der-
Alto: Er-schie-nen ist der herr-lich Tag, der herr-
Tenor: Er-
Bass: Er-schie-nen ist der

2
S. her-lich Tag, er-schie-nen ist
A. lich, Tag, der herr-
T. -schie-nen ist, der
B. herr-lich Tag, er-schie-nen ist, der, herr-

Please see www.multitudeofvoices.org for commentary and editorial notes.

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ISSN 979-0-708212-04-1
It is unlawful to make copies of this work without the prior permission of the charity.
Performances and commercial recordings must be reported to PRS/MCPS as appropriate.

b) **Examples of project work: (12.c – world premiere recordings)**

December Lulling: text, anonymous; music, Elizabeth Poston

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5QseZyGjDQ>

Christmas Day: text, Andrew Young; music, Elizabeth Poston

<https://youtu.be/FHiM0kyzrC4?si=-DrVMo9qvPWARzbl>

Down with the rosemary and bays: text, Robert Herrick; music, Dame Elizabeth Maconchy

<https://youtu.be/oCiYiTHWZpE?si=wnHkLqrngeColLtb>

Collaboration with Continuum Choral Foundation, directed by Harry Guthrie, and sound engineer Tom Mungall, enabled the creation of high-quality free-access recordings for public access via the charity's website and Youtube channel. The Foundation's young professional singers were provided with meaningful and purposeful session work funded through MoV's trading activities and royalties income.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

c) Examples of project work: (12.d – commissions on themes of social justice (Inclusive Hymn Project))

Shantiniketan – Haven of Peace

A new work for interfaith unity, cultural pluralism and racial justice.

Music and concept - Dr Anita Datta

Initial funding for this project came from the Pratt Green Trust in 2022, and was supplemented through income from trading activities, private donations and pro bono labour.

The gradual and mindful development of this project and the collaborative approach between the composer and the charity enabled the creation of three differentiated works suitable for amateur children's choirs through to professional singers.

The work draws together commonalities found across multiple historical traditions, religions and philosophies, and uses as its musical inspiration a traditional Bengali folk-tune with a characteristic rhythmic identity. The text is based on verses from the Book of Revelation in the Bible and reflects on death and societal harmony. The publication provided the opportunity to publish a work in Western European (English) and Asian (Bengali) scripts.

The *Hymn* version was premiered by singers and instrumentalists local to the Salisbury (UK) area, directed by George Richford, at the multi-faith Declaration of the New High Sherriff of Wiltshire in Broadchalke Church, on April 4th 2024.

The *Chorale* version was premiered and recorded for Multitude of Voyces by the choir of St Thomas-on-the-Bourne, Farnham, directed by Jordan Theis in November 2024.

[Weblink: https://www.multitudeofvoyces.org/projects/shantiniketan/](https://www.multitudeofvoyces.org/projects/shantiniketan/)

(As a result of this project Anita was commissioned by the National Youth Choir of Great Britain to extend the work for premiere performance in April 2025.)



Above: faith leaders at the world premiere of *Shantiniketan* in Broadchalke, Salisbury.

[Photo: https://www.dominicparkesphotography.co.uk/](https://www.dominicparkesphotography.co.uk/)

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Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

d) Examples of project work: (12.d – commissions on themes of social justice (Inclusive Hymn

Hymn to the Lord of Light

A new work giving space to the voice of people of Chinese heritage living in the UK

Text: Revd Kenson Li – Music: Dr Kiko Shao

This innovative commission was devised to create a new work suitable for young voices, to reflect and celebrate the diverse heritages of the young singers of Salford Cathedral and its wider community. It was the first sacred choral (Christian) commission for the writer and the composer and the first such experience for the professional Guzheng player and cultural ambassador Zi Lan Liao, and for the Choirs.

The work drew together complementary themes found in Western Christian mysticism and traditional Chinese thought, presented in a way which young people could relate to.

Cultural and theological advice was provided by Revd Mark Nam of The Teahouse, building on earlier academic work by the Sinologist Martin Palmer. The music drew on the compositional techniques and harmonies of classical Chinese music and introduced a new soundworld into the Choir's concert of diverse compositions by female and male composers.

The project was part-funded through a grant from the Postlethwaite Music Foundation and was supplemented by income from the charity's trading activities, pro-bono labour and the extensive support of the Choirs of Salford Cathedral and their Director of Music Alex Patterson who gave the premiere at the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus in Manchester, on 1st March 2025.

[Weblink: https://www.multitudeofvoyces.org/projects/hymn-to-the-lord-of-light/](https://www.multitudeofvoyces.org/projects/hymn-to-the-lord-of-light/)



Salford Cathedral Choirs directed by Alex Patterson, and Guzheng player Zi Lan Liao at the world premiere performance of Hymn to the Lord of Light. Photos: ©Franziska Tremper-Jeschke/Salford Cathedral (used with permission)

e) Examples of project work: (12.e – Research, Advocacy and education)

i. The charity was delighted to contribute to the Association of British Choral Directors (ABCD) Discovery Day, directed by Dr Amy Bebbington. The workshop was the ABCD's first such initiative and was a resounding success, attended by around 30 choral directors.

ii. The director maintained regular and detailed contact with other Arts professionals and organisations, discussing challenges to the Arts and Education sectors, sharing ideas and raising up the charity's own work and that of likeminded organisations at networking events such as the inspiring inaugural Cathedral Music Trust Conference (September 2024).

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

f) Examples of project work: (12.f.ii – Elizabeth Poston Project)

i. Dedicated donations and a pre-purchase offer partially enabled the publication of the extensive multi-part work *An English Day-Book* by Elizabeth Poston: https://issuu.com/multitudeofvoyces/docs/elizabeth_poston_an_english_day-book_all_moveme (The work was recorded in 2024 by the young professional ensemble Corvus Consort on the Chandos Label, alongside several Multitude of Voyces commissions developed as part of its Julian of Norwich Project (2016-2020). The charity provided pro bono musical, biographical and other information to support the recording and hopes that sufficient royalties income will be derived in the future from the radio broadcast and mechanical use of the commercial disc. The disc was chosen by BBC Music Magazine as their recording of the month (November 2024) and broadcast as BBC Radio 3's Album of the Week demonstrating the impact of the charity's work in the public interest.)

ii. Associates and a Trustee continued to explore collaborative opportunities with likeminded charities and institutions, however without substantial funding no further plans could be made at this stage.

g) Examples of project work: (12.g – Accessibility)

The charity began to plan for a dedicated focus on several areas of accessibility in the next year, particularly in relation to the charity's Education object. This research was carried out by the Director (a qualified SEN teacher) and the IT Associate (a qualified secondary school teacher) with support from The DAISY Consortium, a charitable organisation which supports adults and children who experience print disabilities.

14. Stakeholders and Beneficiaries feedback:

The charity received regular warm feedback relating to all aspects of its work, notably its interdisciplinary and intersectional approach which draws other areas of the Arts and Education into wider and creative conversations around diversity, equity, equality and inclusion.

Its generosity towards its Stakeholders, its helpfulness towards its Supporters and its preparedness to challenge discrimination in the public arena through its innovative and imaginative projects and methodology were all raised up and appreciated.

Experts frequently commented on the importance of the charity's specialised research around dormant in-copyright estates of underrepresented composers and writers of national significance and appreciated its intense and painstaking efforts to share such knowledge in the public interest.

Former and current Supporters (schools, universities, cathedrals, churches, amateur and professional choirs) regularly reported performances of works researched, commissioned or inspired by the charity's immediate projects and wider purpose, and several works received livestream or recorded broadcasts from cathedrals, universities and on BBC Radio 3 and BBC Radio 4.

'MoV is such an inspiring charity'
'Thank you very much for this marvellous labour of love'

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Reserves policy

In previous years, the trustees have not had any free reserves and have not, as a result, had the opportunity to develop a formal reserves policy. It is the intention of the trustees to implement a formal policy in the coming year.

At the year end, the charity had £25,691 of free reserves.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

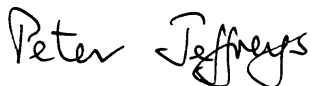
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements have been followed, subject to any material 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 proper 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 Charities (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 Trustees on January 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Peter Jeffreys

Date: 30 January 2026

Multitude of Voyces

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 which are set out on pages 12 to 18.

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.

Simon J L Ellingham

Simon Ellingham FCA DChA

Fawcetts LLP

Chartered Accountants

Windover House, St Ann Street, Salisbury, SP1 2DR

Date: 30 January 2026

**Multitude of Voyces
Statement of Financial Activities**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE		Unrestricted			2025	2024
	Note	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	Restated
		£	£	£	£	Total
						£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and grants	2	64,137		1,886	66,023	96,203
Charitable activities	3	14,033	-	-	14,033	28,388
Other trading activities		-	-	-	-	-
Other income - royalties		12,108	-	-	12,108	737
		<u>90,278</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,886</u>	<u>92,164</u>	<u>125,328</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	39,854	-	1,506	41,360	62,124
Support costs	5	5,541	-	-	5,541	4,584
		<u>45,395</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,506</u>	<u>46,901</u>	<u>66,708</u>
NET INCOME		44,883	-	380	45,263	58,620
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movements in funds		<u>44,883</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>380</u>	<u>45,263</u>	<u>58,620</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward as originally reported		(78,989)	-	9,640	(69,349)	(75,392)
Prior period adjustment	7	62,217		(9,640)	52,577	-
Total funds brought forward as restated		<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>(75,392)</u>
Net movements in funds		44,883	-	380	45,263	58,620
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>28,111</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>380</u></u>	<u><u>28,491</u></u>	<u><u>(16,772)</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

Comparative figures for the unrestricted and restricted funds are shown in note 2.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Multitude of Voyces

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2025

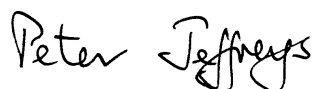
	Notes	2025		2024	
				Restated	
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Stock	8	4,115		5,313	
Debtors	9	2,665		1,448	
Cash at bank & in hand		<u>35,757</u>		<u>19,162</u>	
		42,537		25,923	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>14,046</u>		<u>42,695</u>	
Net current assets/(liabilities)			28,491		(16,772)
Net assets/(liabilities)			<u>28,491</u>		<u>(16,772)</u>
The Funds of the Charity					
Restricted funds	12		380		-
Designated funds	12		-		-
Unrestricted funds	12		28,111		(16,772)
Total Funds			<u>28,491</u>		<u>(16,772)</u>

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the charity keeps proper accounting records; and
- (b) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year.

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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Approved by the Trustees on 30 January 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Peter Jeffreys

Date: 30 January 2026

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The trustees have considered the financial position of the charity and believe that it is currently a going concern.

Taxation

No tax is provided for as Multitude of Voyces, being a charity, is exempt. As part of its current activities Multitude of Voyces is registered for VAT and recovers some VAT on its expenses.

Funds accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general activities of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources, including legacies and royalties, are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings which aggregate all costs related to the operating activities of the charity.

Grants are recognised when any conditions necessary for payment have been met.

Charitable activities comprise all the resources applied by the charity in undertaking its work to meet its charitable objectives.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and are included at cost. Depreciation is calculated at appropriate annual rates estimated to write off the costs of fixed assets less their estimated residual value over their useful lives as follows:

Equipment	33% on a straight line basis
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Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost is calculated using the first-in, first-out method and includes all purchase, transport, and handling costs in bringing stocks to their present location and condition.

Volumes held for loan to organisations and individuals and held for promotional purposes are excluded from the stock valuation.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

No significant judgements have had to be made in preparing these financial statements.

Multitude of Voices
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

2. Voluntary income

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total Restated
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants	-	-	-	-	1,000
Donations	64,137	-	1,886	66,023	95,203
	<u>64,137</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,886</u>	<u>66,023</u>	<u>96,203</u>

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Publications	8,426	-	-	8,426	19,988
Digital works and other income	5,607	-	-	5,607	8,400
	<u>14,033</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,033</u>	<u>28,388</u>

4. Direct costs of the Charity

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total Restated
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of meeting the charity's mission and purpose through its projects, including royalties	<u>39,854</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,506</u>	<u>41,360</u>	<u>62,124</u>

5. Support costs

The trust incurs a number of costs which are used to support its mission generally and which are not directly applicable to its charitable function. These costs are:

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
IT and telephone	3,243	-	-	3,243	1,878
Advertising	-	-	-	-	572
Insurance	142	-	-	142	822
Sundry expenses	1,221	-	-	1,221	912
Postage and stationery	635	-	-	635	150
Independent examiner's fees	-	-	-	-	-
Legal and professional fees	300	-	-	300	250
	<u>5,541</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,541</u>	<u>4,584</u>

6. Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

No trustee received any remuneration during the year. No out of pocket expenses were claimed by trustees (2024 £Nil).

No trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity.

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

7. Prior period adjustment

The charity has made material adjustments to restate figures previously reported in 2023/24. In addition, corrections have been made to record balances correctly between Fixed Assets, debtors, creditors and allocation of funds.

The impact of the adjustments is as stated below:

Fixed Assets - assets previously capitalised have been written off as they were not of sufficient cost to justify capitalisation under the Charity's accounting policy. The effect of this has been to reduce unrestricted funds brought forward by £378.

Donations - funds received in 2023/24 of £60,000 which were treated as loans have been restated as donations. This value has been included in the comparative Statement of Financial Activities.

Loans - monies paid out for expenses in previous periods that were incorrectly treated as loan repayments amounting to £18,964. The effect of this has been to reduce unrestricted reserves brought forward by £18,964.

Creditors - amounts previously recorded as creditors relating back to transactions around the time of the formation of the charity have been found to be not payable and have therefore been written back. The effect of the adjustment has been to increase unrestricted funds by £6,606.

Stock - stock of copies of the anthologies held for resale had not previously been recognised in the financial statements. The effect of this has been to increase unrestricted funds by £5,313.

Restricted and unrestricted funds - monies previously allocated to restricted funds have been reallocated to unrestricted funds as the original donation did not include a specific restriction regarding the use of the funds. This has meant that £9,640 previously treated as restricted has been reclassified as unrestricted.

Summary of financial effect

	£
Fixed assets	(378)
Donations	60,000
Loan	(18,964)
Creditors	6,606
Stock	5,313
Allocation of funds	-
	52,577

8. Stock

	2025	2024
	£	Restated
	£	£
Raw materials - printing paper and packaging	1,315	-
Finished goods - anthology volumes for resale	2,800	5,313
	4,115	5,313

9. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	Restated
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,286	1,227
Other debtors	576	221
Prepayments	803	-
	2,665	1,448

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

10. Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	Restated £
Trade creditors	2,440	32,938
Other creditors	-	-
Accruals	1,849	-
Loan	9,757	9,757
	<u>14,046</u>	<u>42,695</u>

11. Commitments

The charity had no capital commitments at the year end.

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Statement of funds

	Balance at 1.4.24	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers to/(from)	Balance at 31.3.25
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
Poston Project	-	1,410	1,410	-	-
Salford Cathedral Schools Singing Programme	-	-	-	-	-
CD marketing	-	380	-	-	380
Running costs	-	96	96	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,886</u>	<u>1,506</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>380</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>90,278</u>	<u>45,395</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,111</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>92,164</u>	<u>46,901</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,491</u>

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS cont.

Prior year - as restated

	Balance at 1.4.23 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers to/(from) £	Balance at 31.3.24 £
Restricted funds:					
Salford Cathedral Schools Singing Programme	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund	(75,392)	124,328	65,708	-	(16,772)
	<u>(75,392)</u>	<u>124,328</u>	<u>65,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,772)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>(75,392)</u>	<u>125,328</u>	<u>66,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,772)</u>

Poston Project - this relates to donations received towards the cost of the intended publication of musical works by Elizabeth Poston and biographical research.

Salford Cathedral Schools Singing Programme- this relates to a grant received from the Postlethwaite Music Foundation to provide sheet music and to commission and publish a new hymn as part of the charity's Inclusive Hymn Project.

CD marketing- donated by a Fellow of Selwyn College to support the launch of Selwyn College Cambridge's recording of anthology volume 1 (anticipated release February 2026)

Running costs - a donation to support the running costs of the charity.

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

31 March 2025	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Restricted funds	-	380	380
Unrestricted funds: general reserve fund	-	28,111	28,111
	<u>-</u>	<u>28,491</u>	<u>28,491</u>
Net assets as at 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>28,491</u>	<u>28,491</u>

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds for the year ended 31 March 2024 (as restated):

31 March 2024	Fixed assets £	Net current assets/ (liabilities) £	Total £
Restricted funds	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds: general reserve fund	-	(16,772)	(16,772)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>(16,772)</u>
Net assets as at 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>(16,772)</u>

MULTITUDE OF VOYCES

England & Wales - Charity number 1201139

Accounts

Multitude of Voyces

Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Charity No: 1201139

Multitude of Voyces

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

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Multitude of Voyces

Legal and Administrative Details

For the year ended 31 March 2024

CHARITY REGISTERED NUMBER

1201139

TRUSTEES

Peter Jefferys

The Revd Canon Jeremy Davies

Dr Jonathan Clinch

appointed 8 February 2024

Catherine Daniels

appointed 10 April 2024

Miriam Kimber

appointed 6 August 2024

DIRECTOR

Louise Stewart

REGISTERED ADDRESS

7 New Street

Salisbury

SP1 2PH

ACCOUNTANT AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Simon Ellingham FCA DChA

Fawcetts LLP Chartered Accountants

Windover House, St Ann Street, Salisbury, SP1 2DR

BANKS

Barclays

Salisbury

The Co-Operative Bank

Manchester

SOLICITORS

Wilson

Alexandra House

Salisbury

SP1 2SB

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 which 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as a CIO registered on 24 November 2022 having previously operated as a CIC. The financial report includes the activities prior to conversion. The charity is operated by its trustees who meet periodically. New trustees are recruited from among people who have an interest in furthering the aims of the CIO, with a view to ensuring that all the necessary competencies are represented on the trustee body.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have reviewed the risks to which the charity is exposed and they have implemented policies to mitigate the risks which they have identified.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- a) the advancement of education in the area of arts, culture and heritage by the increase of individual and collective knowledge and understanding of musical creativity, musical history and related matters
- b) the advancement of arts culture and heritage by promoting music and performance with and by those from underrepresented and marginalised groups. In each case, for the public benefit

BACKGROUND AND FINANCIAL REPORT

2023-2024 was the organisation's first complete year as a registered charity, having converted from Community Interest Company (CIC) status during the previous financial year. The director continued to work with the relevant authorities and organisations to ensure the safe and proper running of the charity on behalf of the trustees. An Associate undertook particular training to support the charity's IT needs.

Employees: The charity has no employees: instead, part-time, self-employed contractors (Associates) carry out specific tasks on behalf of the trustees as appropriate to their skills and qualifications and the charity's needs, with the director managing the day to day running of the charity.

The charity welcomed two new trustees, Dr Jonathan Clinch, and Mrs Julia Daniels Mackie, and thanked our outgoing founding-trustee, Mrs Jane Ebel MBE to whom the charity would like to pay particular tribute.

The director noted the generous pro bono work carried out by the trustees and by Fawcetts Accountants, whose expertise is invaluable to the charity in carrying out its complex intersectional and interdisciplinary work.

The charity opened a new bank account with a provider experienced at and interested in supporting small charities.

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Volunteers

The charity did not have the capacity to fund or to manage the recruitment and appropriate support of new volunteers in the reporting year: this will be a focus in the next financial year in relation to the Poston Project.

Funds

References to income and outgoings in this report use the traditional accounting (accruals basis) method.

The charity's main trading income in the reporting year was derived from the publication and sale of sheet-music by composers and writers from (historically and currently) underrepresented and marginalised communities.

a) The anthology series **Sacred Music by Women Composers, volumes 1, 2 and 3** continued to sell well, however external stresses on Arts funding, the continuing financial impact of Covid-19 on the Arts, Education and Leisure sectors, the impact of Brexit on administration and related costs to the charity, and the global economic downturn, limited the potential income from these sales.

b) **Digital offprints** from the Anthology series continued to sell well providing regular and meaningful income for the charity. The charity received regular 'repeat-sales' from universities, cathedrals and churches throughout the UK and beyond.

Other income: the charity raised some essential funds by selling to a national archive a quantity of original manuscripts and associated literary papers authored by the composer Elizabeth Poston, with the approval of the donor.

Grants

a) The charity received a grant of £1,000 from the Postlethwaite Music Foundation to provide donations of sheet-music to the Salford Cathedral Schools Singing Programme, and to commission and publish a new hymn for that organisation as part of the charity's Inclusive Hymn Project. The charity was particularly pleased to be able to support this Singing Programme which operates within the top 20 most deprived 10% of neighbourhoods nationally (English Indices of Deprivation, 2019, UK Gov).

b) The director was awarded a place on the Women in Music Leadership Online Network (WMLON) Mentoring Scheme (this work, made possible by the Open University and the University of York will be undertaken by the director with her mentor, Dr Cayenna Ponchione-Bailey, in the next financial year).

(The director noted with increasing concern that, while the charity's specialised work was warmly welcomed and encouraged within the classical music field, very few grant-funders understood the need to create new funds to support such pioneering and innovative work which in consequence limited the grants for which the charity could apply).

Monetary donations, donations-in-kind and discounted labour

a) The charity was deeply grateful for large donations from a private benefactor, some of which enabled the director to receive some of her overdue wages from the previous and current reporting years, and some of which was in the form of a restricted donation to enable the preparation and publication of new works by living female composers from underrepresented groups in the next financial year.

b) Several private benefactors made restricted donations to the new Poston Project, partly enabling the preparation of her major unpublished work *An English Day-Book*. These donations were enhanced by Gift Aid.

c) Discounts applied by two Associates totalled £6,739 and the director noted that in future the charity would need to fund contractors' fees in toto due to the rising cost of living and the reasonable expectation that self-employed, part-time professional contractors should be rewarded for their work in line with the market rate.

Printing for others

The charity continued to offer an affordable printing service to local charities and community groups; this initiative in turn raised money to support the charity's running costs and helped make prudent use of its high-quality printer.

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Gifts

In the second quarter of the reporting year charity was honoured to receive from Mr Simon Campion, formerly the musical executor of the estate of Elizabeth Poston, the gift of the available copyright of her musical and literary works, and, in addition, a substantial literary archive of her personal and related papers: this gift was made after careful preparation by the charity and was in addition to the gift of content from the Poston estate made in the previous financial year by Mr Campion.

In line with the donor's wishes this very generous gift will provide the charity with unique, unexplored, secular and sacred material and related resources around 20th Century composition, musicology and social history, and will also enable the charity to research and publish historically-unpublished works, and to raise funds for this ongoing project through the sales of the sheet-music and through receipt of royalty payments in the future.

Mr Campion's gift was widely recognised by the trustees and archivists as being of national significance. The charity was saddened to learn of his death in January 2024.

The charity's activities in the reporting year

Each activity was tested against the charity's own objects and the Commission's public benefit guidance.

Through the reporting year the charity's main work comprised:

- 1. The publication and dissemination of sacred works by female composers**
- 2. The research, commissioning, publication and dissemination of new works (hymns) on themes of social justice (Inclusive Hymn Project)** by diverse composers and writers of all genders, with particular inclusion of those from historically-marginalised groups
- 3. Advocacy and education** around historical and living composers and writers from underrepresented and marginalised groups in relation to the wider Arts, in particular where those groups were underrepresented through the societal norms of their day or through other factors, and where the impact of that underrepresentation limits current knowledge in academic and public discourse.
- 4. Research around, support of and participation in musical performances and other public events** focussing on music by and with underrepresented and marginalised communities
- 5. Elizabeth Poston Project Research and Development Phase**
- 6. Accessibility:** training in the preparation of music scores for conversion to Music Braille, better to support existing Stakeholders and to develop the charity's commitment to improved accessibility for all.

Examples of the charity's activities carried out through its own Events and Project work:

1. a) The charity continued to provide a high level of personal service to its Stakeholders through Charitable Trading, and offered very flexible trading hours and a bespoke service when needed, for the benefit of the Stakeholders.

b) The charity's dedicated Associate undertook the typesetting of the unpublished and unrecorded *Five German Partsongs* by Ethel Smyth (1855-1944) (ed. Maks Adach) with the approval of the composer's executors (these works will be published by the charity in the next financial year)

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Inclusive Hymn Project:

a) The charity continued its commitment to the diversification of the repertoire of hymnody with the commissioning of a new hymn, *A rainbow appears* (text by Mel Bringle, music by Tamsin Jones, 'in affirmation of the LGBTQ+ community')

b) The charity strengthened its links with the US Women's Sacred Music Project (WSMP) by contributing several hymns from to the WSMP's new project <https://thehymnsociety.org/resources/resounding-voices/> , in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the hymnbook *Voices Found* (pub. WSMP) . The project was launched in November 2023 and marketing work is being undertaken by WSMP. It is hoped that interest in the US in our Hymn project will enable further commissions to be undertaken by the charity.

c) The director began working with several clergy and musicians to plan the new hymn commission for the Salford Schools Singing Programme, funded by the Postlethwaite Music Foundation, to give space to the voice of those with Chinese heritage living in the UK. The new hymn will be premiered on 1st March 2025.

d) At the very end of the reporting year plans were made to give the premiere performance of the unison/organ setting of Anita Datta's anthem, *Shantinketan*, at the service to mark the Declaration and Acceptance of the role of High Sheriff of Wiltshire by Dr Olivia Chapple, taking over from the outgoing High Sheriff, Mr Pradeep Bhardwaj, whose work in the role had focussed on interfaith unity.

3. The director continued extensive conversations with relevant organisations, charities and Arts professionals discussing **advocacy and education** around inclusion and diversity within classical (choral and sacred) music. She attended the launch of a new initiative, the *Centre for Research in Music Education and Social Justice, University of Southampton* . Work began to develop interdisciplinary links between the charity and this nationally-important new centre for learning.

(The director noted that a lot of her own generic advocational and educational work, in particular for women composers as a worldwide community, did not translate directly into an improved financial situation for the charity. Significant additional income will be needed by the charity to enable it to continue such work in the future.)

4. The charity was delighted to support the choir of young professionals, Continuum, <https://continuumchoir.co.uk/events/past-events/continuum-in-concert/> by enabling them to give the **world premiere performance** of Ethel Smyth's *Five German Partsongs* at St Martin's Church in Salisbury.

5. Poston Project:

On exploration of the scope of the gift received in the reporting year it became apparent that very substantial and complex work would need to be undertaken and funded in the **Research and Development** phase of this project due to historical factors outside the charity's control. To help mitigate these unexpected costs the director and another Associate began urgent and detailed work to identify historical and potential sources of income due to the charity under its new ownership of the available copyright of Poston's music.

The director noted with concern the apparent lack of grant-funding available to support deceased female composers' musical estates, and the clear financial disparity between historical female composers' estates and those of many of their male contemporaries.

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

5. Poston Project cont:

Using data from the research work carried out in the financial year 2022-2023 it was estimated that the charity would need to raise around £100,000 to enable the charity's intended project to be carried out and completed satisfactorily. A restricted fund for this project was set up through the Charities Aid Foundation to enable private individuals to give monetary donations to the project.

In addition to the charity's own intended work in relation to the composer's musical and literary works conversations began, with the assistance of one of the trustees, to explore the potential for future postgraduate study in partnership with an appropriate university/conservatoire.

The director and another Associate worked closely with the journalist Madeleine Davies of the Church Times and an extensive article was published <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2023/18-august/features/features/elizabeth-poston-threads-of-a-composer-s-life> to educate the public and to raise awareness of the charity's new responsibilities and privilege.

Stakeholders were invited to support the preparation of Poston's major work *An English Day-Book*, through the pre-purchase of digital scores at a special 'pre-publication' price which provided the charity with essential funds to cover some of the complex typesetting and editing work and which also enabled our Stakeholders to access the sheet-music at a very advantageous price.

The charity continued to develop links with national and local archives which have specific and residual interests in some of the assets for which the charity is now otherwise responsible.

Stakeholders and Beneficiaries: additional information:

1. Royalties: The charity continued to support its Stakeholders through the regular and timely payment of appropriate royalty shares from sheet-music sales.

2. Feedback from Stakeholders:

a) an example of feedback from a Stakeholder: Composer, Alison Willis, said of the performance of her work *I sing of a maiden* at the inaugural Advent service sung by St Margaret's Choristers, Westminster Abbey:

"I am told that these will be the first girls to sing an Advent service there ever... and it was built in the twelfth century! I don't believe this would be happening without Multitude of Voyces and all the work that you do raising the profile of women composers and musicians. Now there is a generation of young women, many of whom will stay in these choirs until they are eighteen who not only get to learn, sing and play music from our great heritage but also see women as professional composers, Directors of Music and organists. That is a vast change."

b) Stakeholders from the UK, Europe, US and Australia made private contact with the charity to voice their thanks for its work and also raised up the charity's work on social media and to their peers.

c) Several composers and writers from underrepresented and marginalised (Global Majority) groups made contact with the charity throughout the reporting period keen to contribute to the charity's work and aims and to be associated with them - especially in relation to wider themes of diversity of the classical (choral) repertoire - but were unable to do so without realistic commission fees, which the charity could not afford.

d) In response to several professional musicians' and educators' concerns that the budgeting for the purchase of new sheet-music for the purpose of diversifying their organisations' repertoires was not always sufficiently-well understood by senior managers across both professional and amateur organisations, work began to build a network of professionals working across several disciplines in the Arts, to identify appropriate means of addressing this issue in the future.

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

e) Stakeholders' and Beneficiaries' own events:

The impact of the charity's own work is often most-clearly seen and understood through the creation of new projects and the development of new initiatives by third parties.

These include the comprehensive overhaul of repertoire choices, improving education for performers and audiences alike; a more-comprehensive understanding of the ongoing impact of historical and deliberately-prejudicial underrepresentation and marginalisation of specific communities within the field of classical music; deliberate efforts to learn and programme unfamiliar works by composers and writers historically and currently under-represented; the development of new initiatives offering greater opportunities in music-making available historically to boys and men but not hitherto equally-available to girls, women, and non-binary participants.

a) several of the charity's publications were recorded by professional and amateur choirs for public release in 2024/2025: details will be included within the next annual report.

b) In the reporting year many works published by the charity were introduced to the repertoire of UK and US cathedrals, schools, university colleges, community and professional choirs, with public performances particularly prominent at Advent and Christmas. Several works published by the charity were broadcast on BBC Radio 3 during the course of the year, both recorded by the BBC Singers and by other professional choirs invited to contribute to the BBC's regular offering including during Choral Evensong on Radio 3, giving our Stakeholders' work worldwide exposure.

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

e) Stakeholders' and Beneficiaries' own events cont:

c) CD launch by Salford Cathedral 14th October 2023: the charity's work was very-well represented by Salford Cathedral in their new CD recording 'Rise Up and Wonder'. Throughout the concert, the conductor, Alex Patterson, spoke about the need to diversify choral music within Cathedral music lists, highlighting the ground breaking work of Multitude of Voyces and saying:

"We are committed to commissioning, performing, and promoting contemporary music, rooted in the past and looking forward, ensuring the treasury of sacred choral music continues to evolve and inspire. We are grateful [for] the pioneering work of Multitude of Voyces whose support in recent years has been crucial in helping us diversify our choral repertoire.

A recent review in The Tablet also reinforced this as one of the main reasons behind the recording. Journalist Alexandra Coghlan described it as:

'a statement of intent: it's a line in the sand. Rise Up" the album's title exhorts; now it's time for other churches and cathedrals to listen. Recent stats suggest that less than five per cent of classical music performed in the UK is by female composers. Why shouldn't choral music lead the way towards greater parity and representation? On the basis of the varied, accessible and appealing work recorded here, there's no shortage of music, just volition'.



The choir of Salford Cathedral singing from Sacred Music by Women Composers Vol.1 at the launch of their CD and of the Salford Cathedral Music Foundation (Photo ©Franziska Tremper-Jeschke)

d) The charity was delighted that three of its commissions from Sacred Music by Women Composers Volume 3 were included in their Christmas concert (December 2023) by the young choir, Hesperos.

Multitude of Voyces

Trustee Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Responsibilities of the Trustees

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

The law applicable to charities in England & 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 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements have been followed, subject to any material 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 proper 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 Charities (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 Trustees on 28 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Peter Jeffreys

Multitude of Voyces

For the year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 11 to 16.

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.

Simon Ellingham FCA DChA

Fawcetts LLP

Chartered Accountants

Windover House, St Ann Street, Salisbury, SP1 2DR

Date: 28 January 2025

Multitude of Voyces
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2024

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE		Unrestricted			2024	2023
	Note	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and grants	2	25,563		10,640	36,203	7,643
Charitable activities	3	28,388			28,388	27,010
Other trading activities		-	-	-	-	-
Other income		737	-	-	737	-
Total income		<u>54,688</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,640</u>	<u>65,328</u>	<u>34,653</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	4	52,231	-	1,000	53,231	37,215
Support costs	5	6,054		-	6,054	18,265
Total expenditure		<u>58,285</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>59,285</u>	<u>55,480</u>
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME		(3,597)	-	9,640	6,043	(20,827)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movements in funds		(3,597)	-	9,640	6,043	(20,827)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		(75,392)	-	-	(75,392)	54,565
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>(78,989)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,640</u>	<u>(69,349)</u>	<u>75,392</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

Comparative figures for the unrestricted and restricted funds are shown in note 2.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Multitude of Voyces

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	7		378		378
Current assets					
Debtors	8	1,227		189	
Cash at bank & in hand		19,162		717	
			20,389		906
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	90,116		76,676	
Net current liabilities			(69,727)		(75,770)
Net assets			(69,349)		(75,392)
The Funds of the Charity					
Restricted funds			9,640		-
Unrestricted funds			(78,989)		(75,392)
Total Funds			(69,349)		(75,392)

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the charity keeps proper accounting records; and
- (b) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year.

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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Approved by the Trustees on 28 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Peter Jeffreys

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

The charity is dependent on the support of various individuals who have lent funds to the charity and have indicated that they do not intend to seek repayment of those funds for the foreseeable future. The accounts have therefore been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern and do not contain any adjustments that might be necessary were funding to be withdrawn.

Taxation

No tax is provided for as Multitude of Voyces, being a charity, is exempt. As part of its current activities Multitude of Voyces is registered for VAT and recovers some VAT on its expenses.

Funds accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general activities of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources, including legacies, are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings which aggregate all costs related to the operating activities of the charity.

Grants are recognised when any conditions necessary for payment have been met.

Charitable activities comprise all the resources applied by the charity in undertaking its work to meet its charitable objectives.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and are included at cost. Depreciation is calculated at appropriate annual rates estimated to write off the costs of fixed assets less their estimated residual value over their useful lives as follows:

Equipment	33% on a straight line basis
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Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

No significant judgements have had to be made in preparing these financial statements.

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Voluntary income

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Grants		1,000	1,000	-
Donations	25,563	9,640	35,203	6,543
	<u>25,563</u>	<u>10,640</u>	<u>36,203</u>	<u>6,543</u>

3. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Publications	19,988	-	19,988	13,283
Digital works and other income	8,400	-	8,400	13,727
	<u>28,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,388</u>	<u>27,010</u>

4. Direct costs of the Charity

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Cost of publications and other works	<u>52,231</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>53,231</u>	<u>37,215</u>

5. Support costs

The trust incurs a number of costs which are used to support its mission generally and which are not directly applicable to its charitable function. These costs are:

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
IT and telephone	1,878		1,878	3,300
Advertising	572		572	458
Insurance	822		822	416
Sundry expenses	912		912	1,466
Postage and stationery	470		470	555
Independent examiner's fees	-		-	-
Legal and professional fees	1,400		1,400	12,070
	<u>6,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,054</u>	<u>18,265</u>

6. Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

No trustee received any remuneration during the year. No out of pocket expenses were claimed by trustees (2023 £Nil).

No trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity.

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

7. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	378	378
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>378</u>	<u>378</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
Eliminated on disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	<u>378</u>	<u>378</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>378</u>	<u>378</u>

All fixed assets are held for the direct furtherance of the charity's objects.

8. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	1,227	189
Other debtors		
	<u>1,227</u>	<u>189</u>

9. Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	32,938	28,801
Other creditors	6,385	6,125
Accruals	-	-
Loan	50,793	41,750
	<u>90,116</u>	<u>76,676</u>

10. Commitments

The charity had no capital commitments at the year end.

Multitude of Voyces
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2024

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Statement of funds

	Balance at 1.4.23 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers to/(from) £	Balance at 31.3.24 £
Restricted funds:					
Publishing Project		9,640	-		9,640
Salford Cathedral Schools Singing Programme	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>10,640</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,640</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	(75,392)	54,688	58,285	-	(78,989)
	<u>(75,392)</u>	<u>65,328</u>	<u>59,285</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(69,349)</u>

Publishing Project - this relates to donations received towards the cost of the intended publication of sacred works by living female composers and for the publication of Elizabeth Poston's major work *An English Day-Book*.

Salford Cathedral Schools Singing Programme- this relates to a grant received from the Postlethwaite Music Foundation to provide sheet music and to commission and publish a new hymn as part of the charity's Inclusive Hymn Project.

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets/ (liabilities) £	Total £
Restricted funds	-	9,640	9,640
Unrestricted funds: general reserve fund	378	(79,367)	(78,989)
Net assets as at the end of the year	<u>378</u>	<u>(69,727)</u>	<u>(69,349)</u>

Comparative analysis of net assets between funds for the year ended 31 March 2023:

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Restricted funds	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds: general reserve fund	378	(75,770)	(75,392)
Net assets as at 31 March 2023	<u>378</u>	<u>(75,770)</u>	<u>(75,392)</u>