

Welsh Camerata
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Charity Number 1208382

Report and Financial statements
for year ended 31 August 2025

Welsh Camerata, CIO, Charity Number 1208382

Period ending 31 August 2025

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Legal and administrative information

TRUSTEES:

Vivien Goldberg (chair)
Rachel Davies (secretary)
Jeremy Badcock (treasurer)
Chris Holmquist
Christina Macaulay
Beatrice Pearce
Timothy Pearce

REGISTERED ADDRESSES:

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Druidstone Road
Cardiff
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admin@welshcamerata.org

<http://www.welshcamerata.org/>

BANKERS:

The Co-operative Bank
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M4 4BE

TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

The trustees working within the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and according to the CIO constitution. The minimum number of trustees is three, and at each annual general meeting of Welsh Camerata a third of all the trustees retire by rotation and the members elect or re-elect new trustees.

The trustees receive no remuneration and work to further the objectives of the choir. Trustees are re-imbursed for necessary expenditure, usually for admin sundries most conveniently purchased individually.

Policies for the appropriate management of the Welsh Camerata are developed and reviewed.

Overall summary of activity

The Welsh Camerata is a mixed choir of 25-30 singers, performing predominantly early European music (ie from 14th to 18th centuries) in public concerts in Cardiff. Its main aim is to develop awareness of important but lesser-known repertoire. Led by a professional Director and managed by a committee based around the CIO trustees, it is funded from member subscriptions, ticket sales, paid engagements, corporate funding and grants.

The choir aims to inform and develop the knowledge of its members and the general public in appreciation of sung early music, repertoire which is less frequently performed and often new to singers and audience alike.

Members of the choir gain a number of benefits through their involvement: The health benefits of choral singing, both physical and psychological, are generally acknowledged. There is likewise a social benefit from being part of a group, with a small number of singers, working together to achieve high standards of performance and take significant individual responsibility. Members also have the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills from the director, who is a highly skilled and knowledgeable professional musician.

Welsh Camerata generally prepares and performs at least three concerts a year coinciding with the academic terms. These are usually presented in churches in the South Wales/Cardiff area, with the rehearsal and performance venues benefitting from income derived from the hiring of space as well as opportunities for communities to come together. In addition, when the choir needs to engage professional period instrument musicians or vocal soloists it aims to provide opportunities for emerging artists to gain experience and exposure.

Trustees' Report

Welsh Camerata started this 12-month period with a new Director, following the retirement of the founding director, Andrew Wilson-Dickson, after 20 years. After interviewing candidates with a variety of experience, we were fortunate in engaging Frederick Brown, Chorus Master of the Welsh National Opera, who also brings a wealth of other operatic, orchestral, keyboard and vocal experience to the role. We are pleased that Andrew Wilson-Dickson has continued his links with the choir and has been supportive in lending instruments and taking occasional instrumental parts in concerts.

In this 2024-25 season Welsh Camerata performed 3 concerts, one per term:

- 'A Christmas in Wales and Europe' mixed repertoire from the Renaissance and Baroque eras interspersed with traditional Welsh plygain carols sung by small groups of choristers.
- The spring term concert, *Class of 1685*, featured music by the three major composers born in that auspicious year. This included Scarlatti's *Stabat Mater*, which really opened a lot of eyes to this unjustly neglected work. Bach and Handel were the other two composers.
- The summer concert, *Musical Friendships*, featured works by Byrd, Tallis and De Monte. They had in common their Catholic faith, which in Reformation times had to be kept secret.

The choir used different churches in the Cardiff area and experimented with changing the day and time of concerts – the most notable being trying a late Sunday afternoon concert which seemed to work well for performers and audience alike.

With the provider of the Welsh Camerata website relocating and retiring from the choir, the trustees investigated various options and decided to create a new website using the Making Music Platform. The one-off costs for setting this up are included in the Making Music entry in the accounts but the benefits from the new site will not be seen until the 2025-26 year. We are very grateful to the previous webmaster for creating and managing the Welsh Camerata's site for the choir's first 20 years.

This year was the first year of the Welsh Camerata's existence as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which has enabled the claiming of Gift Aid. This has been beneficial in helping to fund instrumentalists and to mitigate some of the effects of increasing venue hire costs.

In order to satisfy the more stringent banking conditions necessary for Charities, the Welsh Camerata changed its bank and now is able to receive modest interest on any reserves.

Welsh Camerata is also grateful for the donation made by Admiral Insurance which employs one of the choir members.

The accounts show a more favourable position compared to the previous year and, when it is deemed that this is sustainable, the choir will be able to produce more adventurous programming involving more instrumentalists, which in turn can be expected to increase audiences, membership and general interest.

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Receipts and payments account

(Previous year's figures shown in italics to the right)

RECEIPTS during year		£	23-24
Subs direct credit		4,680.00	3,985.00
Subs cash		0.00	60.00
Donations	Closure of company	31.00	0.00
	Sum up testing	19.63	2.96
	Admiral	472.00	463.00
	Sundry	110.00	551.00
Book sales		87.32	453.00
Ticket sales		2,799.53	2,207.04
HMRC gift aid		1,232.65	0.00
Bar donations		32.00	94.71
Score hire		27.60	0.00
Bank interest		18.02	0.00
INCOME TOTAL		9,509.75	7,816.71

PAYMENTS during year		£	23-24
Sundries	Printing	308.94	324.00
	Making Music	397.00	239.00
	Companies House	33.00	13.00
	Book, gifts, catering	410.00	522.00
Musicians		1,680.00	840.00
Music hire		73.00	22.00
MD		3,351.00	2,250.00
Concert venue		500.00	490.00
Rehearsal venue		1,245.00	1,200.00
PAYMENTS TOTAL		7,997.94	5,900.00

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Asset management

Commencement of year balance	£
Cash in hand	869.10
Cash at bank (NatWest)	2,759.26
TOTAL	3,628.36

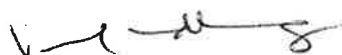
End of year balance carried forward	£
Cash in hand	104.10
Cash at bank (Co-op, current a/c)	428.05
Cash at bank (Co-op, deposit a/c)	<u>4,608.02</u>
TOTAL	5,140.17

Financial guidelines

- Welsh Camerata works within its budgets and thus has no policy regarding loans
- It aims to keep at least a half year's income in its interest-bearing reserve account to allow for contingencies such as unusually low audience receipts
- When funds allow, the organisation will plan more ambitious concerts involving extra instrumental accompaniment or vocal soloists
- Subscriptions from members of the choir provide up to a half of the income with the rest mainly coming from ticket sales, donations (including a small but welcome amount of commercial sponsorship), and Gift Aid.
- The financial statements have been compiled on the receipts and payments basis, showing the details of monies moving in or out, and the financial position at the beginning and end of the year.
- Welsh Camerata does not make grants to other groups or individuals, using its funding to enhance its own charitable objectives.
- The trustees all provide their services voluntarily receiving only reimbursement for necessary expenditure eg administration sundries

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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 16th June 2026, and signed on their behalf by:



Vivien Goldberg (Chair/trustee)



Jeremy Badcock (Treasurer/trustee)