



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JULY 2024 TO 30TH JUNE 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name: Fakenham Choral Society

Charity registration number: 278713

Trustees who manage the charity:

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Roger Burbidge	Chair	Until 1 st October 2024
Rosemary Dear	Vice Chair/Chair	Until 1 st October 2024/from 1 st October 2024
Tracey Thompson	Secretary	Until 1 st October 2024
Sally Bone	Secretary	From 1 st October 2024
Gillian Ashby	Treasurer	
Tim Burton		
Louise Myhill	Membership Secretary	
Diana Lyons		
Colin Blackmore		
Sonia Radley	Librarian	
Jean Mayne		Until 1 st February 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The choir is a society governed by a constitution (adopted 2021). It is managed by a committee of trustees who are each elected for a period of 3 years by and out of the Society's members at each Annual General Meeting.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects of the charity:

The objects of the Society shall be to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and 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.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects:

Fakenham Choral Society is a varied repertoire choir, with membership open to the local community, aiming to perform three public concerts a year. This offers opportunities to the general public to hear affordable live choral music in Fakenham and the surrounding areas. Choir members have the opportunity to perform with professional musicians, both solo singers and orchestral players. In addition, there is an annual Come and Sing event open to the community, which provides an opportunity for education in voice technique and to sing with a large group of people.

Rehearsals take place weekly during term time and include vocal exercises and learning musical works to performance level with a professional music director. The variety of music encourages appreciation across a variety of genres. There are also recognised social and therapeutic benefits of singing for the members.

The Society maintains a public presence through its website and social media, and detailed publicity and programmes for each concert.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Three concerts were held during the year.

Christmas Concert: *Christmas Knights*, including *Magnificat* by Sir John Rutter, *Joy to the World* by Sir Karl Jenkins, and traditional carols and choral favourites. This was held on Saturday 14th December 2024 in Fakenham Parish church, featuring Eleanor Oldfield as soprano soloist, and a guest orchestra. This concert was free to attend to encourage community inclusion, and the church was full.

Spring concert: Edward Elgar's *Sea Pictures* and *The Music Makers*, with Parry's *Blest Pair of Sirens*. This took place on Saturday 22nd March 2025 at Fakenham Parish Church, and featured Mezzo-soprano soloist Judy Louie Brown and a guest orchestra. This concert was a sell-out.

Summer concert: Will Todd's *Mass in Blue*, and sacred choruses. This was held on Saturday 21st June 2025 in Fakenham Parish church, with soprano soloist Rosamund Walton and guest instrumentalist trio.

The Society is indebted to a group of volunteers who run front of house at concerts, and to the Friends of Fakenham Choral Society who support the society.

A successful and well attended Come and Sing day of choruses from Verdi's *Requiem* was held on Saturday 1st March 2025, culminating in a free performance at Fakenham Academy. This raised funds for both the Society and local charity *Nelson's Journey*.

The Society was delighted to have the continued support of Sarah, Countess of Leicester, as their President.

The Society was pleased to participate once again in the Fakenham Christmas Tree festival, giving the opportunity to raise funds and also increase their public profile.

FINANCIAL REVIEW INCLUDING RESERVES POLICY


The trustees consider that the financial situation is satisfactory, and that the reserves are at a healthy and appropriate level. The amount currently held in reserve (£26224) will allow for exceptional circumstances such as cancellation of a concert, absorb variations in sponsorship and running costs, allow more flexibility in concert planning, and also permit replacement of equipment when necessary.

There is no separate reserves fund.

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature	
Full name	Gillian Ashby
Position	Trustee
Date	29 th December 2025

[illegible]

[illegible]



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Fakenham Choral Society

**On accounts for the year
ended**

30th June 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

278713

Set out on pages

1,2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/06/2025

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Andrew Stewart

Date:

23. 1x. 25

Name:

ANDREW STEWART

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

NORWICH,

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.