

**GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY**

Registered Charity No. 280533

**ACCOUNTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 JULY 2025

## **GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY**

### **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION - YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

#### **Trustees**

Derek Lake	Chairman
Katherine Thompson	Secretary
Mike Richmond	Treasurer
Geoffrey Barham	Concert Venue Manager
Sara Gee	Accounts Manager
Sara Davies	Box Office Manager
Lesley Pratt	Rehearsal Secretary
Natalie Thurley	IT Manager
Keith Torbet	Concert Manager
Charlotte Beck	Publicity Manager
Philip Tudor	Librarian
Isobel Venner	Programme Editor
Marilyn Vincent	Patrons Secretary
Catherine Wands	Membership Secretary
Matt Johnson	Interim Librarian
James Milne	Interim Librarian

#### **Principal Office**

c/o K Thompson  
14 Orchard Road  
Guildford  
Surrey  
GU2 7QY

#### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank plc  
Leicester  
LE87 2BB

#### **Website**

[www.guildfordchoral.org](http://www.guildfordchoral.org)

#### **Independent Examiner**

Ramani Langley MA

**TRUSTEES' REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts of Guildford Choral Society for the year ended 31 July 2025. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 7 and comply with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

**Constitution and objects**

Guildford Choral Society ("the Society") was founded in 1839 and is constituted under its Constitution and Rules (as amended from time to time) and is a registered charity no. 280533. The Constitution can be amended by a Special General Meeting of the members of the Society.

The objects of the Society have continued to be to promote the advancement and improvement of general education in relation to all aspects of the art of choral music and the development of the public appreciation of such art, principally by the participation of its members in the performance of choral concerts.

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

**Organisation**

The trustees who have served during the year are set out on page 1. Trustees are elected for the following year at each Annual General Meeting of members of the Society. All trustees are committee members, and the committee meets at least twice a year. The income and expenditure relating to the promotion of concerts and to other activities is set out on page 5.

**Financial and operating review**

A full season of four concerts was performed. Concert income totalled £41,527 and concert expenses were £65,551. Non-concert income including member subscriptions totalled £51,166 and non-concert costs including rehearsal costs totalled £22,173, resulting in a gain for the year of £4,970.

Our year began with a performance in November 2024 of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in G Live. Soloists were Gareth Brynmor John (Baritone), Charlotte Jane Kennedy (Soprano), Angelina Dorlin-Barlow (Alto), and Francis Melville (Tenor), all accompanied by Southern Pro Musica and conducted by Jonathan Willcocks.

In December 2024 we gave a Christmas and winter-themed concert in Holy Trinity Church. The programme included Sarah Quartel's *A Winter Day*, Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas carols*, and a selection of favourite carols in some of which the capacity audience could join in. Soloists were Thomas Butler (Baritone), Emma Pritchard (cello), Fraser Tannock (Trumpet) and Philip Scriven (organ and piano), all conducted by Jonathan Willcocks.

In February 2025 we organised one of our regular Singing Days open to all comers. Led by Jonathan Willcocks, this covered Mozart's *Requiem* and Jonathan's own piece *Sing Africa*. The event was well attended and raised funds for the choir as well as being thoroughly enjoyable.

In March 2025 we gave a performance of Elgar's *The Music Makers* and Howells' *Hymnus Paradisi* in G Live. The latter piece was among the more difficult we have tackled over the years, but also, once we had got to grips with it, one of the most satisfying. Jonathan Willcocks conducted the Bournemouth

## **GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY**

Symphony Orchestra, with soloists: Charlotte Bowden (Soprano), Diana Moore (Alto) and Matthew Long (Tenor).

In June 2025 we performed Poulenc's *Gloria* and Bruckner's *Mass in E Minor* in Holy Trinity Church, the former in an arrangement by Jonathan Willcocks for reduced orchestral resources. The orchestra, Southern Pro Musica, also performed Mozart's *Serenade for wind in C minor*. The soprano soloist was Susannah Davis.

Finally, in July 2025 we were delighted to be invited to join our Guildford colleagues, The Vivace Chorus, in a Royal Albert Hall concert to celebrate the retirement of their long-standing musical director, Jeremy Backhouse. We performed Poulenc's *Gloria*, this time with full orchestration, and Berlioz's: *Te Deum* alongside several other choirs and The Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra. Also on the programme was Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe Suite no.2*. Soloists were Lucy Crowe (Soprano) and Nicky Spence (Tenor).

The Society continues to enjoy support from a separate charity, The Friends of Guildford Choral Society, who generously supported our activities with a grant of £5,000.

### **Reserves policy**

It is the policy of the Society to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free reserves of the charity (excluding listed investments), at a level of at least 12 months' net expenditure. In this context, net expenditure means budgeted annual rehearsal costs and administrative expenses, together with anticipated finance required for the concerts to which the Society is financially committed for the coming year. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs and to be able to commit to the planned programme of concerts for the next 2 - 3 years.

Unrestricted reserves at 31 July 2025 totalled £106,302. The trustees consider that reserves of £40,000 are required for the coming year.

### **Risk management**

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Society faces and are satisfied that systems have been established to address the identified risks.

### **Public benefit**

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. As confirmed by the information contained in this report, the maintenance of a comprehensive website and in other ways, the trustees actively seek to demonstrate, on a continuing basis, that the aims of the charity are carried out for the public benefit.

### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the accounts**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

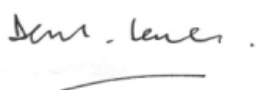
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in business.

## GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society, which enable the trustees to ascertain the financial position of the Society and to ensure that the accounts comply with the charities legislation. 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.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



.....  
Derek Lake  
Chairman

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025



.....  
Mike Richmond  
Treasurer

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025

# **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 July 2025**

	Concerts	Restricted funds	Other Activities	Total year ended 31 July 2025	Total year ended 31 July 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Concert tickets	28,691	-	-	28,691	28,438
Programme sales and advertising	1,976	-	-	1,976	2,413
Sponsors and grants	-	-	5,000	5,000	5,000
Patrons and other donations	-	-	4,298	4,298	8,984
Fundraising	-	-	3,631	3,631	1,409
Investment income	-	-	1,048	1,048	466
Members' subscriptions	-	-	30,815	30,815	28,285
Tax recoverable under gift aid	-	-	6,329	6,329	4,271
Other income	10,861	-	45	10,906	4,615
	<b>41,528</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,166</b>	<b>92,694</b>	<b>83,881</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable expenditure:					
Orchestras	26,131	-	-	26,131	22,554
Soloists and conductors	12,025	-	-	12,025	17,656
Concert halls	14,737	-	-	14,737	16,541
Publicity	564	-	458	1,022	2,029
Programme printing	1,928	-	-	1,928	1,614
Other concert costs	10,165	-	-	10,165	7,347
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Rehearsals	-	-	20,252	20,252	18,497
	<b>65,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,710</b>	<b>86,260</b>	<b>86,239</b>
Management and administration	-	-	1,464	1,464	1,545
	<b>65,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,174</b>	<b>87,724</b>	<b>87,784</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) expenditure before investment</b>	<b>(24,022)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,992</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>(3,903)</b>
Net losses on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	24,022	-	(24,022)	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>(3,903)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>101,332</b>	<b>102,932</b>	<b>106,835</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>106,302</b>	<b>107,902</b>	<b>102,932</b>

**GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY****BALANCE SHEET as at 31 July 2025**

		Restricted Funds	Un- restricted funds 31-Jul-25	Total	Restricted Funds	Un- restricted funds 31-Jul-24	Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£
Current Assets							
Cash at bank		1,600	90,972	92,572	1,600	94,149	95,749
Debtors, prepayments and accrued income	5	-	15,330	15,330	-	9,725	9,725
Total current		1,600	106,302	107,902	1,600	103,874	105,474
<b>Creditors - amounts falling due within one year</b>							
Creditors and deferred income		-	-	-		(2,542)	(2,542)
Total assets less current liabilities		1,600	106,302	107,902	1,600	101,332	102,932
<b>Funds</b>							
Balance brought forward		1,600	101,332	102,932	1,600	105,235	106,835
Net movement in resources in the year			4,970	4,970		(3,903)	(3,903)
Balance carried forward		1,600	106,302	107,902	1,600	101,332	102,932

**Basis of preparation**

These accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention on an accruals basis and are based on the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 insofar as it applies to the accounts of unincorporated charities with up to £250,000 annual income, and the Charities Act 2011.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

.....  
Mike Richmond  
Treasurer

.....  
Derek Lake  
Chairman

Date: .....

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**1. Basis of preparation**

**Basis of accounting**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Charities Act 2011.

**Going concern**

The trustees have no reason to consider that the Society is not a going concern.

**2. Accounting policies**

**Income**

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- we become entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that we will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources are accounted for on an accruals basis and consist of the total income receivable during the year. This comprises concert income, sponsorship and grants, fundraising, member subscriptions, donations received from patrons and others, and investment income receivable, together with gift aid tax recoveries.

**Expenditure & liabilities**

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

**3. Net movement in funds**

Unrestricted funds are those accumulated surpluses and deficits which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the Society's general charitable objectives (and may include designated funds).

Restricted funds are those subject to specific trusts, to be directed to a specified purpose, in some cases with a requirement for the assets to be invested and retained for actual use (an endowment fund) without being expended.



**4. Related party transactions**

**Remuneration and benefits**

None of the trustees of the Society was paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year.

No remuneration has been paid to the independent examiner.

**Trustee expenses**

Trustees are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses where the trustee acts as an agent for the Society. No trustee has claimed for travel, subsistence or similar costs incurred in carrying out their duties.

**Related parties**

The Society purchases flower bouquets from Outside In, a floral decorating business based in Milford, Surrey which is owned by one of the trustees. The value of these activities is regularly checked against the market. Purchases during the year totalled £318 (2024: £368) and related to flowers presented to concert soloists and conductors.

**5. Debtors, prepayments and accrued income**

	Year ended 31 July 2025 £	Year ended 31 July 2024 £
<b>Debtors</b>		
Cash receipts from trustees	-	1,387
Gift Aid due from HMRC	15,330	8,338
	<u>15,330</u>	<u>9,725</u>

**6. Accruals and deferred income**

	Year ended 31 July 2025 £	Year ended 31 July 2024 £
<b>Accruals</b>		
Expenses due to trustees	-	2,227
<b>Deferred Income</b>		
Library receipts for future concerts	-	315
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,542</u>

**GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY**

Registered Charity No. 280533

**ACCOUNTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

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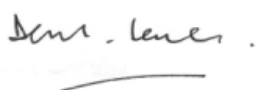
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Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



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Derek Lake  
Chairman

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025



.....  
Mike Richmond  
Treasurer

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025

# **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 July 2025**

	Concerts	Restricted funds	Other Activities	Total year ended 31 July 2025	Total year ended 31 July 2024
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Investment income	-	-	1,048	1,048	466
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Charitable expenditure:					
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Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Rehearsals	-	-	20,252	20,252	18,497
	<b>65,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,710</b>	<b>86,260</b>	<b>86,239</b>
Management and administration	-	-	1,464	1,464	1,545
	<b>65,550</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,174</b>	<b>87,724</b>	<b>87,784</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) expenditure before investment</b>	<b>(24,022)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,992</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>(3,903)</b>
Net losses on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	24,022	-	(24,022)	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>4,970</b>	<b>(3,903)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>101,332</b>	<b>102,932</b>	<b>106,835</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>106,302</b>	<b>107,902</b>	<b>102,932</b>

**GUILDFORD CHORAL SOCIETY****BALANCE SHEET as at 31 July 2025**

		Restricted Funds	Un- restricted funds 31-Jul-25	Total	Restricted Funds	Un- restricted funds 31-Jul-24	Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£
Current Assets							
Cash at bank		1,600	90,972	92,572	1,600	94,149	95,749
Debtors, prepayments and accrued income	5	-	15,330	15,330	-	9,725	9,725
Total current		1,600	106,302	107,902	1,600	103,874	105,474
<b>Creditors - amounts falling due within one year</b>							
Creditors and deferred income		-	-	-		(2,542)	(2,542)
Total assets less current liabilities		1,600	106,302	107,902	1,600	101,332	102,932
<b>Funds</b>							
Balance brought forward		1,600	101,332	102,932	1,600	105,235	106,835
Net movement in resources in the year			4,970	4,970		(3,903)	(3,903)
Balance carried forward		1,600	106,302	107,902	1,600	101,332	102,932

**Basis of preparation**

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Signed on behalf of the trustees

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Mike Richmond  
Treasurer

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Derek Lake  
Chairman

Date: .....

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**Basis of accounting**

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**Going concern**

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**2. Accounting policies**

**Income**

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- we become entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that we will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming resources are accounted for on an accruals basis and consist of the total income receivable during the year. This comprises concert income, sponsorship and grants, fundraising, member subscriptions, donations received from patrons and others, and investment income receivable, together with gift aid tax recoveries.

**Expenditure & liabilities**

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

**3. Net movement in funds**

Unrestricted funds are those accumulated surpluses and deficits which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the Society's general charitable objectives (and may include designated funds).

Restricted funds are those subject to specific trusts, to be directed to a specified purpose, in some cases with a requirement for the assets to be invested and retained for actual use (an endowment fund) without being expended.

**4. Related party transactions**

**Remuneration and benefits**

None of the trustees of the Society was paid any remuneration or received any other benefits during the year.

No remuneration has been paid to the independent examiner.

**Trustee expenses**

Trustees are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses where the trustee acts as an agent for the Society. No trustee has claimed for travel, subsistence or similar costs incurred in carrying out their duties.

**Related parties**

The Society purchases flower bouquets from Outside In, a floral decorating business based in Milford, Surrey which is owned by one of the trustees. The value of these activities is regularly checked against the market. Purchases during the year totalled £318 (2024: £368) and related to flowers presented to concert soloists and conductors.

**5. Debtors, prepayments and accrued income**

	Year ended 31 July 2025 £	Year ended 31 July 2024 £
<b>Debtors</b>		
Cash receipts from trustees	-	1,387
Gift Aid due from HMRC	15,330	8,338
	<u>15,330</u>	<u>9,725</u>

**6. Accruals and deferred income**

	Year ended 31 July 2025 £	Year ended 31 July 2024 £
<b>Accruals</b>		
Expenses due to trustees	-	2,227
<b>Deferred Income</b>		
Library receipts for future concerts	-	315
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,542</u>

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Guildford Choral Society**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Guildford Choral Society (the Society) for the 12 months ended 31 July 2025.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Society you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('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 Society 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 Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as a part of an independent examination

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Langley', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ramani Langley, MA