

## **Royal Free Singers**

### **Objects**

The Society, a registered charity (No 292972), is governed by Rules of its Constitution which state:

The object 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 the presentation of public concerts.

### **Address**

The registered address of the Charity is:

5 Hearne Drive, Holyport, SL6 2HZ which is the address of the person currently as the Charity's correspondent with the Charity Commission

### **Membership Affiliation**

The Charity is affiliated to Making Music

### **Trustees**

The trustees of the Charity are members of the Committee, which consists of 3 officers and ordinary members, all of whom are elected by the Society at the Annual General Meeting held in November each year.

The following were the Trustees during this year.:

Bob Tavinor (Chair), Maria Crawford-Smith (Secretary), Ray Bowyer (Treasurer), Helen Archibald (Concert Secretary), Ros Middleton (Marketing), Linda Chanan (Membership/subscription secretary/admin), Frankie Stringer (Rehearsals/Events/Refreshments), Chris Shepherd (DataBase), Martin de Vries (Webmaster)

### **Management**

The Society is administered and managed by the Committee of Trustees.

There were seven Committee members during the year. The AGM was held on 6th November 2025

### **Finance**

The Charity's bank account is held by CAF Bank Ltd. 25 King's Hill Avenue, King's Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JW

Independent examination of the accounts has been carried out by Mr John Seymour, Bray  
For the financial year 1st August 2024 - 31st July 2025 the income was £42,715, the Expenditure was £41,238

**Reserves Policy:** the Committee has agreed to maintain a Reserve Fund to cover liabilities incurred in the unlikely event of concerts not taking place or not earning any income. The sum in the Reserve Fund is equal to the average annual expenditure for three main concerts. The Reserve Fund currently stands at £28,543

### **The Charity's Activities**

The first rehearsal in September was an open evening, giving prospective members a chance to try us out, at no cost and hopefully gain a few new members.



## **Concerts**

### **Autumn Concert: Windsor Parish Church**

**Handel Messiah**, a favourite of many people, which helped swell the audience attendance

### **Carol Concert at United Reform Church, Windsor**

This is an annual FOC event, with a retiring collection made for a charity which the church supports.

## **2025**

**February**, a workshop was held with our Patron Composer, Jonathan Wilcocks, to work through his, **O Joyful Soul**.

### **Spring Concert: Windsor Parish Church**

**Haydn: Nelson Mass**, a lovely piece and always enjoyable to listen to

**Willcocks: O Joyful Soul**, a specially commissioned piece set to psalms and poems, which is both celebratory and prayerful

### **Summer Concert: Windsor Parish Church**

**RFS/Chiltern Concert Band**, launching the church NEXT200 Project

This was a marvellous mix of choir and band music, which the audience really appreciated. And to top it off on a nice summer evening, a glass of bubbles and a few nibbles were enjoyed afterwards outside.

### **Social and fundraising events:**

New Year Party, book sales, raffle and 100 Club

Summer outing to visit Wallingford and concert in Ewelme Church

### **Membership:**

There were 101 members during the year, including 4 people with life membership

### **Volunteers and Tasks:**

In addition to the Committee, many members took part in running the choir and Related events. This included Membership Secretary, Music Librarian, Front of House Team, Friends of RFS and Box Office Team

**Conductor and Accompanist:** Ben Gunner was our conductor and Musical Director.

John Chantrey was our Accompanist. And on occasions, locums were brought to help out.

Bob Tavinor, Chair Royal Free Singers