



**Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir  
Trustees' Annual Report  
for the period  
1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

**Charity registration number: 506586**

**Season Summary**

The choir meets to rehearse once weekly during school term times and performs four concerts and one Come and Sing per year. The choir has appointed a new Musical Director from September 2024, James Bate, and continues to work with professional pianist, Colin Druce, as accompanist.

Concerts performed:

1. A Requiem for Remembrance – Pieces by MacMillan, Laurin, Tavener and Faure
2. Bach Choir Christmas Family Concert
3. Gloria Patri – Pieces by Leonarda, Telemann, Cozzolani and Bach
4. This Love Between Us by Reena Esmail and Bach's Magnificat

Other Events:

1. Come and Sing Carmina Burana

**Chairman's Report**

Our 2024/25 season has been wonderful, with our lovely new MD Jim Bate who has a such a good energy in the room and manages to sneak in so many technical aspects of singing techniques while improving our presentation of the music at every turn.

We kicked off in the autumn with the Faure Requiem, John Tavener's Svyati, James Macmillan's Domine non secundum peccata nostra and Rachel Laurin's Fantasia op 52 with Colin Druce on organ throughout. Thankfully, Jim's baby Clara arrived five days before the concert which definitely took a big concert worry away. We performed to a strong audience and were delighted by the Pie Jesu solo sung by our very own Claire Knowles.

Our Christmas family concert was very jolly with ARC Brass and the heating working at Holy Trinity Church.

In March 2025 our Gloria Patri concert with accompanying weather made for an elemental concert at St Mary's Warwick. This was definitely a challenge for the staging team which they rose to well.

The Come & Sing Carmina Burana was such a fun day as our Come & Sings tend to be. These events are important revenue generators for the choir.

This Love Between Us and Bach's Magnificat in the summer was a wonderful experience to perform and thrilling to have the accompaniment of a Tabla and Sitar player despite the last-minute amplification requirements.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Membership: We had 97 paying members during the year compared to 95 the previous season, although not everyone paid for the entire year.

Concert Income was down a little with some low audience numbers in Spring and Summer.

Concert Expenditure was down considerably as we made some good savings on concert expenses despite music costs and performance licenses being high.

We had no special event over the course of the season, so there was less complexity to the accounts.

Concert Balances:

- Autumn: £1,593 surplus
- Christmas: £435 deficit
- Spring: £746 deficit
- Come and Sing: £594 surplus
- Summer: £3,413 deficit

Overall, our concert loss was £586 — well below the anticipated £6.6k - almost entirely due to lower instrumentalist costs in the summer by using Beauchamp Sinfonietta rather than a professional group, and with thanks for a generous in memoriam donation from Kate Sargent.

Fundraising Summary:

- £1,485 from hiring out our staging at All Saints – up from last year without increasing the charges
- £200 from Easy Fundraising – down a little on last season with no Amazon contributions
- Our Friends scheme didn't generate much revenue this season, but has now been refreshed and re-advertised so we hope to get back to previous levels
- We have had no specific fund-raising activities for a while
- We haven't been able to sell any music scores this season due to budget constraints at libraries

Net Position: We ended the year with an increase of £7,900, standing us in good stead for a few potentially expensive seasons and some ambitious special projects.

Looking Ahead: Subs for Next Season (2026/27)

The good news is that our finances are looking healthy. As a result, we propose no change to membership subs for the 2026/27 season, which will mean subs will have stayed flat for 3 years.

This Season's Budget (2025/26):

Our forecast for this season predicts an overall concert loss of nearly £5k, with some expensive music costs which we do not intend passing on to the choir; increasing fees and some large orchestrations. We have seen a reduction in available performing arts grants, so we do not expect any significant external help.

## **Governance**

The Choir is governed by a constitution which sets out the Membership, Officers & Committee, Trusteeship, etc.

Relevant extracts of the constitution are included here:

### **3) Membership**

- i) The membership of the Society shall comprise
  - a) Patron
  - b) President
  - c) Vice Presidents
  - d) Members
  - e) Associate Members
- ii) The position of Patron may be offered to a suitable person by a resolution of a General Meeting.
- iii) The position of President shall be reserved for the Mayor of Royal Leamington Spa ex officio.
- iv) Vice Presidents may be elected by a General Meeting in recognition of exceptional service to the Society.
- iii) Applications for Member must be made using the prescribed form and are subject to appraisal by the Musical Director as to the applicant's musical suitability.
- iv) Associate Members may be appointed by the committee.
- v) The Committee shall ensure that a record is kept of the membership of the Society.
- vi) Communications with the membership will be made in electronic form except as the committee may direct otherwise.

### **4) Officers & Committee**

- i) The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall elect from among the Members of the Society a committee which shall manage the Society comprised as follows:
  - a) Chairman
  - b) Secretary
  - c) Treasurer
  - d) Publicity Officer
  - e) Librarian
  - f) Not more than five other committee members
- ii) A quorum at a committee meeting shall be not less than half the number of members and must include at least the Chairman or the Secretary or the Treasurer.
- iii) Casual vacancies may be filled by the Committee from among the Members of the Society.
- iv) The committee may co-opt not more than two additional persons as members at any time.
- v) The Chairman shall have a second or casting vote at committee meetings only.

- vi) A committee meeting may be called at any appropriate time by the Secretary.
- vii) All committee members shall be eligible to stand for re-election except that no Member shall hold the office of Chairman for more than three years in immediate succession.

### **5) Musical Director**

The Society may engage and remunerate a suitably qualified Musical Director whose duties shall include rehearsing the choir, conducting the choir at public concerts, appraising the musical suitability of applicants for membership, proposing for the approval of the committee a programme of music for performance which will advance the objects of the Society, and other duties as may be agreed from time to time.

### **13) Trusteeship**

- i) All music or other property purchased by or presented to the Society shall be vested in the committee.
- ii) For the purposes of charitable registration, the trustees of the Society shall be the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- iii) No trustee or committee member or any connected person shall receive any financial benefit from the Society except that
  - a) Out-of-pocket expenses incurred in conducting any approved business of the Society shall be reimbursed.
  - b) As provided by the Charities Act 2011 Section 185 a financial benefit may be given to a trustee or committee member or connected person in return for services provided under a written contract if the trustees and the committee agree that the best interests of the Society are thereby served and that in no circumstances do a majority of trustees or committee members receive any such benefit.

*Adopted 31<sup>st</sup> January 1945 and last amended 2022. Ref: v2*

### **Other Matters**

Trustees have been made aware of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

## Financial Review

### Accounts at end August 2025

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR							
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025							
	31.08.25	31.08.24	31.08.23	31.08.22	31.08.21	05.08.20	31.08.19
<b>Equipment</b>							
At cost at 1 September	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482	4,482
Additions in year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation to date	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)	(4,482)
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Working capital</b>							
Debtors, advance payments & cash floats	360	170	170	170	170	170	824
COIF charity deposit	6,056	5,790	5,503	5,328	5,310	5,309	5,271
Lloyds current account	25,688	18,239	19,228	18,100	18,686	21,881	10,752
	32,104	24,199	24,900	23,598	24,166	27,360	16,847
Income in advance and creditors	0	0	0	0	0	1,526	808
<b>Net asset position</b>	£ 32,104	24,199	24,900	23,598	24,166	25,834	16,039
<b>Surplus funds as per previous page</b>	£ 32,104	24,199	24,900	23,598	24,166	25,834	16,040

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR							
ANALYSIS OF CONCERT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE							
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025							
	Autumn	Xmas	Workshop	Spring	Summer	Total	
Ticket sales	4,001	2,895	1,771	3,420	2,691	14,779	
Programme sales	305	0	0	287	253	845	
Programme advertising	60	0	0	60	60	180	
Sponsorship / Grants	500	0	0	0	350	850	
Music sale/hire	520	537	0	988	663	2,708	
Other concert income	216	225	242	150	167	1,000	
<b>Total income</b>	£ 5,601	3,657	2,013	4,905	4,185	20,360	
Orchestra/instrumentalists	1,630	2,530	430	2,100	2,616	9,306	
Soloists/conductor	930	380	380	1,780	2,205	5,675	
Music/instrument hire	40	231	101	612	320	1,303	
Venue hire/staging costs	837	600	450	533	0	2,420	
Concert printing/advertising	510	240	36	516	520	1,822	
Other concert expenses	61	111	22	111	115	420	
<b>Total expenditure</b>	£ 4,008	4,092	1,419	5,651	5,777	20,946	
<b>Concert surplus/deficit</b>	£ 1,593	(435)	594	(746)	(1,592)	(586)	

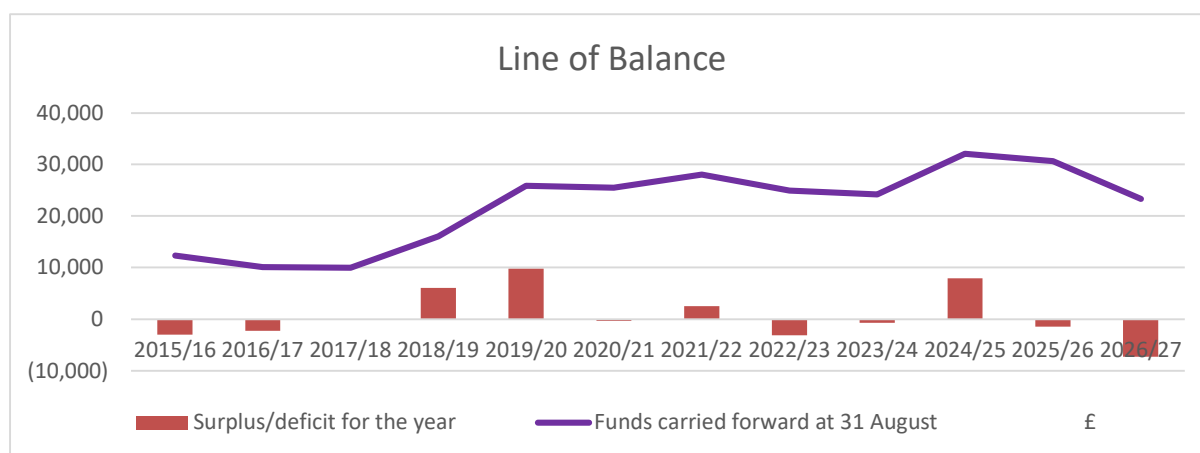
## Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir Trustees' Annual Report, Season 2024 to 2025

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR							
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025							
	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19
Total concert income as per attached schedule	20,360	21,711	16,133	12,141	571	12,283	14,022
Members' subscriptions incl Gift Aid recovery	22,357	22,092	17,422	13,637	6,498	15,014	14,804
Friends' subscriptions	90	677	683	1,179	710	1,240	1,028
Performance Fees & Special Events	0	2,678	16	1,200	480	-	-
Grants, donations, fundraising & bequest	1,924	3,319	4,041	2,773	2,199	1,979	56
Refreshments and raffles	1,168	1,248	1,044	1,127	72	1,361	1824
Bank deposit interest received	266	288	175	18	39	38	20
Miscellaneous income/Advance on next season	1,275	146	5	2,450	347	395	-1349
<b>Total income</b>	<b>47,440</b>	<b>52,159</b>	<b>39,519</b>	<b>34,525</b>	<b>10,916</b>	<b>32,310</b>	<b>30,405</b>
Total concert expenditure as per attached schedule	20,946	26,105	27,630	19,297	2,248	11,144	15,772
Rehearsal venue	4,448	3,748	2,423	2,343	172	1,586	577
Conductor/accompanist	8,465	12,126	7,678	7,174	6,076	5,955	6458
Printing/publicity/website	1,530	259	499	577	393	2,626	307
Special Events	0	2,340					
Stock Purchases, Equipment, Asset Maintenance	261	815					
Miscellaneous (inc prepayments)	2,592	6,443	3,490	2,118	1,634	639	648
Insurance, PRS & Making Music	1,293	1,025	846	578	718	567	586
Depreciation of equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>39,535</b>	<b>52,860</b>	<b>42,566</b>	<b>32,086</b>	<b>11,241</b>	<b>22,516</b>	<b>24,348</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit for the year</b>	<b>7,905</b>	<b>(701)</b>	<b>(3,048)</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>(325)</b>	<b>9,794</b>	<b>6,057</b>
<b>Funds brought forward at 1 September</b>	<b>24,199</b>	<b>24,900</b>	<b>27,948</b>	<b>25,509</b>	<b>25,834</b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>9,983</b>
<b>Funds carried forward at 31 August</b>	<b>32,104</b>	<b>24,199</b>	<b>24,900</b>	<b>27,948</b>	<b>25,509</b>	<b>25,834</b>	<b>16,040</b>

The accounts were independently reviewed by Ms Yasmi Roberts of 40 Priorsfield Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 1DB on xxx 2025.

## Reserves

With increasing concert costs the policy of the choir to maintain a balance of funds in the current account has been increased to £14,000, which equates to the typical level of professional fees for a concert – including fees for rehearsals. The below line of balance shows future years as estimates.



The choir also maintains an emergency COIF Charities Deposit Fund with CCLA Investment Management. No funds were removed this year and the balance at 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 was £6,055.98.

## **Choir Officers**

Chairman      Penelope Holroyde      October 2024 to October 2025

Secretary      Sahra Evans      September 2025 to October 2025

Treasurer      Nicola Deards      Autumn 2019 to present

All officers are staying in post for the coming season.

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR

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<b>Concert surplus/deficit</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>1,593</b>	<b>(435)</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>(746)</b>	<b>(1,592)</b>	<b>(586)</b>

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR

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ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA BACH CHOIR

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

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Additions in year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation to date	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>	<u>(4,482)</u>
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Working capital</b>							
Debtors, advance payments & cash floats	360	170	170	170	170	170	824
COLF charity deposit	6,056	5,790	5,503	5,328	5,310	5,309	5,271
Lloyds current account	<u>25,688</u>	<u>18,239</u>	<u>19,228</u>	<u>18,100</u>	<u>18,686</u>	<u>21,881</u>	<u>10,752</u>
	32,104	24,199	24,900	23,598	24,166	27,360	16,847
Income in advance and creditors	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,526</u>	<u>808</u>
<b>Net asset position</b>	£ <u>32,104</u>	<u>24,199</u>	<u>24,900</u>	<u>23,598</u>	<u>24,166</u>	<u>25,834</u>	<u>16,039</u>
<b>Surplus funds as per previous page</b>	£ <u>32,104</u>	<u>24,199</u>	<u>24,900</u>	<u>23,598</u>	<u>24,166</u>	<u>25,834</u>	<u>16,040</u>

Approved on 08.10.25

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 August 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

506586

Set out on pages

See below

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2025.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Yasmi Roberts

Date:

27th October 2025

Name:

Yasmi Roberts

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

Retired bank manager with experience of reviewing audited accounts for lending purposes.

Address:

40 Priorsfield Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 1DB