Annual Report for Charity Commission for financial year ending 31st December 2025

GEM Connection Ladies Barbershop Harmony Chorus

Also known as GEM Connection

Charity Number: 1152040

Charitable Aims and Objectives of GEM Connection:
The aims of the Club are to preserve the style and to encourage the singing of barbershop harmony, both in chorus and quartet; and to promote friendship through harmony.

The objectives of the charity are to advance, improve and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of barbershop singing in all its aspects by the presentation of public barbershop concerts and the provision of educational workshops for members of the public.

How we have achieved this:
The year 2024-2025 has been a busy one for GEM Connection.
We spent the year focusing on continuing to improve the quality of music, singing, and performance in line with the Barbershop style, focused in a weekend retreat, where we invited a national Barbershop coach to work with us on all these aspects.

We have organised and held a 'Come and Sing' course for the local community to highlight the special characteristics of Barbershop singing, as well as holding various Open rehearsals.

We have performed at various community events which allows us to present the barbershop style to a wider audience.

Where our money has come from:
We don't use any outside fundraisers and raise money from members fees and taking part in fundraising events - for example by providing catering for another Barbershop group when they had a singing event. This event boosts our chorus funds but also helps us to achieve one of our charitable aims of promoting friendship through harmony.
We also raise money by singing at events.
Policies are in place to protect our members and the public - public liability insurance, risk assessments, financial governance policy.

How we have spent our money - shown in the accounts.
We have changed our accounting period and therefore this set of accounts shows a loss because we have made double payments for items such as PRS, Zoom, and the website fees with it being a 15-month period.

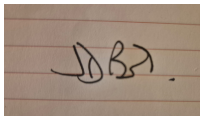
List of Trustees for this period:

Julia Burns
Paula Wright
Helen Gaskell
Catharine Warner
Delyth Knight
Sarah Streater

Deb Bottomley
Eve Blunt
Debra Merry-Brentnall
Georgina Gascoigne

Approved by the trustees on 29th September 2026

Signed



Julia Burns

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2025 (15 months)

INCOME	**2025**		**2024**	
Membership Fees	14999		11224	
Fundraising	3008		3505	
Gift Aid			7548	
Singouts	540		781	
LABBS Grants	100		260	
Retreat 2024			1511	
Members Savings	1965		1135	
Convention 2023			389	
Meals	1083		58	
Love To Sing Course			110	
Bank Interest & Complaint	16		57	
BAGFAD 2026	30			
Dress Committee	290			
Convention 2025 Refunds	189			
Retreat 2025	1650			
Convention 2025	7739			
TOTAL INCOME		31609		26578
EXPENDITURE				
Music Team Expenditure	3244		1190	
Hall Hire	4481		4260	
LABBS Membership Fees	5913		1836	
Riser/Van Hire & Storage	1100		1099	
Miscellaneous Costs	448		924	
Convention 2023			257	
Convention 2025	8631		1788	
Computer & Website Expenses	709		510	
Gifts	87		459	
Stationery	54		89	
Advertising			68	
Dress Committee Costs	1005		2220	
Members Savings			665	
Meals	472			
P.R.S Online Music	926			
New Speaker	101			
T- Shirts	782			
Video Recording	482			
P.R.O. Expenses	54			
Retreat	7440			
Convention Hotel 2026	2490			
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		38419		15365
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME		-6810		11213

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BANK AND CASH BALANCES	2025		2024	
Barclays Community Account	7247		13294	
Barclays Business Premium Account	658		1432	
Cash In Hand	56		44	
		7961		14770
Note Gem Savings Fund holds	799		1178	

…….....Georgina Gascoigne - Treasurer

I have inspected the accounting records of Gem Connection BHC and have found them to be a true record of the financial affairs of the club.

…….....Kevin Wilikinson FMAT - Independent Examiner