Celebrate Voice

Charity no. 1204454

Trustees' report and unaudited accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Celebrate Voice

Legal and administrative information

Trustees	The Countess June Marijke Chichester Lynsey Docherty Jeremy Hughes Susan May Kent James Johnson Caroline Frances D'Cruz
Charity number	1204454
Principal address	56B, The Close Salisbury Wiltshire SP1 2EL
Independent examiner	Craig Henderson FCCA S&W Audit Chartered Accountants Old Library Chambers 21 Chipper Lane Salisbury Wiltshire SP1 1BG
Accountants	S&W Partners LLP Accountants Old Library Chambers 21 Chipper Lane Salisbury Wiltshire SP1 1BG

Celebrate Voice

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Celebrate Voice

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2025

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective January 2019).

The prior year accounts were for a 16 month period, covering two festivals (October 2023 and October 2024) and, as such, the level of turnover in the prior period is not comparable with the current year.

Structure, governance and management

Governance

The charity was incorporated on 23 August 2023. It is a charitable incorporated organisation and is registered with the Charity Commission, charity number 1204454. The activities undertaken by the charity were previously carried out by Celebrate Voice CIC (Company No 09060478) which was incorporated on 28 May 2014 and which ceased on the creation of the charity.

Trustees

There is a Board of Trustees (chair Lady Chichester) which includes the Artistic Director and the Company Manager. The other Trustees have a wealth of professional experience in Law, Financial Management and Arts Administration.

The trustees who served during the year were:
The Countess June Marijke Chichester
Lynsey Docherty
Jeremy Hughes
Susan May Kent
James Johnson
Caroline Frances D'Cruz

There must be at least four charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee. The maximum number of charity trustees that may be appointed to the CIO is 12. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Risk factors

The trustees have reviewed the risks to the charity's assets and income and are satisfied that adequate controls are in place.

Objects and activities

The charity's objects are to promote, maintain, improve and develop public education and appreciation of the art of vocal music in multiple genres, including (but not limited to) opera, jazz, music theatre, choral, cabaret, folk and to relieve the needs of children and others with special needs or disabilities, and older people with dementia in particular by creating and delivering public musical concerts and workshops.

Public benefit
The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements, performance and financial review

Achievements and performance
During the year ended 31 December 2025, there were three major events for Celebrate Voice.

Little Durnford Summer Spectacular
This was a great success generating £7K to support the Festival. There were 5 soloists, a choir from the Emerging Artists (U18 singers) and SEND participants, with much family support for participants. There was much positive feedback that this was the 'best yet'.

Celebrate Voice 2025 Festival
Celebrate Voice delivered a festival of high artistic quality, with ambitious programming, meaningful community engagement and resilient operational delivery. The year concluded with a surplus, sustained commitment from volunteers and Friends, and growing evidence of audience development alongside strong loyalty from existing supporters. The Festival also received positive independent press coverage, including features in the Salisbury Journal and a highly favourable professional review of Puccini's Madama Butterfly.

Celebrate Voice at Christmas 2025
The Christmas performances at the Medieval Hall were widely described by audiences as "the best yet". They provided a strong artistic and financial close to the year and reinforced audience loyalty and the Celebrate Voice brand of quality, community, inclusivity with a large dose of fun!

Programme highlights
Puccini's Madama Butterfly, directed by Paul Carr, formed the artistic centre of the festival and demonstrated Celebrate Voice's boutique opera model at its most confident. The Medieval Hall provided an intimate and dramatically effective setting, allowing audiences to experience opera at close quarters with exceptional emotional impact.

Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610, performed by I Fagiolini with the English Cornett & Sackbut Ensemble at St Thomas's Church, was the choral highlight of the 2025 programme, bringing this internationally recognised ensemble to Salisbury and showcasing historically informed performance of the highest calibre. La Nuova Musica continued the world-class baroque celebration, with the added bonus of including locally-born performers David Bates and James Hall, and the Mikado completed the classical offering, with a leading G&S cast and the welcome addition of audience participation.

We maintained our artistic standards of excellence with the programming of Emma Smith (jazz) at the culmination of her world tour and sell-out Ronnie Scott's appearances, a wider audience from out of town joined for celebrated folk music exponents The Young'uns, and Proms regular Matt Ford, as the finest swing exponent on the circuit today. Lynsey's scouting trip to Edinburgh Fringe Festival in the summer proved fruitful with two incredibly well received performances of Orpheus (a searing spoken word and acoustic guitar combination) receiving a full standing ovation, and a welcome comedic light touch with Shakespearean Improvised theatrics. Jazz, Swing, Folk and spoken word events maintained the artistic integrity of the festival whilst introducing new audiences and supporters of those individual artists to Salisbury and Celebrate Voice, increasing social media coverage by integrating joint posts, and bringing exclusive intimate performances of these major artists to Salisbury's cultural scene.

Audience & Public Feedback (Social Media and Reviews)
Public responses on Celebrate Voice's Instagram and Facebook channels were consistently positive throughout the 2025 festival and our posts reached a significantly wider reach than ever before. Posts on Instagram Sept-December were viewed 132,000 times and 112,000 views on Facebook. Engagement was high and wholly positive, with audiences highlighting artistic excellence, intimacy of venues, warmth of welcome and appreciation of the festival's community-focused work.

Selected anonymised comments include:
- "Absolutely outstanding — one of the most moving Butterfly productions I've ever seen."
- "What a privilege to hear I Fagiolini in Salisbury — breathtaking music-making."
- "Celebrate Voice just keeps getting better. The quality this year was exceptional."
- "Such a warm, welcoming festival — the community events are genuinely inclusive."
- "The Christmas concert was magical — the best yet."

Press and External Recognition
Celebrate Voice 2025 received positive coverage from the local press and independent reviewers, reinforcing audience feedback and highlighting the festival's growing reputation.

"I have known the opera since I was a very young child, seen and heard it on countless occasions, but never more painfully touching and convincing than in this extraordinary production."

These responses provide valuable independent validation of the festival's artistic quality.

Community and Participation
Community engagement remained central to Celebrate Voice's mission in 2025. Singing SENDsations, Celebrate Age, Emerging Voices and family singing events ensured access for people of all ages and abilities. These activities were participatory, inclusive and consistently well received, distinguishing Celebrate Voice as a festival that combines artistic excellence with social purpose. Emerging Voices was a particular highlight – an inspiring and moving event which attracted a near sell-out audience supporting the young people. The event led to a 'star find' in singer-songwriter Seren Maskelyne from Wiltshire College, who was given a slot at the Christmas Shows and hopefully further promotion of her talent.

A review of Family events – babies workshops and Family shows was discussed within management due to low attendance. Whilst disappointing, this was echoed locally in the arts scene for family events, such as Salisbury's City Hall - where widely marketed family shows received poor attendance. Further discussion on our family offer/ marketing and social impact is required here.

Over 50 volunteers supported the festival across front-of-house, hospitality, wardrobe, prop-making, set, artist hosting and operational roles.

Financial review
The financial activities are summarised on page 6 of the accounts. During the year the charity received donations of £35,896 (2024: £65,702). Income for the year also included Gift Aid to be claimed on the donations of £7,432 (2024: £15,109), Grants and Sponsorship totalling £19,500 (2024: £36,750), interest receivable of £nil (2024: £204), Theatre tax credits of £6,907 (2024: £12,678) and donated services of £4,000 (2024: £44,000). There was also income received from events including ticket sales of £65,809 (2024: £111,952) and bar and picnic sales of £6,705 (2024: £11,845).

Reserves policy
It is the policy of the charity to hold reserves which are sufficient to allow future events to be organised at the discretion of the trustees. At 31 December 2025 total reserves held amounted to £63,524 (2024: £54,589). The Reserves are reviewed by the Board at regular intervals.

Related party transactions
During the year, the charity received £2,000 (2024: £nil) from the Earl of Chichester's Charitable Trust, a charity for which The Rt Hon The Countess of Chichester is also a trustee.

Trustees' responsibilities
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial period in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable regulations). Under that law the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and

- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial information complies with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

On behalf of the board of trustees

Caroline D'Cruz

Caroline D'Cruz (Aug 3, 2026 10:41:20 GMT+1)

Caroline D'Cruz
Trustee

Date: 03/08/2026

Celebrate Voice

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Celebrate Voice

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Celebrate Voice for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity 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 (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.

Craig Henderson
Craig Henderson (Aug 3, 2026 22:31:33 GMT+1)

Craig Henderson FCCA
S&W Audit
Chartered Accountants
Old Library Chambers
21 Chipper Lane
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP1 1BG

Date: 03/08/2026

Celebrate Voice

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Year ended 31 December 2025 £	Period ended 31 December 2024 £
Income			
Donations and gifts	**2**	**47,328**	125,015
Grants and sponsorship		**19,500**	36,750
Other income - Theatre Tax Credits		**6,907**	12,678
Income from events	**3**	**72,514**	123,797
Total income		**146,249**	298,240
Expenditure			
Charitable activities - event costs	**4**	**89,489**	196,778
Charitable activities - support costs	**5**	**47,825**	64,696
Total expenditure		**137,314**	261,474
Net income and net movement in funds		**8,935**	36,766
Fund balances at 1 January 2025		**54,589**	17,823
Fund balances at 31 December 2025		**63,524**	54,589

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Celebrate Voice

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**38,347**		34,239	
Debtors	**8**	**32,235**		28,154	
		70,582		62,393	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**9**	**(7,058)**		(7,804)	
Net current assets			**63,524**		54,589
Net assets			**63,524**		54,589
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds			**63,524**		54,589
			63,524		54,589

The accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 03/08/2026

Caroline D'Cruz

Caroline D'Cruz (Aug 3, 2026 10:41:20 GMT+1)

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Caroline D'Cruz
Trustee

All funds held are unrestricted

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form part of the accounts.

Celebrate Voice

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 General information

Celebrate Voice CIO is a charitable incorporated organisation, registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (No. 1204454). The address of the registered office is 56B The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2EL.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). The accounts are also prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The trustees confirm that the charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity's presentational currency is GBP.

1.3 Going concern

The trustees have reviewed the financial position of the charity and consider that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. There are no material uncertainties in relation to the going concern status of the charity.

1.4 Income

Donations, gifts and grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities in the year in which the charity becomes entitled to the respective asset, receipt is probable and the value can be measured. The charity also receives ticket receipts relating to events arranged by the charity.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

No grants were payable.

1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

1.7 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet as soon as a constructive obligation resulting from a past event can be reliably measured. Current liabilities represent those liabilities which are expected to be settled within the next 12 months from the balance sheet date.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

2 Donations and gifts

	Year ended 31 December 2025 £	Period ended 31 December 2024 £
Cash donations and Friends scheme	**35,896**	65,702
Interest	**-**	204
Gift Aid recoverable	**7,432**	15,109
Donated services	**4,000**	44,000
	47,328	125,015

3 Income from events

	Year ended 31 December 2025 £	Period ended 31 December 2024 £
Ticket sales	**65,809**	111,952
Bar and picnic sales	**6,705**	11,845
	72,514	123,797

4 Expenditure

	Year ended 31 December 2025 £	Period ended 31 December 2024 £
Charitable activities - event costs		
Production costs	**89,489**	196,778
Charitable activities - support costs		
Support costs (see note 5)	**47,825**	64,696
	137,314	261,474

5 Support costs

	Year ended 31 December 2025 £	Period ended 31 December 2024 £
Accountancy fees	**3,341**	2,791
General admin costs and misc expenses	**3,836**	7,219
Insurance	**953**	1,403
Management expenses	**29,500**	35,170
Advertising, printing and PR	**5,554**	13,153
Subsistence, travel and accommodation	**1,642**	2,830
Finance costs	**2,265**	2,130
Rental costs	**734**	-
	47,825	64,696

6 Trustees

During the year, two of the Trustees received money from the Charity:

- Lynsey Docherty – Management fees £21,000 (2024: £30,100), performance fees £2,500 (2024: £7,400);

- Caroline D'Cruz – Management fees £5,000 (2024: £5,000), performance fees £400 (2024: £1,465).

7 Employees

There were no employees during the year (2024: none).

8 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Theatre Tax Credits - Celebrate Voice CIC	**5,015**	5,015
Theatre Tax Credits	**19,584**	12,678
Gift Aid receivable	**7,432**	9,059
Winchester Theatres - production income	**-**	1,350
Sundry debtors	**204**	52
	32,235	28,154

9 Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accountancy fees	**4,512**	2,791
Production costs	**973**	3,240
Sundry creditors	**1,573**	1,773
	7,058	7,804

10 Related party transactions

During the year, the charity received £2,000 (2024: £nil) from the Earl of Chichester's Charitable Trust, a charity for which The Rt Hon The Countess of Chichester is also a trustee.