C4U Trustees' Annual Report 2025

Section A – Reference and Administration Details

A1. Charity Details

Charity name	**Canterbury for Ukraine**
Other names charity is known by	**C4U**
Registered charity number	**1204746**
Principal address	c/o Kent Refugee Action Network, Simmonds Road, Wincheap Industrial Estate, Canterbury
Postcode	**CT1 3RA**

A2. Trustees Who Manage the Charity

Trustee name	Office	Dates appointed or left in-year	Trustee name	Office	Dates acted
1. Anastasia Skelton	N/A	N/A	7. Domenica Pecoraro	Welcome Hub Lead	N/A
2. Annette King	Trustee and Interim Chair	From August 2025	8. Giles Polglase	N/A	N/A
3. Brian Bennett	Deputy Treasurer	N/A	9 Hanna Hrekova	Secretary, Lead on UA AID	N/A
4. Connie Nolan	N/A	N/A	10. Olena Nizalova	Chair C4U Ladies' Choir/ You Hub Lead	N/A
5. David Clarke	Treasurer	N/A	11. Yuliia Frolova	Lead Creative Circle	N/A
6. Denys Nizalov	Chair and trustee	Chair to 08 2025			

A3. Patrons

Patron	Title
Baroness Alison Mary Suttie	Member of the House of Lords
Cllr Jean Butcher	Canterbury City Councillor

A4. Executive Team Members

Name	Office	Dates acted
1. Ganna Yezhova	Bookkeeping Support	N/A
2. Olena Nizalova	C4U Ladies' Choir Chair and responsible trustee for Young Ukrainians Hub	June 2022 - now
3. David Chapman	Choir Accompanist & Arranger	N/A
4. Hanna Hrekova	Admin Support, Aid for Ukraine Lead, Choir Deputy Chair	N/A
5. Joanna Chapman	Choir Director & Conductor	N/A
6. Maryna Poltavska	HR Support, Choir Admin Support	N/A
7. Maryna Shkinder	Communications Support	N/A
8. Nataliia Hnatenko	Young Ukrainians Hub Director	N/A
9. Vladlena Russova	Ukrainian Discussion Group Lead	N/A
10. Volodymyr Nizalov	Young at Hearts Club Lead	N/A

Section B – Structure, Governance and Management

B1. Governing Document

Field	Information
Type of governing document	Constitution (last amended 15 September 2023)
How constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection	Elected by members

B2. Policy Developments

Governance area	2025 Notes
Policies adopted	Finance and Expenditure policy; Charitable giving to Ukraine Due Diligence Policy
Safeguarding	Safeguarding Policy extended for one year in December 2025

Section C – Objectives and Activities

C1. Objectives of the CIO

Objectives	Description For the public benefit in Canterbury and the surrounding area
Objective 1	1) The relief of need among Ukrainians granted the UK visas under the Homes for Ukraine, Visa Extension or Family Schemes and those hosting them, primarily but not exclusively through providing or assisting in the provision of: a) advice, practical support services and information to assist them to adapt within a new community. b) essential items and financial support. c) recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interests of social welfare designed to improve their conditions of life. d) advice, guidance and practical support to hosts. e) education and training in the English language. f) signposting to other organisations offering support when appropriate.
Objective 2	The relief of need for the public benefit among Ukrainians residing in Ukraine, and such other countries as the trustees shall determine, who have been displaced as a result of war with Russia through the provision of grants of financial assistance to charitable organisations who are working to support them.
Objective 3	To advance education for the public benefit in the language, culture and heritage of Ukraine by: a) providing Ukrainian language classes and organising activities and events to educate and engage the public in the history, culture and traditions of Ukraine; and b) Collaborating with academics, statutory authorities and policy makers to facilitate research (the useful results of which will be published) into the experience of Ukrainian people and the effect upon them and upon Ukrainian culture, resulting from displacement following the outbreak of war with Russia in Ukraine.
Confirmation trustees had regard to Charity Commission guidance	Yes

C2. Activities Delivered in 2025 for Public Benefit

Communication

Summary
C4U continues to be active on Facebook to inform about upcoming events and to highlight C4U project activities to the wider community. It extended its website over the course of the year and developed areas of its areas to improve available information in both English and Ukrainian. C4U media efforts resulted in establishing further links with regional and national media outlets, as well as with Ukrainian media. Where possible, concerts are recorded and uploaded to a YouTube channel, where viewers can access them.

Activities	2025 Details
Facebook group	April-Dec 2025: 2,800 members, 425 posts, 346 comments, 6172 emoji responses
Official Facebook page	343,353 views, 521 comments, 442 shares, interactions 35,369, 14,650 emoji reactions, 521, Followers: 416
Website	Ukrainian language version added; Launch of Team profiles and new projects and media pages; Adding of events calendar, other social media links integrated; 18 news articles published.
Media coverage	UK media: BBC SouthEast, ITV news, KMTV, Cabin FM Ukrainian media: main: Suspilne, Priamyi, 5 Kanal, Espresso TV, ICTV (within national marathon format); plus others.
YouTube channel	Used as an archive and media-sharing tool, it has 18 uploaded videos, including choir performances, commemorative and other events.

Individual Support

Welcome Hub

The Welcome Hub is a one-stop information and contact service for Ukrainians and host families (Objective 1). It provides weekly drop-in and thematic information workshops. It is organised and funded by the Social Justice Network; C4U contributed to hiring of the training room for some of the sessions. Partners of the Welcome Hub are the Diocese of Canterbury, Canterbury Umbrella Centre, Canterbury City Council and the Department of Work and Pensions. C4U would like to thank the Social Justice Network for funding and all partners for their continued support of the initiative.



Activities	2025 Details
Weekly sessions	37
Average attendance	10
Support areas	Visa Extension Scheme, Housing, Education, Foodbank referrals
Workshops delivered	Understanding your Teenager, Transition to Secondary School Kent Family Learning, Self Employment ets

Financial Aid Programme

The FinAid programme aims to alleviate immediate financial hardship of displaced Ukrainian families residing in Canterbury District. The fund is intended to assist with expenses related to purchasing furniture, paying for school uniforms, covering emergency dental treatment and intervention in relieving crisis situations. Applications are assessed confidentially on a case-by-case basis by theC4U Financial Aid committee. This year the fund has only been applied for once and the grant was made.

	2025 Details
Grants issued	1
Total distributed	£ 200

Young Ukrainians Hub (YoU-Hub)

The YoU-Hub is an educational, cultural and social centre for young Ukrainians in East Kent. Its goal is to encourage Ukrainian children and young people to maintain connection with their Ukrainian heritage by promoting Ukrainian history, language and culture. It provides children and their parents with a safe place for social interactions within their native environment. YoU-Hub is a project of Canterbury for Ukraine and was initiated in partnership with the Prince of Wales Youth Club and the Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School (SLGGS).

Activities	37 sessions of the You Hub activities were delivered. Of these 26 were main sessions (including trips), 10 were You Hub Camp sessions and one was the Malanka performance. A total of 590 attendances were recorded across the main sessions and trips. On average, 23 children/young people (aged 6–18) participated in the main sessions of the You Hub. For the Malanka concert in Chartham, one full session of YoU HuB was used and six one-hour rehearsal sessions organised. A total of 24 children participated in the concert (Funded by our 'Music for All' grant). The Parents' Club met at the same time as the children's sessions. A total of 86 attendances were recorded across the 26 sessions held. Sessions included a range of activities, for example advising on everyday issues, fitness activity and exchange on school matters. A total of 179 attendances were recorded across the 10 YoU HuB camp sessions. In addition to regular sessions, children took part in visits to the Historic Dockyard Chatham and the RAF Museum London, participated in poetry readings marking the 95th anniversary of Lina Kostenko, enjoyed a canoeing session, and performed the traditional 'Malanka' play at the choir concert in Chatham and during the St Nicholas Day celebration.
Volunteers	8 adult volunteers regularly supported sessions. 6 young people also volunteered, one of whom is volunteering under The Duke of Edinburgh programme.

Parent Feedback:

"I would like to express my deepest appreciation for the incredible dedication and commitment of the staff at YoU HuB in Canterbury, which my children attend. Even though my children already spend five full days studying at a British school and additionally attend various extracurricular activities, they come to their Saturday Ukrainian classes with genuine joy and enthusiasm. They arrive absolutely inspired by the thought that today they are going to their Ukrainian school — and that alone speaks volumes"

"My daughter has been attending the YoU Hub for three years. I think creating this space was a great decision. Firstly, the children (and their parents) were able to meet other Ukrainian children, making friends and socializing. Secondly, it provided an additional opportunity to study the Ukrainian language, literature, and history. Thirdly, the children really enjoy the various creative activities, such as theatre, poetry reading competitions, arts & crafts, and various physical activities"

Community Building

Activity	2025 Details
Community events	C4U continues its commitment to offer community events and participate in the wider events in Canterbury. This has been a busy year with the community and projects engaging in external events. For example, the concert 'I Hear Your Voice' in June, which C4U sponsored and co-organised and which brought together various music groups and individuals, raising funds for a Children's Cancer charity in Ukraine. In Feb. 2025, C4U commemorated the anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia through a walk through the City Centre and a commemorative gathering following this. It also saw the link with the Interflex initiative, which trains Ukrainian soldiers in the UK. For the Ukrainian Vyshyvanka celebration in May, community members participated in the wider community activities in Canterbury, including the launch of an Art exhibition at the Beaney in May. On Ukrainian Independence Day, the C4U Ladies Choir joined the Eynsford Concert Band for a special performance for a large and appreciative Ukrainian audience in the UK, in connection with Operation INTERFLEX. The Holodomor service in 2025 was conducted with The Lord Mayor of Canterbury and representatives from local churches. It was presided over by Father Serhii Stelmakh from the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Activity	2025 Details
	Concerts and events in the run up of Christmas provided participation opportunities. In 2025, a seed funding initiative was launched. Five projects applied and one was selected to move forward. 'Business and Coffee' is aimed at engaging Ukrainian women, who wish to set up their own mini enterprise, to come together to share experiences, receive advice on all aspects of business development, and build confidence and resilience in their endeavours. This project commenced early 2026 under the leadership of Anastasiya Unhur with the first semester ending August 2026. A small grant from the charity 'Music for all' secured by Olena Nizalova, has enabled her to set up a Children's Choir within the You Hub.
Young at Hearts Club	The Young at Heart Club connects members of the Ukrainian community with local life through a wide range of cultural activities, educational lectures and historical visits. This activity is popular with more senior members of the Ukrainian communities, although other age groups also often participate. The programme provides regular opportunities for social participation and engagement. Meetings share cultural experiences; educational visits offer opportunities for communication, routine and meaningful engagement. A total of 65 activities, with an average duration of 3 hours were held in 2025, with an average attendance of 10 participants (range 8 to 25). These included  - 39 regular club meetings, including "Philosophical Conversations with Martin" (Canterbury Umbrella Centre). - 8 cultural visits Canterbury Cathedral and around Canterbury and excursions across Kent (Walmer, Deal, Seasalter) - 18 cultural visits to London, including the Vakarchuk concert at St Pancras; visits to Buckingham Palace, The National Gallery, The British Museum, The British Library; to Greenwich and the Greenwich Observatory. These visits support the understanding of cultural heritage and significance of local sites and events to the Ukrainian community,

Activity	2025 Details
	embedding existing knowledge and underpinning learning of life in the UK. Members are also volunteer for other community events preparing refreshments, supporting the C4U Ladies` choir and in a range of ways at events and concerts.
Link with civic organisations	We continue our partnership with Canterbury City Council - councillors have attended many of our events. We have built on our relationship with our local MP, through several meetings and she has attended various events in person. We are partnering with the local universities and schools (the choir participated in the University of Kent Christmas concert for example) - we have been able to use school premises and facilities for various events. We have strong links with local and regional churches, parishes and religious groups, including Canterbury Diocese. Church communities have generously allowed C4U yet again to use their facilities for various events and supported various endeavours. We commemorated the Holodomor event with representatives of local churches and the representatives of the Church Ukrainian church, who presided over the Holodomor service. We are fortunate to develop partnerships with a range of local organisations, including libraries and other charitable organisations, as well as statutory bodies such as the Police. C4U is immensely grateful for the generous and consistent support organisations and individuals have shown to us.

Cultural Development

Activities	2025 Details
C4U Ladies' Choir	C4U Ladies' Choir is a community choir, established in 2022 which continues to thrive. It is a safe and welcoming space where women can connect, support one another and find emotional strength through music. The choir promotes understanding between Ukrainian and local communities through performances, through collaborations and social events. The choir is a living expression of Ukrainian culture and of the Ukrainian community spirit in Canterbury. The busy and varied 2025

programme enabled the choir to be an ambassador for Ukrainian culture. We are grateful for the organisational and musical leadership provided by its executive group, who contribute as volunteers, to make the choir such a success.



In 2025, 49 women and girls took part in the choir's activities, reflecting both a stable core membership and a wider circle of participation, with an average of 25 members at the weekly rehearsals.

The choir performed at circa 14 events and concerts across Canterbury, Sevenoaks, Whitstable, Blean, and Chartham locally, also further afield as part of the Interflex initiative, reaching an increasingly large audience, with invitations for future concerts and collaborations.



Its members regularly volunteer at C4U events, community celebrations, cultural programmes and interfaith services. It has contributed to cultural exchange, strengthened community relationships and helped bring people together through shared artistic experiences.

Musically, the choir has also developed, performing increasingly challenging and diverse repertoires - from a joint performance of an operatic aria with a guest opera singer, to singing Panakhida responses at the Holodomor Memorial Service, and to collaborating on a new composition with local songwriter and performer Arin Ghosh. The programme of concerts and performances included collaboration with choirs and orchestras, as well as combined performances with professional singers. Through this, the C4U choir spearheaded cross–cultural celebration and community building and highlighted the on-going UK – Ukraine solidarity

The choir's performances contributed to raising approximately £10,000 in support of partner humanitarian initiatives in Ukraine, including through the charities. These events also helped sustain awareness, solidarity and ongoing public engagement with Ukraine

Activities	2025 Details
	Feedback from Choir members: *"Joining the choir has made me feel part of a community. Choir is a way of sharing Ukrainian culture with local society. It also allows cooperation with different charity organisations in collecting money for humanitarian needs. Performing in the choir is a way of self-expression and an important way of liaison with Ukrainians and locals at the same time."* *"The choir is a very important part of my life. It gives me inspiration and inner strength. It is also a part of our heritage, bringing generations together, as women of different ages sing in the choir. For me, singing is the best therapy - it helps me stay strong and believe in the best."* *"The choir is more than an opportunity to sing for me. It is an opportunity to return home with songs, to return to a peaceful life. Our community in Canterbury is open to every Ukrainian."*
Ukrainian Book Collection & Discussion Club	The Ukraine book and discussion Club meets at the Beaney Library to discuss Ukrainian and English literature. Attendance varies from 10 to 25 people of all ages, both men and women from the Ukrainian community and members of the Canterbury community. A total of 24 meetings were held of 1.5 - 2 hours duration during 2025. The Book Club continues to purchase books in Ukrainian for all ages. Currently the shelves at the Beaney are full and books are made available to other libraries in Kent. For example, 20 books were donated to Dover Library, and 15 books to Ramsgate library, enabling direct and permanent access to books in Ukrainian language for readers in those areas.  In April 2025, the discussion group launched a reading club, which discusses books suggested by members. This has given the opportunity to invite speakers to talk about their literary work. Discussions are often held on-line, which provides the opportunity for those not able to attend in person. Every two months meetings with a practicing psychologist are held around a range of topics (eg resilience, procrastination). These additional sessions are well attended. We thank the group's volunteer leadership for their continued work with the Ukrainian and English communities in producing interesting and

Activities	2025 Details
	varied literary programmes and for leading insightful discussions and talks.

During 2025, the Creative Circle project organised and delivered 10 themed meetings aimed at introducing participants to traditional crafts, developing creative skills, and supporting social interaction and emotional wellbeing.

21 individuals took part in the activities, demonstrating sustained interest in the initiative and a gradual expansion of the community.

The project plays an important role in preserving and celebrating traditional Ukrainian crafts and cultural heritage. Participants consistently report how much they enjoy the sessions, not only as a creative outlet but also as a calming and restorative experience that supports their wellbeing.

Importantly, the project provides a valuable opportunity for participants to step away from the pressures of daily life and spend time in a calm, supportive circle of like-minded women, engaging in slow, hands-on traditional crafts. These activities have a grounding, almost meditative quality, helping participants relax, focus, and reconnect with themselves and others.

Creative Circle

Creative Circle has also become an important space particularly for women not frequently engaged in other C4U activities, offering a welcoming and supportive environment to connect, share experiences, and build confidence through creativity.

As part of the programme, a range of workshops was delivered, including:

- Traditional textile block printing
- Card-making using block printing techniques
- Tapestry embroidery
- Creation of traditional Christmas decorations from straw "spider"
- Creation of a traditional wheat Christmas decoration "didukh".

Participants' creative works were presented at charity fundraising events.

Feedback

> "*I regularly attend the Creative Circle meetings and always enjoy them very much. I really appreciate the warm and friendly atmosphere and the opportunity to learn something new. The block printing workshop was particularly memorable - it was both interesting and unusual. It's a place*

where you can develop your creative skills, relax, and connect with lovely people."

"For me, these meetings have been a real discovery. I tried embroidery and making a traditional Christmas 'spider' for the first time, and it was fascinating. The organisation is excellent - all the necessary materials are always provided, and there is great support throughout. Many thanks to the organisers for creating such an inspiring and meaningful experience - I will definitely be coming again!"

Help for Ukraine (Humanitarian Support)

We continued to fundraise for two humanitarian projects, UAid Direct and Tabletochki. Our chosen focus for supporting UAid Direct is the distribution of medical supplies (Med4U) and small projects related to the health and wellbeing of children and their families (WellCh). Tabletochki is the largest Ukrainian charity helping families affected by childhood cancer. It operates in four areas: targeted family support; systemic support of hospitals where paediatric cancer treatment is concentrated; continuous professional development of medical personnel; advocating for changes in the healthcare system.

Many of C4U's community activities in 2025 involved fundraising for these causes in Ukraine. In June 2025, a community memorial concert in partnership with the father of a young Ukrainian girl, who passed away from cancer, brought together various musicians and groups in a big ticketed performance. Fundraising for Ukrainian causes is important to the Ukrainian community, and we are grateful for all donations received and the enthusiastic participation from the wider community and various groups around Canterbury and East Kent.

While the tragedy and injustice of the continued war in Ukraine remains a daily reality for the Ukrainian community, the activities in the projects and community events outlined above show the resilience and determination to develop community life in the UK, make contributions to their homeland, and connect with the welcoming UK communities in different ways and through diverse channels. C4U is committed to continue supporting this. We would like to thank all volunteers, officers and Trustees who are continuing to make this possible. We would also like to thank all organisations, groups, individuals that have been supporting us.

Field	2025 Details
Total raised	£ 10,008[1]
Projects supported	Tabletochki and UAid Direct
Transfers made	£ 8,973
Impact summaries	Supported medical aid and health and wellbeing projects in Ukraine, including the provision of cancer medication for 19 children and medical supplies for four hospitals. Fundraising activities also strengthened community engagement and solidarity across Canterbury and East Kent.

[1] Some of this was carried forward to 2026

Section D – Achievements and Performance

Area	2025 Achievements
Institutional development	C4U continues to develop its model of operation as a registered charity. It instituted monthly meetings of the Finance Committee to oversee finance. It is working through a new model of an Executive Group, where project leads meet to liaise over activities.
Volunteer training	Project leads provide induction for volunteers. Safeguarding checks (DBS) are undertaken regular YouHub volunteers and signed volunteer agreements obtained.
New initiatives	Olena Nizalova secured funding from “Music for all” for a children’s choir, which meets during the You Hub sessions and enables children to learn Ukrainian songs, and practice choir singing. C4U set up a seed funding programme to support new ideas and initiatives by community members. One project was selected this year.
Community Activities - Results and Impact	In 2025, C4U continued to strengthen its support for the Ukrainian community in Canterbury and East Kent, providing opportunities for social interaction, education, cultural activities and community engagement. Through the YoU Hub, Young at Hearts Club, Creative Circle, Discussion Club and C4U Ladies’ Choir, we helped children and adults maintain connections with their Ukrainian language and cultural heritage, build friendships, develop skills and feel part of their local community. Our cultural events, concerts and collaborations with local organisations helped bring Ukrainian and British communities together, promote Ukrainian culture and strengthen relationships across Canterbury and East Kent. Fundraising activities raised £10,008 for humanitarian projects in Ukraine, with £8,973 transferred to partner charities by 31 December 2025. This support contributed to providing cancer medication for 19 children and medical supplies to four hospitals.

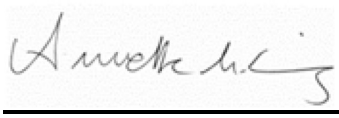
Area	2025 Achievements
	The continued participation of community members, the dedication of volunteers and the support of local partners enabled C4U to maintain and develop its activities throughout the year.

Section E – Financial Review

Field	2025 Details
Reserves policy	6 months operating costs
Funds in deficit	n/a
Total revenue	£ 92,345
Total expenditure	£74,244
Surplus/deficit	£18,101
Reference	C4U Accounts 2025

Section F – Declaration

Item	Information
Trustee approval	The trustees declare that they have approved this report.

Signature 

Full name Annette King
Position **Interim Chair as at 31 December 2025**
Date 28 October 2026

Appendix 1:

Canterbury for Ukraine (C4U)

Receipts and Payments Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

		2025	2024
		£	£
Receipts			
	Fundraising	2,279.62	1,514.09
	Donations	2,737.37	1,840.75
	CAF Donations	-	-
	Donations for U-Hub	7,785.92	2,014.28
	Donstions for U-Choir	1,365.00	-
	Donations for Ukraine	10,008.36	2,310.00
	Grants	68,038.00	60,234.14
	Interest	130.53	76.55
		92,344.80	**67,989.81**
Payments	**Charitable payments**		
	Support of individuals in need	200.00	1,000.00
	Community Events	2,303.21	5,204.64
	C4U Ladies Choir	17,237.03	6,710.58
	U-Hub	22,082.10	16,544.50
	Welcome Hub	780.00	9,235.00
	Donations to Ukranian Partner Charties	8,972.78	1,122.00
	Publicity	879.00	687.77
	Adminsitration and media	12,050.13	9,301.74
	Fundraising costs	421.59	2,445.65
	Bookkeeping	4,466.76	7.08
	Insurance	205.64	196.95
	Training	134.62	487.00
	Books for library	869.65	2,401.14
	Young at hearts	2,614.98	672.88
	Creative Circle	1,026.34	-
		74,243.83	**56,016.93**
Net of (payments) / receipts		**18,100.97**	**11,972.88**
Cash funds last year		68,115.87	56,142.99
Cash funds this year		**86,216.84**	**68,115.87**

The above receipts and payments account were approved by the Trustees on 28 October 2026

Appendix 2:

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S RERPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
CANTERBURY FOR UKRAINE (C4U)

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 1

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Graham Rennells FCA
10 Henry Court
Gordon Road
Canterbury
Kent

Date: 28 October 2026