

## Trustees' Annual Report for Financial Year ending 30 June 2025

### Objectives and Activities

#### Public Benefit

The Leicester Bach Choir aims to educate the public with a wide range of choral music through concert performances, and choral workshops for a wider audience. The choir offers opportunities for all full-time students to join them for free and they charge minimal subscription rates for younger singers who are not students. The choir aims to involve children and young people in singing activities and concerts as participants or soloists where appropriate.

Young people aged 16 and under attended concerts for free and sixth formers, full-time students and people with disabilities paid just £5.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

#### Achievements and performance

The 2024-25 concert season began with our **Eternal Peace** concert which included a wonderful performance of Duruflé's Requiem, the Dupré Motets (op.9) and extracts from Frank Martin's unaccompanied Mass for double choir in November 2024 in Leicester. The work was performed in memoriam Graham Wright, a former Chair of LBC for 15 years and long serving singing member, who sadly passed away earlier that year. The choir was joined by a professional organist and cellist accompanying rising star soloists from the Royal Northern College of Music. The performance was warmly received by the audience as the positive reviews indicated e.g. "The young musicians from Northern College of Music were outstanding, especially the mezzo soprano and cellist... Beautiful voice! And the programme was serious... Requiem and music in tribute to a former Chair"

In March 2025, the choir staged their **Gloria concert**, and was joined by no less than 19 professional musicians to perform the Vivaldi Gloria, Bach's Vergnugte Ruh, Vaughan Williams' Benedicite and Dyson's Hierusalem. Rising star soloists from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire joined us along with the Bach Camerata, organist and soloists. Once again, the performance was warmly received by a large audience who provided excellent feedback. Our archivist produced a fascinating piece for our new blog series unearthing a newspaper report from 1963 with details of three previous performances of the famous Vivaldi piece.

For the June 2025 concert, **Lux Aeterna – Eternal Light**, the choir was joined by professional organist Simon Hogan and they performed James Macmillan's Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis, Charles Paterson's George Herbert settings – Matins, Virtue (Sweet Day) and Antiphon, John Tavener's Maha Maya and Morten Lauridsen's Lux Aeterna. This performance was dedicated to friend, former Chair and Honorary Member, Charles Paterson who died earlier this year. Susan Paterson wrote a moving personal reflection following the concert for our new blog series saying "*thank you for not only performing his music, but also for the conductor's introduction, which showed how*

*well loved he had been". The performance drew these comments "the choir impressed with their tuning and attention to detail" and "it was a joy to hear them responding so well to their conductor"*

In addition to the regular concerts the choir organised a ***Come and Sing*** workshop day in January 2025 to work on The Music Makers by Edward Elgar with their conductor, Richard Laing. This annual event continues to open up the experience of choral singing to a wide audience beyond our members. The workshop attracted 94 participants from across the Midlands and further afield, most of whom were not current members of the Leicester Bach Choir. Participants included some who had little previous experience of choral singing but enthusiastically reported having had a very rewarding, enjoyable and educational day. Alongside their concerts, this *Come and Sing* venture continues to fulfil the choir's charitable purpose of educating the wider public about choral music, evidenced by the participation, enthusiasm and support of these large numbers of singers from outside the choir. It also serves as a valuable fundraising opportunity, helping to secure the future of LBC's concert programming.

LBC's Music Director, Richard Laing, who has just completed his 22nd season with the choir, continues to innovate and inspire, as demonstrated by the warm positive reviews and comments the concerts have continued to receive this season.

The choir continued to offer free membership to students and also a considerably reduced membership fee to other under 25s. The Friends and Patrons continue to support the choir through their generous subscriptions and enthusiastic support at the concerts. The choir has also received generous support from further individual donors and the Sir George Dyson Trust.

### **Financial Review: Treasurer's report**

Following some final adjustments to the accounts, the position is as follows:

Singers' subscriptions of £14,694 were received, and Gift Aid of £2,677 was recovered for the previous year. We also received a very welcome £1,020 from Friends and Patrons. Non-specific donations amounted to £5,000. Other income during the year, from Music Hire, refreshments and miscellaneous sales, fundraisers including the Spring family quiz and plant sale, plus Come & Sing amounted to £2,830.

Expenditure for the year for rehearsal venue rental, Conductor's and Accompanist's fees, and other non-concert related items amounted to £18,003.

The Choir performed in 3 concerts during the year, with total income of £7,694 and expenditure of £12,545.

We finished with a slight decrease in funds of £60. We now have a bank balance of £20,752.

Mike Randle  
*Treasurer*

## Structure, Governance and Management

**Governing document** Constitution adopted 13 September 1972.  
Amended 7 September 1983, 28 August 1990, 2 September 1998, 2nd September 2009, 6th September 2017, 4th September 2019.

### Recruitment of trustees

Nominations for trustees to be elected are submitted in advance of the Annual General Meeting in September each year. All the trustees are recruited from the choir membership except for the Concert Manager, whose post was originally advertised through local music networks, and the Treasurer, whose post was filled by a highly experienced and recommended volunteer from outside the choir, being a retired local Bank Manager and a former and present Treasurer for other local charities.

Voting to appoint all Trustees takes place at the AGM and in September 2024 three new trustees were appointed. These individuals joined the board (total 10) to support the choir's mission and help guide its artistic and operational development in the lead-up to our centenary celebrations.

### Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees appointed by the members of the Leicester Bach Choir:

Adam Scott	Chair	(from 25 Sept 2024)
Gail Hobbs	Vice Chair	(from 25 Sept 2024)
Michael Randle	Treasurer	(from 22 Sept 2021)
Rebecca Hames	Secretary	(from 25 Sept 2024)
Patricia Taylor	Friends' Representative	(from 2 Sept 2020)
Elizabeth Jennifer Casboul	Concert Manager	(from 5 Sept 2018)
Jacqueline Burden	General Trustee	(from 5 Sept 2018)
Paul Leonard-Williams	General Trustee	(from 2 Sept 2020)
Dr Jennifer Wilkinson	General Trustee	(from 14 Sept 2022)
David Lawton	General Trustee	(from 25 Sept 2024)

Charity name Leicester Bach Choir

Charity Commission registered number 501890

Financial year ending 30 June 2025

Charity's principal address c/o Rebecca Hames, 37 Holmfield Road, Leicester, LE2 1SE

Independent examiner Mr Meirion Thomas, John F Mould & Co. 19 – 20 Baxtergate  
Loughborough, LEICESTERSHIRE, LE11 1TG

## Declarations

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.**

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

Rebecca Hames

*Secretary, Leicester Bach Choir*

September 5<sup>th</sup> 2025



## THE LEICESTER BACH CHOIR

Registered Charity No. 501890

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025

#### INCOME & EXPENDITURE – UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME from:			
Donations		5,000	475
Singing members subscriptions	2	14,694	14,391
Friends and patrons subscriptions		1,020	1,090
Other	2	2,830	1,811
Charitable activities			
- Concert income	5	7,694	14,049
- Come and Sing		2,789	4,042
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL INCOME		34,027	35,858
EXPENDITURE on:			
Raising funds			
- Come & Sing		2,817	1,832
- other		722	-
Charitable activities			
- Concert expenditure	5	12,545	16,341
- other	3	18,003	18,010
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		34,087	36,183
NET EXPENDITURE AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR			
		( 60)	( 325)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		18,845	19,170
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds carried forward		18,785	18,845
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All activities of The Leicester Bach Choir are intended to be continuing.

The statement of financial activities reflects all gains and losses recognised in the year.

**THE LEICESTER BACH CHOIR**

**BALANCE SHEET – 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025**

	2025 £	2024 £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors - gift aid tax recoverable	-	2,677
- other ( income receivable and prepayments)	283	339
Cash at bank - Co-operative Bank Community Directplus account	20,752	17,548
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total current assets	21,035	20,564
	<hr/>	<hr/>
LIABILITIES – falling due within one year		
Creditors - concert expenses	165	652
- other	1,110	1,067
Deferred income – fundraising event	975	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,250	1,719
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET ASSETS	18,785	18,845
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY		
Unrestricted income funds	18,785	18,845
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Signed on behalf of the Managing Committee

M. Randle – Treasurer

2025

## THE LEICESTER BACH CHOIR

### NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS – YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP). In the case of performance related grants, income is recognised when the charity has fulfilled the related conditions. Income is deferred if it relates to an event taking place in the next financial year.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern in the foreseeable future.

The Choir is an unincorporated charity, governed by its rules, registered in England and Wales as charity number 501890

#### 2. SINGING MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS/OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Singers subscriptions	11,995	11,714
Income tax recoverable (Gift Aid)	2,699	2,677
	<u>14,694</u>	<u>14,391</u>
Other trading activities		
General fund raising events and refreshments sales	2,641	1,501
Music sales and hire	189	310
	<u>2,830</u>	<u>1,811</u>
<b>3. OTHER EXPENDITURE</b>		
Conductors fees – retainer and additional fees	10,418	10,359
St. James the Greater rehearsal room hire	1,926	2,810
Accompanists	3,110	2,830
Subscriptions and performing rights	864	641
Website and advertising	1,201	1,197
Bank charges	131	116
Miscellaneous	353	57
	<u>18,003</u>	<u>18,010</u>

#### 4. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No members of the management committee have received any remuneration for the year from the charity's funds (2024 – nil).

There were no related party transactions during the year (2024 – none).

**THE LEICESTER BACH CHOIR**  
**NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS – YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025**

5. CONCERT ACTIVITIES – 2024/25 SEASON

	Winter Concert £	Easter Concert £	Summer Concert £	Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Tickets, programmes, refreshments sales	2,404	2,930	1,865	7,694
Josephine Baker Trust		495		
		3,425		
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Soloists and musicians	1,197	4,194	400	5,791
Posters, programmes & tickets	367	441	340	1,148
Venue, fees, lighting	1,010	953	270	2,233
Music hire	1,135	773	1,159	3,067
Event licence	21	21	21	63
Travel expenses	-	-	30	30
Refreshments	82	35	96	213
	3,812	6,417	2,316	12,545
<b>DEFICIT ON EVENTS</b>	<b>(1,408)</b>	<b>(2,992)</b>	<b>( 451)</b>	<b>(4,851)</b>

CONCERT ACTIVITIES – 2023/24 SEASON

	Winter Concert £	Easter Concert £	Summer Concert £	Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Tickets, programmes, refreshments sales	8,712	3,445	1,892	14,049
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Soloists and musicians	5,645	1,190	2,750	9,585
Posters, programmes & tickets	454	367	477	1,298
Venue, fees, lighting	869	922	652	2,443
Music hire	367	1,120	557	2,044
Event licence	21	21	21	63
Travel expenses	146	36	84	266
Refreshments	84	136	-	220
Flowers	-	42	-	42
Organ hire	-	380	-	380
	7,586	4,214	4,541	16,341
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) ON EVENTS</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>( 769)</b>	<b>( 2,649)</b>	<b>( 2,292)</b>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE LEICESTER BACH CHOIR (THE CHOIR)**

I report on the accounts of The Leicester Bach Choir for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the 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;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to 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 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

M. THOMAS FCA ICAEW  
8 Angus Close  
Thurnby  
Leicester LE7 9QG