Metropolitan Cathedral
of Christ the King Liverpool

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir Association

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2025

A Registered Charity

Organisation Details

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir Association

Registered Charity No. 513081

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral
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PATRONS

President

The Most Reverend John Sherrington
Archbishop of Liverpool

Vice-Presidents

Monsignor Anthony O'Brien
Dean – Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King

Ms Kate Peaston
Headteacher, Runnymede, St Edward's School

Mr Lee Fabia
Principal, St Edward's College

TRUSTEES*

Mrs Christine Nurse	Chair
Mrs Jacqueline Larrosa	Honorary Secretary
Mr Anthony Leo	Honorary Treasurer
Mrs Kerry Blakeley	Fundraising Representative (Boys' Choir)
Position Unfilled	Fundraising Representative (Girls' Choir)
Ms Tracey Bush	Elected Member
Mrs Wendy Callacher	Elected Member
Dr Sylwia Migas	Elected Member
Dr Laurence Tidbury	Elected Member
Mr Charlie Warrington	Lay Clerks' Representative
Mrs Anne-Marie Warrington	Co-opted Member
Dr Christopher McElroy	Director of Music
Mr James Luxton	Assistant Director of Music

∗ The Trustees listed above were in post for all or part of the twelve-month period covered by this annual report.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Our Objectives and Activities

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir Association is registered with The Charity Commission who register and regulate charities in England and Wales.

In accordance with its governing document, the object of the Association shall be to further the aims of the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir (boys and men) and Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Girls' Choir in educating the public in the study of liturgical music.

In furtherance of the above object the Association shall have the following power: *'To provide for the well-being of the members of the two choirs by raising funds and by inviting and receiving contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscriptions, donations and otherwise - provided that the Association shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in the raising of funds for its primary charitable objective.'*

In pursuing this objective, the Association has taken due regard of the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance. The Association is committed to supporting and enabling as many people as possible to access liturgical and sacred music. This is achieved through its support for the choirs in performing at the regular, weekly round of sung cathedral services, as well as regular outreach to parishes across the Archdiocese of Liverpool and through various concert performances of sacred music at different venues, all of which are accessible to the general public. To facilitate this work, it is important that the Association continues to provide support for the choirs to enable the objective to be fulfilled.

Our objectives for the year included:

- Supporting the choirs to enhance their reach to all those who are or may be interested in liturgical / sacred music.
- Playing our part in the life of the Cathedral, Archdiocese, and local community by supporting and promoting the choirs' liturgical and sacred music performances, outreach, and collaborations with other local choirs, orchestras and other organisations.

Review of Achievements

The year ending 31 December 2025 was another busy period for all the Metropolitan Cathedral Choirs, with a full programme of spiritual, ecumenical and extra-curricular events. As usual, the Choir Association stepped up to support the many and varied activities in which the Choirs were involved.

As I indicated in my last report, fundraising has evolved into a more corporate approach, with greater emphasis on applications for funding from external organisations. However, we continue to hold a number of fundraising musical events in the Cathedral. These are very popular and well received by the public, as demonstrated by the increasing numbers attending them. We would not be able to host these events without the support of parents, who help in many varied roles, including front of house, distributing programmes and providing refreshments. I genuinely and wholeheartedly thank each and every one of them for their support.

Alongside these, we also have smaller fundraising initiatives, and one of these which has proved to be particularly popular with the wider Cathedral community, is the Choristers' Bake Sale, held once a term. The success of these events is very much down to the generosity of the parents and friends of the Cathedral who provide us with a varied and delicious selection of cakes to sell.

Continued work outside the Cathedral meant that once again we had to rethink our usual End of Term picnic. Instead, we held a scaled-down gathering with refreshments in the Gibberd Room.

This allowed families to come together and socialise, while also providing an opportunity to thank choristers, their families and Lay Clerks for their commitment and hard work over the year.

On a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to remember John Cain, one of our long-serving Lay Clerks, who sadly passed away this year. The word “character” is often used when speaking of people who have died, but John was not only a character; he was also a greatly respected stalwart of the Cathedral Choir for many years. His wisdom, experience and humour will be greatly missed.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Director of Music, Dr McElroy for the tireless work that he has done throughout the year to ensure that the Choristers and Lay Clerks continue to perform throughout the year. I would also like to thank Monsignor O’Brien, and his assistant Claire Hanlon for their continued support for the Choirs.

I would particularly like to thank the Association’s Secretary, Jackie Larrosa, and the Treasurer, Anthony Leo, who have provided so much support to me throughout the year, despite the many demands and pressures they face in their daily working lives as well as their “Cathedral” lives. Last, but not least, I would like to thank the members of the Association Committee, who tirelessly organise and support all our activities. We may be a small team, but thanks to them we manage to deliver what is required to support the Choirs and the Music Office at all the different events.

The Association remains grateful for the continued commitment of choristers, families, Lay Clerks, volunteers, Cathedral staff and supporters. Their generosity of time, talent and goodwill enables us to continue supporting the Choirs and the wider musical life of the Cathedral.

Christine Nurse JP
Chair
For and on behalf of the Trustees

TREASURER'S REPORT

The audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 are presented in this booklet and have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

The Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir Association had a financially successful year in 2025, generating a combined surplus of £18,628.40 across its main funds.

Income and Expenditure

Choirs' General Fund: The General Fund recorded total income of £9,170.81, primarily from participants' contributions for the Chorister Trip to Nell Bank (£6,150.00), miscellaneous fundraising activities (£1,509.31), and the Cantate Christmas Concert (£1,316.00). After expenditure of £8,743.40 - including Nell Bank trip costs (£5,883.98), choir cassocks (£1,246.02), and choir ties (£792.00) - the fund achieved a modest surplus of £427.41.

Choir Tour Fund: The Tour Fund performed exceptionally well, generating income of £22,083.05 through a strong programme of fundraising concerts and activities, with proceeds directed towards the fund which will support future choir tours. The Celebration of Christmas concert was the standout success, raising £8,434.00, followed by the Two Cathedrals' Messiah concert (£5,892.40) and a recording project for the Catholic University of America (£3,516.39). With expenditure limited to £5,089.14 during the 2025 financial year, the fund achieved a substantial surplus of £16,993.91. A payment of £4,416.00 was subsequently made to the Cathedral in early 2026, and will be recorded in the 2026 accounts, representing its share of income from the Celebration of Christmas concert. Even after allowing for this, the Association remains in a strong financial position to support future tour activity.

Cash Crescendo Fund: The lottery scheme continued to provide steady income, with £1,496.08 received from standing order contributions and £800.00 distributed as prizes. This resulted in a surplus of £696.08, demonstrating the ongoing value of this community fundraising initiative. During 2026, the Choir Association Committee will review the operation of Cash Crescendo with the aim of increasing subscriber numbers.

Subscription Fund: Member subscriptions totalled £511.00, with no expenditure recorded during the year, resulting in a surplus of £511.00.

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2025, the Association held total funds of £88,967.89 in the main accounts, an increase of £18,628.40, or 26.5%, from the brought-forward balance of £70,339.49. The Choir Endowment Fund had a closing balance of £163,656.64. Bank balances are held across the accounts detailed later in this report.

Review and Outlook

The Association ended 2025 in a strong financial position, with healthy reserves across all funds and a proven record of successful, in-year fundraising. Growth in the Tour Fund provides a solid foundation for planning future overseas concert tours, while support through the Cash Crescendo lottery and member subscriptions continues to help maintain operational stability.

In view of this strong position, the Association is able to meet its debts and commitments as they fall due, and there are no known unacceptable financial risks.

Anthony Leo JP BA(Hons) ACMI
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's report to the members of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir Association (Registered Charity No. 513081) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir Association ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2025.

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.

Nigel Gloudon *FCCA*
Independent Examiner
Stalybridge, Greater Manchester

08 September 2026

LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR ASSOCIATION
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 513081

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

CHOIRS GENERAL FUND		**£**
Income		
Fundraising - Miscellaneous	1,509.31	
Choir Ties	195.50	
Chorister Trip - Nell Bank	6,150.00	
Concert Income - Cantate	1,316.00	
		9,170.81
Expenditure		
General Expenses	221.40	
Choir Ties	792.00	
Choir Cassocks	1,246.02	
Chorister Trip - Nell Bank	5,883.98	
Concert Expenses - Cantate	600.00	8,743.40
Surplus For Year		427.41
TOUR FUND		
Income		
Participants' Contributions - Cologne	1,527.56	
Fundraising - General	1,400.00	
Fundraising Concert - Mozart Requiem (Cologne)	1,312.70	
Fundraising Concert - Two Cathedrals' Messiah	5,892.40	
Fundraising Concert - Celebration of Christmas	8,434.00	
Recording - Catholic University of America	3,516.39	
		22,083.05
Expenditure		
Concert Expenses - Two Cathedrals' Messiah	2,433.34	
Concert Expenses - Celebration of Christmas	155.80	
Recording Expenses - Catholic University of Americ	2,500.00	5,089.14
Surplus For Year		16,993.91
CASH CRESCENDO FUND		
Income		
Lottery Income	1,496.08	
		1,496.08
Expenditure		
Prizes	800.00	
		800.00
Surplus For Year		696.08
SUBSCRIPTION FUND		
Income		
Subscriptions	511.00	
		511.00
Expenditure		
Choral Whispers	0.00	0.00
Surplus For Year		511.00

LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR ASSOCIATION
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 513081

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

		£
FCM - GIRLS' CHOIR FUND		
Income		
	0.00	
		0.00
Expenditure		
	0.00	0.00
Surplus For Year		0.00
FCM - THEORY		
Income		
	0.00	
		0.00
Expenditure		
		0.00
Surplus For Year		0.00

LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR ASSOCIATION
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 513081

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

BANK BALANCES	£
TSB Bank	17,521.45
National Westminster Bank PLC No. 1 Account	71,439.10
National Westminster Bank PLC No. 2 Account	7.34
	88,967.89

REPRESENTED BY FUNDS

General Fund		
Brought Forward Balance	7,570.71	
Movement in Year	427.41	
		7,998.12
Tour Fund		
Brought Forward Balance	14,548.09	
Movement in Year	16,993.91	
		31,542.00
Cash Crescendo Fund		
Brought Forward Balance	16,825.37	
Movement in Year	696.08	
		17,521.45
Subscription Fund		
Brought Forward Balance	7,474.98	
Movement in Year	511.00	
		7,985.98
Miscellaneous Fund		
Brought Forward Balance	7.34	
Movement in Year	0.00	
		7.34
FCM - Girls' Choir		
Brought Forward Balance	20,000.00	
Movement in Year	0.00	
		20,000.00
FCM - Theory		
Brought Forward Balance	3,913.00	
Movement in Year	0.00	
		3,913.00
Balance		**88,967.89**

LIVERPOOL METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL CHOIR ASSOCIATION
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 513081

ENDOWMENT FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

		£
Receipts		
	Bank Interest	327.02
	Other	0.00
		327.02
Payments		
	Bank Account Fees	61.00
	Award Disbursements	25.00
		86.00
	Surplus	**241.02**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

Bank Balance		
	Balance Per CAFCASH Account	**163,656.64**
Represented by Funds		
	Brought Forward Balance	163,415.62
	Movement	241.02
		163,656.64