

Handbell Ringers of Great Britain

Registered Charity Numbers

298945 (England and Wales) and SC038918 (Scotland)



Report and Consolidated Financial
Statements

Year ended 31st December 2025

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Reference and Administrative Information

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Judy Gees

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National Website

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Principal Bankers

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Kent, ME19 4JQ

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

Charity Trustees

National Officers

Mr Keith Rowland – Chair
Mrs Judy Gees – Secretary **
Mr Anthony Hayes - Treasurer
Mrs Diane Holt - Membership Secretary

Executive Committee

Patron, WHMF

Dr Alan Hartley

North East Region (NE)

Mr Anthony John Atkinson

Mrs Sheila Christine Lazenby

Scotland Region (SC)

Mr John Elcock *

Retired 15/03/2025

Mrs Samantha Payne *

East Midlands Region (EM)

Mrs Judy Gees **

Mr Michael Johnson

Retired 22/03/2025

North West Region (NW)

Miss Elizabeth McCord

Ms Kate Worthington

East Anglia Region (EA)

Mrs Linda McCord

Mr John Thompson

West Midlands Region (WM)

Mr David Hampson

Mr Richard Hartnell

South East Region (SE)

Miss Helen Secker

Mr Martin Winter

South West Region (SW)

Mrs Veronica Jane Willis BEM

Mr Edwin John Willis BEM

* resident in Scotland

** position held as an elected officer and regional representative

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Objectives and activities

Handbell Ringers of Great Britain (HRGB) is a Registered Charity and an unincorporated Society founded in 1967 and is the major organisation in the United Kingdom dedicated to the promotion of handbell tune ringing. It is governed by its rules which were last amended on 17th April 2010. The Trustees are pleased to report that for the year ending 31st December 2025 the Society remained financially sound, assisted by a financial rebate under the Gift Aid Scheme and prudent control of expenditure. The Trustees, mindful of the fact that the level of the Gift Aid rebate reduced in 2012 and the increased costs of running the organisation, last proposed an increase in the annual membership fees from 1st January 2013, which was agreed at the AGM in 2012.

The Charity continues to work in line with its objective: 'To advance, provide and encourage for the public benefit, the art of handbell tune ringing in all its forms.' Conformity with this objective is achieved across the country, including Scotland, through workshops, residential courses, concerts and handbell rallies organised by members for the benefit of members and the general public.

HRGB Promotions Limited is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England (company number 2128737) and a Registered Charity (number 800808). The company is controlled by two Directors who by virtue of its Articles of Association would normally be the four Officer roles of HRGB. Accordingly, the company is deemed to be a subsidiary of the Society within the context of Financial Reporting Standard and its results have been consolidated into the Charity's accounts. The subsidiary's aims and objectives are: 'To promote, encourage and educate the general public in the ancient art of handbell tune ringing.' In particular the company manages the finances relating to the attendance of UK ringers at International Handbell Symposia which are held every two years.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and Performance

2025 has been another year of consolidation. Groups throughout the UK continue to slowly recover their music programmes. There has been a growing number of national and regional events, increasing in number as the year has progressed. Most handbell groups have returned to their pre-Covid practice and concert arrangements.

Overall, the Society's membership numbers are slightly higher than in 2024, and we continue to work on recruiting new ringers and convert single member teams to include all members. The importance of searching out new members remains a priority, so the Society can maintain its programme of activities.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

The Society continues to expand the use of video-conferencing technology to run both national and regional committee meetings and webinars. This process has helped us recruit and maintain local and national committee members, with shorter meetings and no travel time. The advantage of the former is that committee members do not have to travel long distances from around the country to one location, with a reduction in our carbon footprint and our expense payments. The advantage of the latter is similar - members who live long distances from the venues for events can still engage with other members and develop their knowledge and skills. It will be important to continue to develop this use of technology to enable, for example, the live streaming of concerts, so that more members of the public have access to handbell events and are thereby encouraged to attend a live event.

The Charity's main events during 2025 included:

- The National Rally (annual national residential ringing weekend) was held in Kents Hill Park, Milton Keynes. It was well-attended and much enjoyed by the participants. A mini-ring was available in the courtyard for ringers with interest in tower bell ringing. Nearly 200 ringers gathered on Sunday morning for massed ringing.
- The Northern Bell Orchestra was invited to audition for the national tv program, Britain's Got Talent on 11th January, at the Blackpool Winter Gardens. The program was broadcast on 29th March 2025.
- The National Residential Ringing Week (a biennial event) attracted a record number of delegates this year. Sheffield University has proved to be an excellent venue for this event. As usual, 2 overseas conductors led the music making.
- Members continue to be reluctant to undertake lengthy journeys to attend rallies, so regional committees will be planning smaller, more intimate events to reduce travel time especially in inclement times of the year.
- A subgroup of the National Executive Committee has successfully conducted an extensive selection process and identified a new venue for the next International Handbell Symposium to be hosted in Great Britain in 2026. The originally selected venue would not be completed in time for August 2026. The new venue (P & J Live) is located in Aberdeen.
- New people have been recruited for the important posts of Data Controller, 'Reverberations' Editor, and Sales Manager.
- The HRGB Archivist continues to expand the archive facilities at Heritage Quay at the University of Huddersfield, and Heritage Quay now houses the HRGB Archive, making it accessible to the public.
- Trustees have approved minor changes to the HRGB Rules designed to remove gender specificity.
- The society continues to receive requests to entertain other members of the general public, especially over the Christmas period.
- The mutually supportive link with Northumbria University – the first University in the UK to establish a handbell group – continues to provide a template for the future. Several universities in other countries – for example, the USA and Japan – have handbell groups, and many music teachers leaving these universities are knowledgeable and skilled in the art of handbell ringing. We hope to find new opportunities in other UK universities.
- Regional Bell orchestras are now back performing regularly. These groups provide an excellent opportunity for ringers to play music with larger sets of instruments than usually played in local groups.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

William Hartley Memorial Fund

The WHMF continues to support new handbell teams across the UK by leasing handbells as teams start up and by offering loans for the purchase of instruments. More than half the bells owned by the WHMF are on lease for use in schools for the benefit of younger ringers, many with no other musical experience. The WHMF provides handbells to support some of the regional handbell teams as their performances are a musical showcase of handbell tune ringing to the wider public. Also, for the benefit of HRGB members, instruments are made available for nationally organised events. The Society currently has no outstanding loans for financial assistance.

Vaughan Evans Bursary

The Bursary created by the Trustees for the support of young ringers to attend advanced ringing events was utilised in 2025 by supporting four young ringers to attend the International Symposium to be held in Aberdeen in 2026. Further support for additional ringers' applications would be considered in 2026 for the Symposium before looking to further support at least two young people at the next National Residential Ringing Week in 2027. The Trustees agreed no contribution was required in 2025 to the maintenance of the Bursary fund but would need to be considered in 2026 to ensure the fund contained adequate funds for the future events.

Nick Ottmann Memorial Fund

The Bursary created by the Trustees in 2024 to be used to support ringers with any form of 'additional need' to attend any HRGB national event or international symposium saw no applications in 2025 for support. The Trustees agreed no additional contribution was required in 2025 to the maintenance of the Bursary fund but would need to be considered in 2026 to ensure the fund contained adequate funds for the future events.

Financial and Risk Review

The group statement of financial activities for the year ending 31st December 2025 shows a net excess of income over expenditure of £7,413.

The principal source of income of the Charity was from donations and membership subscriptions, together with a tax refund from H.M. Revenue and Customs Gift Aid Scheme.

Sales income decreased in comparison to last year, despite continued support being made by attendance at the National Rally, online sales and regional sales tables. The cost of sales has decreased, leaving a slightly better overall income than 2024 (where a considerable push to clear 'older' stock was performed). The provision against stock remains at what the Charity sees as a sensible prudent take on the stock provision. Further increases in the price of products purchased and additional increases in postage have reduced some margins on sales in the year, something that is reviewed continually by the Sales Manager.

The source of the subsidiary company's income during 2025 was only from bank interest. Expenditure resulted in normal governance costs and costs in relation to hosting the 2026 International Handbell Symposium (including bank / processing fees for income received).

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

The net income (adjusted for VAT paid / payable to HMRC) for the 2026 Symposium has been deferred into 2026 along with the deposit for the Symposium that was originally paid in 2023. All activity for this event will look to be concluded by the end of 2026.

The Trustees have considered whether any major risks pertain to the subsidiary company and have concluded there are none. Further, the Trustees consider that there are systems in place to manage risks relating to the company.

Group investments decreased in value during the year by £2,970 compared with an increase of £1,870 the previous year. We accept that market conditions may still carry some uncertainty in 2026 due to circumstances out of the Charity's control and so will monitor accordingly.

The William Hartley Memorial Fund continues to provide interest free loans to members and registered teams to enable them to purchase additional bells, refurbish bells etc. During the year the WHMF generated funds from donations and bank interest. The Crescendo Scheme was re-launched in 2015 as a free scheme designed for new, young ringers which is staged to maintain enthusiasm and progression with four progressive certificates that can be won plus additional lapel badges (for a small charge).

A significant item of expenditure is the cost of publishing "Reverberations" the Charity's six-monthly journal which is an important source of communication with the members. Some of the cost is recovered through suppliers' advertisements published in the magazine. After allowing for advertisement income, the net cost of the journal went up from £11,923 to £12,221. This increase has come about from a decrease of the advertising income year on year and an increase in publishing / distribution costs

Regional newsletters continue to provide regions with news of local events and the cost of producing these (less advertising income) went down from £2,834 to £2,685. Regions continue to move onto digital platforms to send their news, but rising costs (primarily around Royal Mail) have offset this.

General Administration expenditure increased during the year due to further website development and hosting costs, plus some ad hoc costs in relation to office equipment being replaced. We are continuing NEC meetings via Zoom and the licence held by HRGB have continued to be made available for national webinars and regional activities. Regions that have purchased their own licences continue to benefit with their use within their region.

We continue to accept that inflation is increasing the other costs within the Charity and that this is something that we must continue to monitor.

Funds above and beyond those required for the day to day business of the Charity are placed in high interest accounts to maximise investment income. Financially, the Trustees consider that the Charity is in a strong position as a going concern.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (...continued)

Policy on Reserves

It is considered that the level of reserves held by the Charity and its subsidiary company is reasonable based upon the projections of the level of funding required for the UK preparation and hosting the next International Handbell Symposium. Additions to the countries that make up the IHC (International Handbell Committee) meant that an increase to the rotating countries hosting an International Symposium may have pushed the UK back to 2028, however Handbell Ringers of Singapore said they would prefer to host in 2028, thus keeping the UK with 2026. This will be 14 years after the last UK held Symposium due to the addition of a Symposium in Hong Kong being added into the rotation in 2020.

The Charity has also continued its policy of maintaining reserves at a level sufficient to cover the costs associated with the organisation of National Rallies in three consecutive years.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by a National Executive Committee consisting of four elected officers, a patron for the William Hartley Memorial Fund (WHMF) and (up to) two representatives elected from each of eight branches. The Executive Committee is responsible for the prudent management of the Society and determination of policy in line with Governmental and Charity law. Day to day administration of the Society is carried out by the elected Officers. All members of the National Executive Committee are Trustees of the Charity. The Charity operates a branch in Scotland and in order to comply with legislation from the Scottish Parliament it was necessary for the Society to register as a Charity in Scotland with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) during 2007.

The Trustees are mindful of, and grateful for, the time and energy given by members of the Society who organise events, lead and serve on sub-committees and regional committees, carry out specific tasks (for example, editing, managing resources) and generally undertake a wide range of tasks to ensure that the organisation of the Charity and its charitable purpose are accomplished successfully.

Trustee Induction and Training: Induction for new Trustees includes the provision of the relevant guidance notes, reports and accounts (Charity Commission and OSCR guidance notes on the responsibility of Trustees, the Society Rules and a copy of the most recent Trustees' report which includes the most recent accounts for the Society) and a dedicated induction meeting which provides an opportunity to question and discuss these with officers, together with the regular Executive Committee Meetings which provide updates on aspects of Governmental and Charity law that may affect Society governance and management.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding public benefit.

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the Charity on 20th June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr K. A. Rowland
Chair
20/06/2026

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Laws applicable to charities in England, Wales and Scotland require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, 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 and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue to operate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and other associated and relevant legislation. 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.

Approved by the Trustees of the Charity on 20th June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr K. A. Rowland
Chair
20/06/2026

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025 *

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior period Total funds
	Note no	All	William Hartley Memorial Fund		2025	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations, legacies and subscriptions	4	25,559	833	-	26,392	82,935
Charitable activities	5	137,126	529	-	137,655	127,100
Investments	6	13,226	590	-	13,816	14,530
Total Income and endowments:		175,911	1,952	-	177,863	224,565
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	160,850	1,008	-	161,858	145,683
Other	8	3,402	3	-	3,405	4,208
Total Expenditure:		164,252	1,011	-	165,263	149,891
Net gains / (losses) on investments	9	(2,970)	-	-	(2,970)	1,870
Net gains / (losses) on disposals of fixed assets	10	(2,217)	-	-	(2,217)	-
Net income / (expenditure)		6,472	941	-	7,413	76,544
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains / (losses):						
Gains / (losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	11	550	-	2,778	3,328	5,713
Net movement in funds:		7,022	941	2,778	10,741	82,257
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		536,855	15,786	121,301	673,942	591,685
Total funds carried forward	12	543,877	16,727	124,079	684,683	673,942

* Included within the Group Statement of Financial Activities is the income and expenditure relating to the subsidiary HRGB Promotions Limited (see Note 3).

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

		Group	Group	Charity	Charity
		2025	2024	2025	2024
	Note				
Fixed Assets:					
Tangible Fixed Assets	11	291,882	293,320	291,882	293,320
Investments	9	64,783	69,753	64,783	69,753
Total Fixed Assets		356,665	363,073	356,665	363,073
Current Assets:					
Stock	13	10,624	5,867	10,624	5,867
Debtors & Prepayments	14	11,934	18,522	3,754	10,259
Cash at bank, COIF and in hand		446,528	326,585	337,819	323,922
Total Current Assets		469,086	350,974	352,197	340,048
Current Liabilities:					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(141,068)	(40,105)	(31,284)	(39,522)
Total Current Liabilities		(141,068)	(40,105)	(31,284)	(39,522)
Net Current Assets:		328,018	310,869	320,913	300,526
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		684,683	673,942	677,578	663,599
Creditors: Amounts falling after one year	16	-	-	-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS:		684,683	673,942	677,578	663,599
The funds of the charity:					
Endowment:		93,627	93,627	93,627	93,627
Restricted:					
<i>William Hartley Memorial Fund</i>		16,727	15,786	16,727	15,786
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		16,727	15,786	16,727	15,786
Unrestricted:					
<i>General</i>		466,064	464,850	458,959	454,507
<u>Designated:</u>					
<i>Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund</i>		8,749	10,087	8,749	10,087
<i>Nick Ottmann Memorial Fund</i>		2,258	2,111	2,258	2,111
<i>National Events Fund</i>		49,029	42,567	49,029	42,567
<i>South West Regional Bell Fund</i>		785	731	785	731
<i>South West Young Ringer Fund</i>		2,287	2,354	2,287	2,354
<i>South East Ring from Scratch</i>		426	426	426	426
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		529,598	523,126	522,493	512,783
Revaluation Reserve:					
<i>Unrestricted: General</i>		14,279	13,729	14,279	13,729
<i>Endowment</i>		30,452	27,674	30,452	27,674
TOTAL RESERVES		44,731	41,403	44,731	41,403
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	12	684,683	673,942	677,578	663,599

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 20th June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr A. P. Hayes
National Treasurer
20/06/2026

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements 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) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Basis of preparation

The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The presentation currency is pound sterling.

The consolidated financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the Charity and its subsidiary undertaking drawn up to 31 December 2025.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the Charity. Control is achieved where the Charity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

Inter-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between the Charity and its subsidiary, which are related parties, are eliminated in full.

Intra-group losses are also eliminated but may indicate an impairment that requires recognition in the consolidated financial statements.

Accounting policies of the subsidiary have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the group.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The Charity adopted Bulletin 1 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

Going concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

All income is recognised once the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations of bells / equipment will be recorded at the recoverable amount of the item(s) at the time of transfer of ownership, to be completed by a qualified individual either within the society or an expert in their field. This will be specified within note 4.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category.

Support costs

SORP 2019 requires support costs such as administration, postage, telephone, depreciation etc. to be allocated to the relevant activity cost category they support. The Trustees do not consider it cost beneficial to set up systems to allocate such costs and accordingly have shown such support costs separately under charitable activities.

Governance costs

These costs are associated with the governance arrangements of the Charity which relate to its general running and statutory obligations. These include the costs of holding Trustees' meetings, bank charges incurred from our current account holders, transaction and service charges from our card processors and accountancy fees.

Taxation

The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets with a cost (or donated value) of £1,000 or more are capitalised.

Musical handbells and similar assets such as Handchimes and Belleplates® are valued at recoverable amount at the balance sheet date. Such valuation is carried out by the Officers of the relevant branch or National Officers who have the necessary expertise to determine such valuations. Any gain or loss on revaluation is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

All other assets are recorded at historical cost less depreciation on a straight line basis so as to write off the assets over their expected useful lives. The principal rates are: Office Equipment - 3 years, Plant and Machinery - 4 years. Currently the Charity has no office equipment or plant and machinery which is capitalised.

The Trustees are aware that there is a requirement to show the reserve arising from the revaluation of fixed assets over the years on the face of the balance sheet. This evaluation of the assets was carried out in 2016 to reflect the revaluation reserve and is reviewed each year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

Fixed asset investments

The fixed asset investments are income units that have been purchased by the Charity from the COIF Charities Investment Fund. The investment aims to provide a long-term total return comprising growth in capital and distributions in quarterly dividends. These investments are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

An explanation of the movement in the year is given at note 9

Stock

Stock consists of goods for resale and is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

A breakdown of the different stock types held and related provisions is detailed in note 13

Debtors

Debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of this is established when there is objective evidence that they will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the debtors.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Creditors

Creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of activities from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

Fund structure

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects. Designated funds have been created for the following purposes:

Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund

This fund has been set up in memory of Vaughan Evans a former National Chair, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Honorary Life Member of the Charity. Its purpose is to provide funding to enable young ringers to be able to participate in events such as the National Residential Ringing Week. The Trustees intend to transfer an amount to this fund from general funds each year subject to availability and requirement.

National Events Fund

This was a newly created fund in 2010 with a transfer from general funds of £7,000 representing the surplus on National Events during the previous four years. The Trustees intend that the fund will be used to provide some finance for certain national events which would otherwise not be financially viable to undertake based on delegate income alone.

Nick Ottmann Memorial Fund

After an initial donation of £2,000 from the will of the late Nick Ottmann in May 2023 it was suggested by the South East Region that Nick's bequest to the society be used to set up a bursary fund. The fund to be used to support ringers with any form of 'additional need' to attend any HRGB national event or international symposium. The Trustees intend to transfer an amount to this fund from general funds each year subject to availability and requirement.

South West Regional Bell Fund

This fund is used by the South West branch for the maintenance of its regional handbells.

South West Young Ringer Fund

This fund has been created by the South West branch in 2010 to support young ringers from the South West attending National events.

South East Ring from Scratch Fund

This fund is used by the South East branch to purchase music for 'Ring from Scratch' rallies, where member teams ring from previously unseen music.

Restricted funds comprise of funds raised for and their use restricted to a specific purpose or donations subject to imposed donor conditions.

William Hartley Memorial Fund (WHMF)

This fund exists principally to provide teams registered with the society with interest free loans for the purpose of renovating or augmenting their handbells, Handchimes and Belleplates® and to maintain and repair as necessary the handbells etc. which are held by the WHMF.

Endowment Funds comprise funds consisting of fixed assets (principally handbells) which have been left as bequests to the Charity over a number of years. Some of these Endowments are permanent.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

2 Trustee information

Trustees received no remuneration (2024 - £Nil). Expenses of £4,810 were reimbursed by the Charity to 10 of the 20 Trustees covering travelling, telephone and similar costs (2024 - £3,057, 10 of the 23 Trustees). In addition, Nil expenses were reimbursed by HRGB Promotions Ltd to Charity Trustees (2024 - Nil).

The Charity did not employ any staff during 2025 (2024 – Nil).

3 Consolidation

The Charity Balance Sheet comprises the national society and its 8 branches. The Group Balance Sheet and Group Statement of Financial Activities comprise the national society, its 8 branches and HRGB Promotions Limited, the Charity's subsidiary company. The company's accounts for 2025 were prepared under SORP 2019. Summary results of HRGB Promotions Limited for the year ended 31 December:

	2025 £	2024 £
Turnover	626	177
Less: outgoing resources	(3,864)	(6,772)
Net outgoing resources	(3,238)	(6,595)

4 Donations, legacies and subscriptions

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2025	Prior period Total funds (2024)
Donations	2,923	833	3,756	59,462
Membership subscriptions	21,089	-	21,089	21,770
Gift Aid Taxation	1,547	-	1,547	1,703
Total	25,559	833	26,392	82,935

Donations comprise of:

	2025 £	2024 £
William Hartley Memorial Fund	833	708
Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund	190	196
Nick Ottmann Memorial Fund *	57	2,019
General **	2,676	8,369
Bells / Equipment ***	-	48,170
TOTAL	3,756	59,462

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

* Nick Ottmann Memorial Fund includes a starting donation from the will of the late Nick Ottmann (£2,000) in 2024

** General Donations include:

2024: SE Region: Donated set of bells in the year from “Pilgrim Handbell Ringers” sold in the year (£4,950) plus an additional £909 in cash

EM Region: Donated bells in the year from the late Tegwen Manton sold in the year (£900)

2025: WM Region: £1,800 donated by the WMBE that was eventually used towards the purchase of some handbell cases

*** Donations of Bells / Equipment consist of:

2024: EA Region: “Richards Bells (£3,200) ^(a)

EM Region: “Manton Bells” (Multiple Sets) (£32,970) ^(b)

NW Region: “NW Region 2024 Bells” (£3,000) ^(c)

WM Region: “Kington Bells” (£9,000) ^(d)

^(a) – Valuation by Phil Day (HRGB)

^(b) – Valuation by Michael Johnson (HRGB)

^(c) – Valuation by Irene Merson (HRGB)

^(d) – Valuation by Richard Hartnell (HRGB)

5 Income on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2025	Prior period Total funds (2024)
Sales Income	14,291	-	14,291	16,076
National Rally	53,127	-	53,127	44,454
National Residential Ringing Week 2025	46,282	-	46,282	-
UK Bronze 2024	-	-	-	38,275
Rallies & Events	15,186	-	15,186	20,314
Regional Ensembles and Orchestra	4,799	-	4,799	5,489
Festivals	-	-	-	818
Crescendo Scheme	-	77	77	77
Bell loan fee	120	-	120	75
Raffles	486	452	938	481
Advertising	920	-	920	962
Miscellaneous	1,915	-	1,915	79
Total	137,126	529	137,655	127,100

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2025	<i>Prior period Total funds (2024)</i>
Interest from bank and other deposits	13,226	590	13,816	14,530
Total	13,226	590	13,816	14,530

7 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2025	<i>Prior period Total funds (2024)</i>
Cost of Goods Sold and other Sales Costs	3,632	-	3,632	8,581
National Rally	49,894	-	49,894	40,714
National Residential Ringing Week 2025	44,881	-	44,881	-
UK Bronze 2024	-	-	-	33,857
International Symposium 2024	-	-	-	6,123
International Symposium 2026 (UK)	5,279	-	5,279	509
Rallies & Events	16,733	-	16,733	19,881
Regional Ensembles and Orchestra	4,849	-	4,849	4,793
Crescendo Scheme	-	27	27	9
Equipment and repairs	762	12	774	1,903
Reverberations	13,142	-	13,142	12,885
Regional Newsletters	2,685	-	2,685	2,834
International Handbell Committee	83	-	83	83
Insurance	2,108	775	2,883	2,927
Society Membership fees	520	-	520	496
Donations	546	-	546	833
Grants	2,257	-	2,257	-
General Admin (stationery, postage etc.)	13,110	-	13,110	8,788
Rent	245	-	245	264
Miscellaneous	124	194	318	203
Total	160,850	1,008	161,858	145,683

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

8 Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund – William Hartley Memorial Fund	Total funds 2025	Prior period Total funds (2024)
Bank charges	1,312	3	1,315	1,928
Accounting fees	2,090	-	2,090	2,280
Total	3,402	3	3,405	4,208

Accounting fees comprise of:

Group (2025)	Group (2024)	Charity (2025)	Charity (2024)
£	£	£	£
2,090	2,280	1,710	1,710

These fees relate to work carried out by independent accountants in providing the Charity with advice regarding value added tax and completing examinations of accounts.

9 Investments

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	Charity 2024 £
Market value as at 1 st January:	69,753	67,883	69,753	67,883
Additions / (sales):	(2,000)	-	(2,000)	-
Gain / (loss) during year:	(2,970)	1,870	(2,970)	1,870
Market value as at 31 st December:	<u>64,783</u>	<u>69,753</u>	<u>64,783</u>	<u>69,753</u>

10 Disposal of Fixed Assets

During the year £9,217 of assets were disposed (2024 Nil)

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

11 Tangible Fixed Assets (Group and Charity)

<u>All figures £'s</u>	Handbells Chimes etc. available for loan to teams as part of the William Hartley Memorial Fund	Liversedge Handbells	Handbells Chimes, Cases etc. for general use by regions	Handbells as part of the "Bells Into Schools" Project (2016)	Total	2024
Book value 01/01/2025	94,200	27,101	148,511	23,508	293,320	238,886
Additions	-	-	4,451	-	4,451	48,721
Disposals	-	-	(9,217)	-	(9,217)	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Increase (Decrease) in valuation	-	2,778	550	-	3,328	5,713
Book value 31/12/2025	94,200	29,879	144,295	23,508	291,882	293,320

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

12 Summary of funds

Movement of funds (Group)

Fund Name	Balances Brought Forward £ 01/01/2025	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	Gains and Losses £	Balances Carried Forward £ 31/12/2025
Unrestricted Funds						
General	478,580	73,206	(66,557)	(250)	(4,637)	480,342
Designated - National Society <i>Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund</i>	10,087	612	(1,950)	-	-	8,749
Designated - National Society <i>Nick Ottmann Memorial Fund</i>	2,111	147	-	-	-	2,258
Designated – National Society <i>National Events Fund</i>	42,567	101,831	(95,367)	-	-	49,031
Designated - South West Branch <i>South West Regional Bell Fund</i>	730	50	(246)	250	-	784
Designated - South West Branch <i>Young Ringer Fund</i>	2,354	65	(132)	-	-	2,287
Designated - South East Branch <i>Ring from Scratch</i>	426	-	-	-	-	426
Total Unrestricted Funds	536,855	175,911	(164,252)	-	(4,637)	543,877
Restricted Funds						
William Hartley Memorial Fund	15,786	1,952	(1,011)	-	-	16,727
Total Restricted Funds	15,786	1,952	(1,011)	-	-	16,727
Endowment Funds	121,301	-	-	-	2,778	124,079
Total Funds	673,942	177,863	(165,263)	-	(1,859)	684,683

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

12 Summary of funds (continued)

Analysis of unrestricted funds by national society, branches and subsidiary company as at 31st December:

	2025	2024
	£	£
National Society	304,893	298,615
South East	36,873	38,715
South West	47,027	45,583
North East	16,595	15,999
North West	8,823	8,708
East Midlands	35,863	36,935
West Midlands	25,898	21,979
East Anglian	42,601	43,473
Scottish	18,199	16,505
Total Charity	536,772	526,512
HRGB Promotions Ltd	7,105	10,343
Total Group	543,877	536,855

Within the “Unrestricted fund” balances above are the following “Designated” funds:

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
		£	£
National Society	Vaughan Evans Memorial Fund	8,749	10,087
National Society	Nick Ottmann Memorial Fund	2,258	2,111
National Society	National Events Fund	49,029	42,567
South West	South West Regional Bell Fund	785	731
South West	Young Ringer Fund	2,287	2,354
South East	Ring from Scratch	426	426
Total		63,534	58,276

“Endowment funds” comprise:

<u>Fixed Assets</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Bells, chimes etc. held for loan to registered HRGB teams	94,200	94,200
Liversedge handbells	29,879	27,101
	124,079	121,301

An explanation of these funds is given at note 1.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

13 Stocks

	Cost 2025 £	Provision 2025 £	Provision % of value	Cost 2024 £	Provision 2024 £	Provision % of value
National: Resale Stock*	3,584	(432)	12%	3,373	(1,441)	43%
National: Mayola Music*	6,978	(896)	13%	4,848	(2,546)	53%
Regional: Resale Stock**	1,610	(220)	14%	1,920	(287)	15%
Total	10,624		13%	5,867		42%

*National stocks carry a specific provision based on age of stock, risk of slow / non-movement.

**Regional stock (unless accounted for at regional level) is a general 20% provision value of stock held within the national provision.

No stocks are held within HRGB Promotions Ltd.

14 Debtors and Prepayments

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	Charity 2024 £
Trade Debtors	823	673	823	673
Other Debtors	275	-	275	-
Prepayments and Accrued income	10,836	16,349	2,656	8,086
WHMF Loans***	-	1,500	-	1,500
Total	11,934	18,522	3,754	10,259

***Included in the WHMF loans are instalments totalling £Nil (2024 - £750) which are not due within one year.

15 Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	Charity 2025 £	Charity 2024 £
Trade Creditors	9,725	2,576	3,688	1,993
Other Creditors	128,365	33,679	24,618	33,679
Accruals and Deferred income	2,978	3,850	2,978	3,850
Total	141,068	40,105	31,284	39,522

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (...continued)

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	167,803	-	124,079	291,882
Fixed asset investments	64,783	-	-	64,783
Current assets	452,359	16,727	-	469,086
Current liabilities	(141,068)	-	-	(141,068)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	543,877	16,727	124,079	684,683

17 Capital and Financial Commitments

At 31st December 2025 there were no potential financial commitments other than those relating to a contract between HRGB Promotions Limited and “ASM Global” in respect of the 22nd International Handbell Symposium to be held in 2026. This commitment cannot be quantified at this stage (2024: *Not Quantified*)

18 Taxation

The Charity is a Registered Charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

HANDBELL RINGERS OF GREAT BRITAIN
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBERS 298945 (ENGLAND AND WALES) AND SC038918 (SCOTLAND)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HANDBELL RINGERS
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 11 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 / 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations;
- 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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

A 7 - -

Mr A Turner FCA FMAAT
Mark J Rees LLP Chartered Accountants
Granville Hall
Granville Road
Leicester
LE1 7RU
2 July 2026