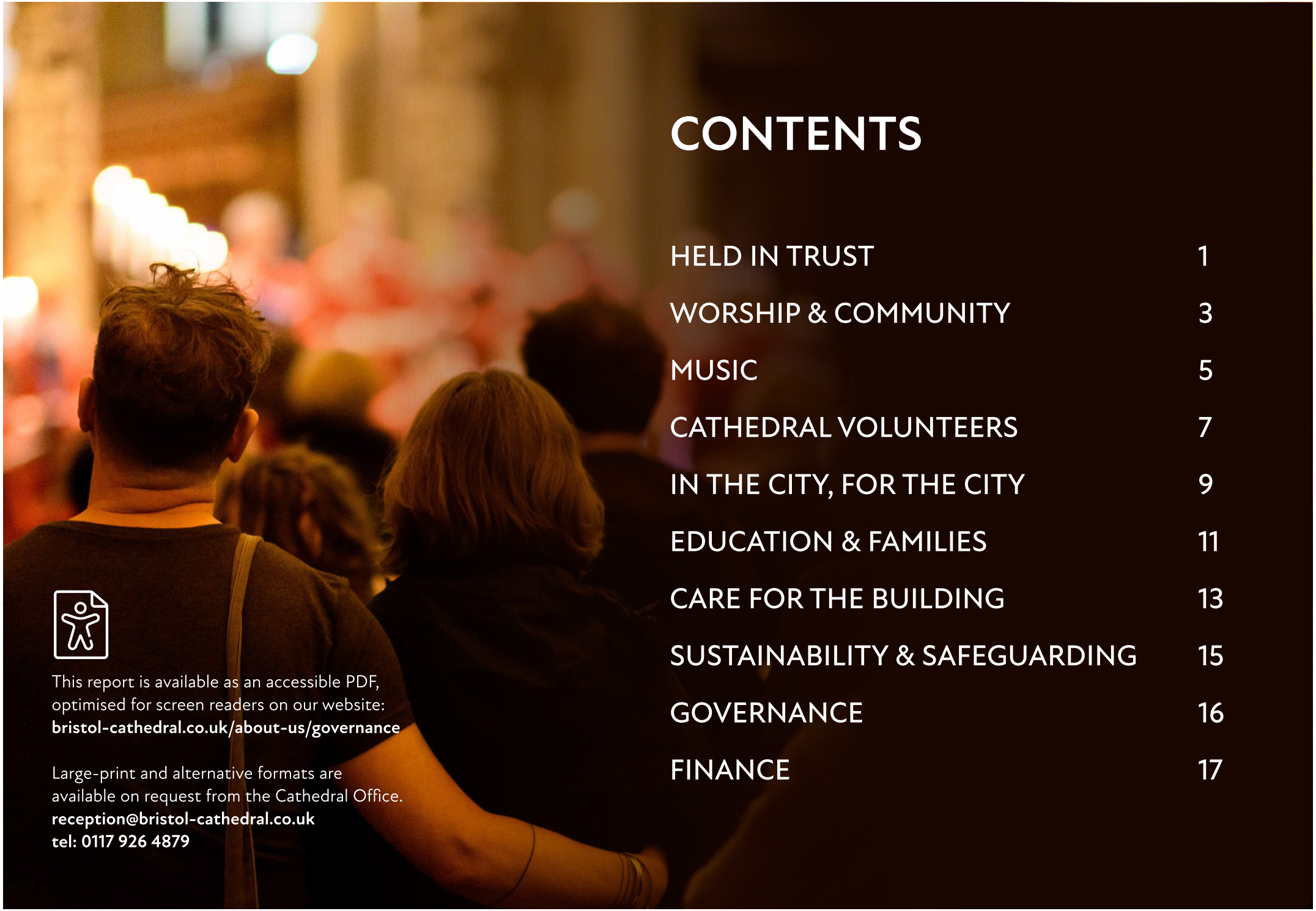


2025: A Year **Held in Trust**

2025 Annual Report

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL





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This report is available as an accessible PDF, optimised for screen readers on our website:
bristol-cathedral.co.uk/about-us/governance

Large-print and alternative formats are available on request from the Cathedral Office.
reception@bristol-cathedral.co.uk
tel: 0117 926 4879

HELD IN TRUST

Yesterday, today and tomorrow

This year has been one of both continuity and change for Bristol Cathedral.



Bristol Cathedral exists to worship God, proclaim the Christian faith, and serve the people of Bristol and the wider Diocese. For almost 900 years, prayer has been offered in this place, and that pattern of worship continues to shape everything we do.

We have been here with you every day, offering prayer, worship, music and welcome in the heart of the city. From the quiet rhythm of daily services to the great gatherings of Christmas and Easter, from civic occasions to school visits, the Cathedral continues to hold a unique place in the life of Bristol.

This year also saw significant moments in the life of the Diocese, including the farewell to Bishop Viv. Her leaving service brought people together in thanks from across the Diocese and beyond, reminding us of the Cathedral's role as a place of celebration, transition and reflection.

In a challenging financial context for cathedrals nationally, we have reshaped our staffing and operations to build a more sustainable foundation. These decisions were not taken lightly, but they reflect our commitment to ensuring that worship, our community, and our service to the city and Diocese can continue with confidence into the future.

Bristol Cathedral is held in trust - for those who worship here regularly, for those who come at significant moments, and for the thousands who cross its threshold each year for the first time.

That trust carries responsibility: to sustain a living tradition of Christian worship, to care for our historic buildings and serve the communities who look to the Cathedral for connection, support and belonging.

This report offers a picture of how that trust has been lived over the past year. It tells a story faith in action through worship and music, education and community engagement, and our work alongside partners across the city.

We are deeply grateful to all those who make this possible: congregations, volunteers, staff, friends, donors, partners and supporters. Your generosity of time, expertise, prayer and financial support enables the Cathedral not only to endure, but to grow and to serve.

As we look ahead, we do so with both realism and hope. The need for places of prayer, reflection, connection and shared experience has not diminished. With your continued support, Bristol Cathedral will remain a place where all are welcome, where faith is lived and where the life of this city and Diocese can be held, shared and shaped.

Mandy

The Very Revd Dr Mandy Ford
Dean of Bristol

2025 AT A GLANCE

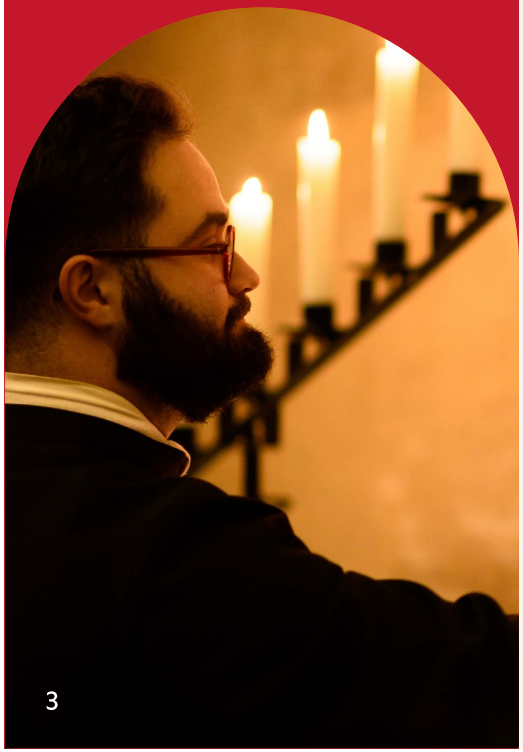
220,000	Visitors welcomed
1000+	Acts of worship
250+	Volunteers
1100	Children in weekly Collective Worship
60+	Concerts and recitals performed
1	Organ Restoration Project completed
1	Artist Commission launched
20+	Civic and partnership events hosted



WORSHIP & COMMUNITY

Following Jesus *Together*

At the heart of Bristol Cathedral is a simple commitment: to offer space for prayer, worship and belonging every day.



Across more than 1,000 acts of worship each year, the Cathedral provides a steady rhythm of prayer that shapes the life of our community. From Christmas and Easter celebrations to daily Eucharists and Evensong, people gather to encounter God, hear Scripture, receive the sacraments and support one another in their journey of faith.

Festival services continue to bring together large and diverse congregations. Almost 1,000 people worshipped at Easter and more than 2,500 attended Christmas services. At the Easter Vigil, 7 people from Cathedral congregations were confirmed by the Bishop of Bristol, marking an important step in their journey of faith.

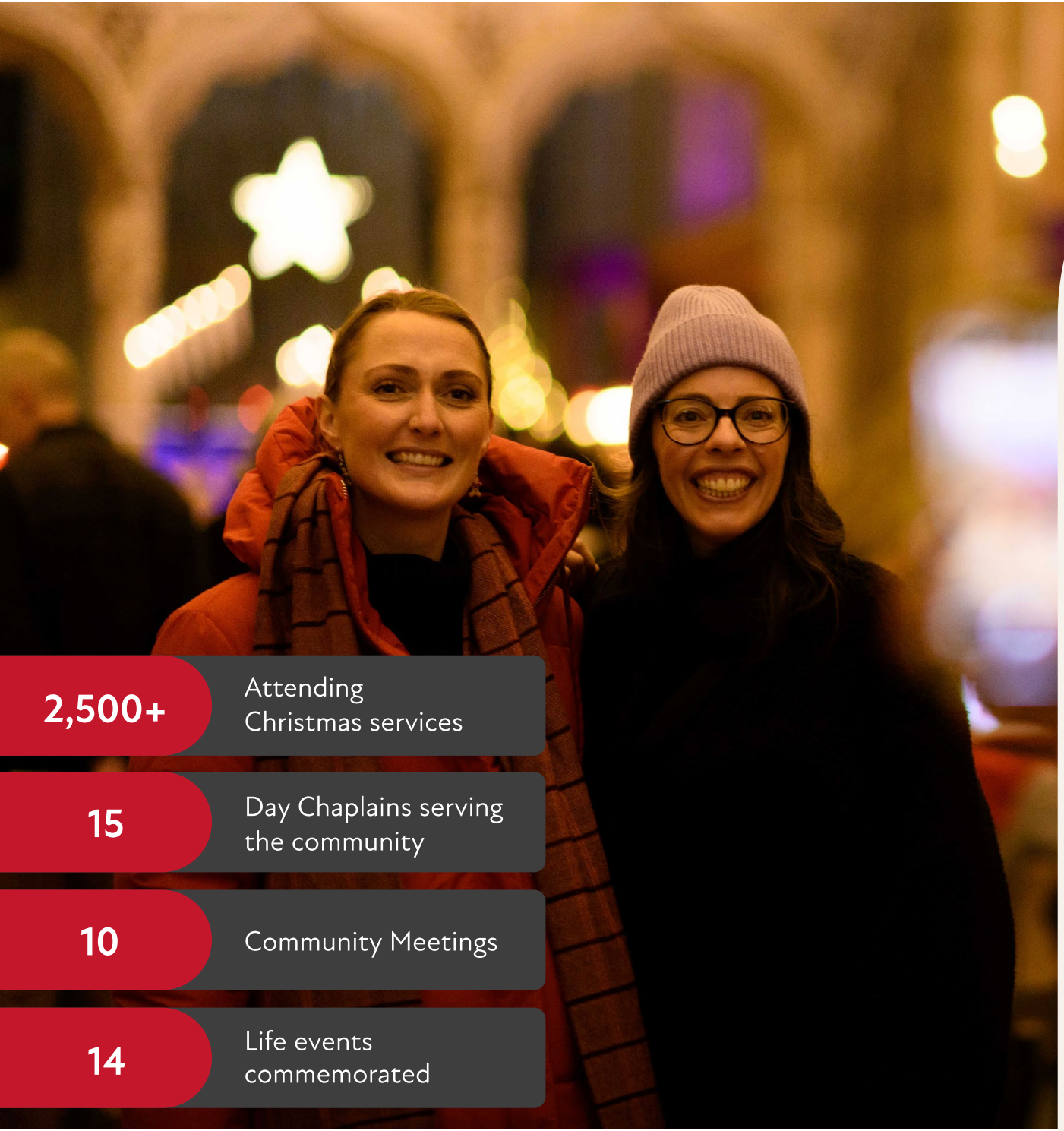
Participation in Cathedral life continues to deepen. We saw greater involvement across worship and community life, reflected in more volunteers, regular Community Meetings and shared lunches, and more young people and families becoming part of the Cathedral community.

Weddings and wedding blessings are becoming a more regular feature of Cathedral life. Often these occasions provide an opportunity to welcome back former choristers, Cathedral School pupils and their families, strengthening ties with a place that has been an important part of their lives.

Volunteers and lay ministers make a vital contribution to the Cathedral's daily life and worship. Readers, intercessors, servers, chaplains, volunteers and members of the Community Group all help shape the Cathedral's worship, welcome and ministry. During the year, several new members joined the serving team, reflecting a growing enthusiasm for worship and service among younger members of the congregation. Their contribution ensures that the Cathedral remains an inclusive place where people from a wide range of backgrounds can explore faith and participate fully in its life.

Pastoral care remains a central part of the Cathedral's ministry. During the week, a team of Day Chaplains, drawn from clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers and trained volunteers from across the Diocese and Cathedral community, offer a listening ear, respond to spiritual enquiries and pray with visitors. Together with the wider pastoral ministry of the Cathedral, they accompany people through bereavement, illness, homelessness, loneliness and personal crisis.

This ministry is often most visible at moments of particular need. Services such as the Homelessness Memorial Service bring together people with lived experience of homelessness, support organisations, churches and members of the wider community in an act of remembrance, solidarity and hope.



2,500+	Attending Christmas services
15	Day Chaplains serving the community
10	Community Meetings
14	Life events commemorated



"Growing community in the porous and ever-changing context of a cathedral congregation is a fascinating task. As I become more established, I feel we understand better the shared challenge of gladly welcoming occasional and visiting worshippers, and those for whom the Cathedral is attractive precisely because they know it will all happen with reliable beauty and dignity, alongside meeting those new to the city or congregation who want to get involved, make new friends and grow in their Christian journeys here."

Canon Neil Patterson

Vice-Dean

MUSIC

Rooted in choral tradition

Music is central to Bristol Cathedral's identity and is one of the most powerful ways we connect with God and each other and the wider city.



Rooted in a long-standing choral tradition and worship, our musical life continues to enrich the cultural life of the city and create opportunities for people of all ages to participate and belong.

A defining moment this year was the rededication of the Cathedral organ, marking the culmination of a major phase of the Organ Project. Rededicated by Bishop Neil at a service attended by supporters from across the country, the occasion celebrated the return of a much-loved instrument and restored a familiar voice to the Cathedral's worship and musical life.

Throughout 2025, Harrison & Harrison returned thousands of pipes to the Cathedral and undertook months of careful voicing and tuning, ensuring the organ could once again be heard at its very best. Visitors were invited to follow the final stages of the project through talks and events, including *Witness the Organ Find Its Voice*, offering a rare insight into the craftsmanship and expertise behind the restoration.

Further engagement is planned for 2026, with a programme of concerts, recitals and special events that will celebrate the instrument and share its remarkable sound with new audiences.

Alongside investment in our musical heritage, we have continued to invest in the future of Cathedral music. This year saw the launch of Songbirds, a new choir for children in Years 3 and 4. The programme provides a joyful introduction to choral singing, helping children develop confidence, musical skills and friendships. In Autumn 2025, Songbirds sang at their first Choral Evensong before performing at the Family Carol Service later in the year.

Music remains one of the Cathedral's strongest ways of engaging with the wider community. Through outreach led by Paul Walton, Assistant Organist and Director of the Consort, and a grant from the Cathedral Music Trust, more young people are experiencing the richness of liturgical music. This grant will enable school choirs to sing alongside the Consort at Choral Evensong, helping to widen participation and create new pathways into Cathedral music.

The Cathedral is committed to choral excellence. Choristers continue to benefit from individual singing tuition, supported in part by funding received through the Ouseley 200 Award, helping to sustain the high musical standards for which Bristol Cathedral is known.

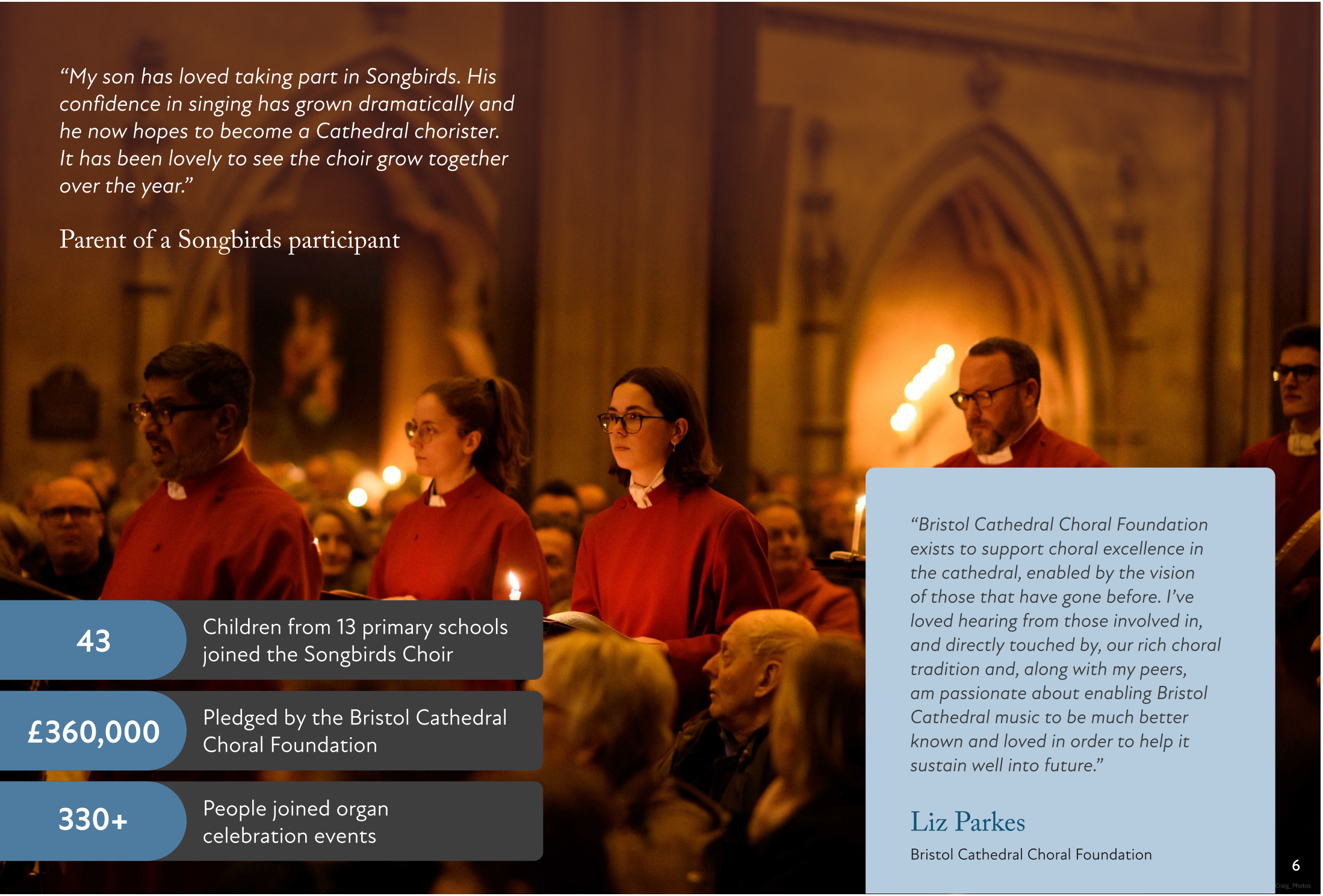
Alongside music offered freely through worship, the Cathedral continues to share music with wider audiences. Visiting choirs from around the world, a regular programme of lunchtime recitals, *Carols by Candlelight* and the Summer Concert with Bristol Ensemble, featuring Vivaldi's *Gloria*, all contributed to a vibrant year of musical activity.

This work is made possible through the generosity of our supporters. The Cathedral remains deeply grateful to Bristol Cathedral Choral Foundation, Bristol Cathedral Trust, Cathedral Music Trust and many individual donors whose support continues to sustain and develop Cathedral music.

Music at Bristol Cathedral is both a tradition and an invitation; preserving what has been entrusted to us while creating opportunities for new voices to take part.

"My son has loved taking part in Songbirds. His confidence in singing has grown dramatically and he now hopes to become a Cathedral chorister. It has been lovely to see the choir grow together over the year."

Parent of a Songbirds participant



43	Children from 13 primary schools joined the Songbirds Choir
£360,000	Pledged by the Bristol Cathedral Choral Foundation
330+	People joined organ celebration events

"Bristol Cathedral Choral Foundation exists to support choral excellence in the cathedral, enabled by the vision of those that have gone before. I've loved hearing from those involved in, and directly touched by, our rich choral tradition and, along with my peers, am passionate about enabling Bristol Cathedral music to be much better known and loved in order to help it sustain well into future."

Liz Parkes

Bristol Cathedral Choral Foundation

Craig_Photos

CATHEDRAL VOLUNTEERS

The *Gift* of Time

Bristol Cathedral depends on the generosity, commitment, and expertise of volunteers. More than 250 people contribute their time across every aspect of Cathedral life, helping to ensure that worship, welcome, learning, hospitality, and care remain at the heart of our mission.

Volunteers support the Cathedral in many different ways. They welcome visitors, support worship, care for the building and its furnishings, support children and families, contribute to social justice and environmental initiatives, and work alongside outreach programmes supporting people experiencing homelessness.

Volunteers are most effective when they feel connected, supported and valued. During 2025, we strengthened our volunteer community through regular communications, social activities and improved coordination, helping volunteers build relationships with one another and with the wider Cathedral community. We also reviewed and updated our volunteer handbook and maintained high standards of safeguarding and safer recruitment, ensuring volunteers are well supported in their roles.

Many of these contributions take place behind the scenes, but together they make an extraordinary difference. Whether offering practical support, sharing specialist knowledge, extending a warm welcome, or creating opportunities for connection and belonging, volunteers help ensure that Bristol Cathedral remains a place of worship, welcome, learning and service for all.

Together, they embody the spirit of a Cathedral held in trust: not simply maintained by a small team, but sustained by a community of people who care deeply about its future.



Rachel Barrett
Education Volunteer

A Cathedral for Everyone

" What I love most about my work is seeing children and families engage with the Cathedral in ways they might not otherwise have the opportunity to. Crafty Cathedral is free and drop-in, welcoming people from all backgrounds and helping them discover that the Cathedral is a place for them. Most of all, I want families to experience the Cathedral as a welcoming place where they can feel at home, make connections and create positive memories."



Sallie Blanks
Flower Arranger

A Blooming Cathedral

"In 2025 the flower arranging team made the decision to use a more environmentally friendly approach to our regular contributions to the life of the Cathedral. This primarily involved adopting a 'foam-free' policy for our weekly designs and finding new ways to bring beautiful arrangements into the Cathedral in a more sustainable way. Most of our floral contributions now use organic or recyclable support systems and, where possible, locally sourced seasonal flowers. We are very grateful to the Friends of the Cathedral for their support in helping us make this change."



Zac Stringer
Homeless Outreach Volunteer

A Natural Fit

"I joined the Homeless Outreach team around eighteen months ago. I'm not a member of the congregation at the cathedral but have a love of history, particularly old buildings, and have volunteered with several different homeless charities in the past, so when I moved to Bristol becoming involved with the team seemed a great way to combine both interests!"



Pun Tiraputra
Server

Serving with Joy

"Joining the serving team has given me a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the Cathedral's worship in a practical and meaningful way. As the latest recruit, I have been warmly welcomed and supported by the experienced servers. It is a privilege to serve in this remarkable place and to be part of its worshipping community."



Neil Fisher
Day Chaplain

Listening Well

"Day Chaplains serve those who come into the Cathedral, providing a pastoral presence and attentive listening, and offering those who enter the building a space for stillness, reassurance, and deeper engagement with God. It is a privilege to serve as part of the day chaplain volunteer team, and I hope each person who engages with a day chaplain leaves the Cathedral with a profound sense of encounter."



Debby Sandow,
Arts Society
Bristol Heritage Volunteer

Threads of Continuity

"We were originally invited to the Cathedral to repair moth damage. Once we had stripped, cleaned, repaired and reupholstered everything, it was time for a new task. With funding from an anonymous donor and support from the Friends of the Cathedral, we are now stitching 17 panels for the altar cushion in the Lady Chapel. As stitchers, it is rewarding to know that our skills can be of practical use to the Cathedral, and the companionship of working together is an important part of the experience."

IN THE CITY FOR THE CITY

A Place for *Encounter, Dialogue* and *Hope*



As Bristol continues to grow and change, Bristol Cathedral is committed to reflecting and serving the diverse communities that make up our city. We seek to be a place where people can come together, explore shared concerns, and contribute to the common good.

Through worship, community partnerships, cultural activity and civic engagement, we create opportunities for people to meet across differences, build relationships, and better understand one another.

This commitment was reflected in a wide range of activity throughout the year. Through civic services and commemorations, we offered spaces where the city could remember, celebrate and reflect together. The annual Legal Service brought together judges, legal professionals, civic leaders and community representatives from across the region. Reflecting Bristol's diversity, the service incorporated multiple languages, music and readings from a range of cultural traditions, celebrating the many communities that call the city home.

The Cathedral also continued to strengthen relationships across faith communities and create spaces for dialogue. The *Grand Iftar* welcomed people of different faiths and backgrounds to share food, conversation and friendship, while *Around Sacred Text* discussions involving priests, imams and rabbis explored questions of justice, identity and belonging. Through events such as these, the Cathedral encouraged greater understanding and stronger relationships across the city.

At its core is a commitment to being a Cathedral for the whole city: a place where people can come together, build understanding, celebrate diversity and help shape a more connected and compassionate future.

"Bristol Cathedral invites you to be a part of something. Sometimes the invitation is the candlelight of a Christmas service; sometimes the vibrancy of an immersive light installation. Sometimes to gather in national or personal mourning; sometimes to witness celebration and majesty; sometimes as a place for song, music and dancing and sometimes as a place for silence. Sometimes as group being guided on a tour through history; sometimes as a space for a personal encounter with the sacred.

To join communities, make friends, learn skills, practice faith - or to remain anonymous, known only to the building and to God. The invitation is always for you, as you are, whoever you are. Here with you."

Naomi Miller

Chapter Member



500+ People welcomed to the Grand Iftar

91 Languages celebrated through the Legal Service

1 New art commission launched

A Commission for the City

In 2025, Bristol Cathedral launched a new art commission honouring African and African-Caribbean heritage.

Building on the conversations begun through *All God's Children*, the project will create a permanent artwork for the Cathedral's North Transept in dialogue with the existing memorial to Edward Colston. Its purpose is not to remove or obscure the past, but to respond to it, creating space for a broader and more inclusive story to be told within the Cathedral.

The focus was on listening, participation and collaboration. An open call invited artists to explore themes of faith, identity, justice, resistance and hope, while an *Ideas Lab* brought together artists and community voices to help shape the vision for the project.

The work reflects a wider belief that cathedrals are not only places where history is preserved, but places where it can be explored honestly and thoughtfully. By opening the process to artists and local communities, Bristol Cathedral is creating opportunities for new voices and perspectives to be heard. The next phase will see an artist selected to work with local communities in creating a permanent artwork for the Cathedral's North Transept, helping those voices become part of its story.

EDUCATION & FAMILIES

Opening doors for the next generation

Bristol Cathedral continues to play an active role in the educational and cultural life of the city, welcoming children, young people and families throughout the year.



During 2025, we continued our work with schools through collective worship, school services, concerts and educational visits. Through these activities, young people encounter the Cathedral as a place of faith, history, creativity and reflection. For many, these moments provide a first introduction to the building, opening conversations about Christianity, heritage and community in ways that extend beyond the classroom.

Music and performance continue to provide meaningful opportunities for engagement. School concerts and events brought young people into the Cathedral in new ways, giving them opportunities to perform, listen and experience the building as part of their cultural life.

Learning extends beyond formal educational programmes. Guided tours, children's trails, creative activities and exhibitions encourage curiosity, creativity and participation, from exploring the Cathedral's architecture and history to engaging with seasonal displays and discovering hidden details throughout the building. Exhibitions showcasing the work of City of Bristol College students also provided opportunities for young people to see themselves reflected in the Cathedral and contribute to its ongoing story.

Families continue to connect with the Cathedral in informal and welcoming ways. Crafty Cathedral, children's activities, seasonal trails and family events at Christmas and Easter provide accessible opportunities for families to spend time together, helping them feel at home and create lasting memories. For many, these activities offer a first step into Cathedral life and encourage families to return throughout the year.

Through this work, the Cathedral supports schools, children and families not just in education, but in nurturing curiosity, creativity, faith and belonging.

"Cathedral Primary School continues to enjoy a strong and meaningful partnership with the Cathedral.

Tatjana supports our work on Christian values through weekly assemblies, helping our children to reflect on what these values mean in everyday life. We greatly value using the Cathedral for our Carol Concerts and termly achievement celebrations, providing a special space to recognise our school ambassadors and celebrate success together. The Cathedral is also a place of comfort during times of reflection and emotional need. Our children love visiting this special place and feel a genuine sense of belonging as part of the wider Cathedral family."

Sara Yarnold

Head of Bristol Cathedral Primary School



"We remain firmly committed to our partnership with the Cathedral and continue to work closely together to ensure that the Chorister Programme flourishes. This remains a distinctive and highly valued part of our school's identity, and we are grateful for the ongoing collaboration between our teams...

...The relationship between the school and the Cathedral is continuing to strengthen. There is a shared commitment to building on this positive momentum, and we look forward to working even more closely together in the years ahead for the benefit of all our students and the wider Cathedral community."

Dr Wade Nottingham

Head of Bristol Cathedral Choir School

30+	Education and school visits
100	Collective Worship services
20+	Family events and activities delivered

CARING FOR THE BUILDING

Preserving the past, *preparing* for the future



As custodians of Bristol Cathedral, we are responsible not only for preserving a remarkable historic building, but also for ensuring that it can continue to serve future generations.

Caring for a building as complex and historically significant as Bristol Cathedral requires continual investment, expertise and attention. Every project, whether highly visible or largely unseen, reflects our responsibility to care for the Cathedral's fabric while ensuring it continues to support worship, welcome and community life today.

Throughout 2025, significant progress was made on the Access for All project, a major programme of work that seeks to improve how people move through and experience the Cathedral. Access for All is about more than physical access. It considers how visitors navigate the building, engage with its history and participate fully in Cathedral life.

A key focus this year has been the planning and preparation required to deliver future improvements. Working alongside architects, conservation specialists, access consultants and engineers, we have undertaken detailed surveys, archival research and enabling works to ensure that proposed changes are both effective and sensitive to the building's heritage.

One of the most significant elements of the project is the creation of a new lift linking the Nave and Cloister. Together with the careful re-levelling of the Cloister floor, this will enable people to move more easily through the building and participate more fully in Cathedral life.

Throughout the year, considerable work has also taken place to understand the history of the site, assess the impact of proposed changes and plan the careful reordering of monuments, including preparations for the relocation of the Elizabeth Draper monument. These enabling works are helping to ensure that accessibility improvements can be achieved while respecting and preserving the Cathedral's heritage.

Alongside this work, we have continued to invest in the wider care of the Cathedral estate, undertaking repairs, maintenance and improvements that support the day-to-day life of the Cathedral and help create a more welcoming environment for visitors.

Throughout this work, we are guided by the question:

How can we balance care for this remarkable building with the needs of the communities it serves?

Whether improving accessibility, preserving historic features or planning for the future, our aim is to ensure that Bristol Cathedral remains a place of worship, welcome and service for generations to come.

"Bristol Cathedral is committed to improving its accessibility to ensure that anyone who visits can experience a warm welcome and can take part in Cathedral life in a way that works for them."

The Very Revd Dr Mandy Ford

Dean of Bristol

850+ Years of heritage in our care

250+ Hours of cleaning and polishing by volunteers

£250 Per day to heat and light the Cathedral



"This special place first became part of my life in the Spring of 1962. Sixty years later Bristol Cathedral remains a pillar of my life and worship. Funds still need to be raised and the Cathedral Fabric cared for. I have been very fortunate to Chair Bristol Cathedral Trust for the past 10 years and to lead the fundraising to support the work of the Cathedral Architect and the Dean and Chapter.

The 1685 Renatus Harris/Walker Organ has been restored, a new sound system installed and the Trust is about to make a grant to enable the Access Project. It has been the privilege of my life to participate in this work and why supporting Bristol Cathedral is absolutely worth my time and commitment."

Stephen Parsons MBE DL

Chair of Bristol Cathedral Trust



SUSTAINABILITY

Our *Journey* Continues

While the financial and operational challenges facing cathedrals continue to grow, Chapter remains committed to reducing the Cathedral's environmental impact and embedding sustainability within decision-making.

During 2025, work continued through Project 30, a cross-Cathedral group of clergy, staff and volunteers supporting practical action and long-term planning. A Sustainability Roadmap was presented to Chapter, helping to shape priorities for the years ahead. Progress has also continued on exploring opportunities such as participation in Bristol's local heat network and the potential installation of solar panels.

"I care deeply about the environment, and the challenges that the climate and nature crises pose. We must be willing to make changes to protect and sustain the world that we live in."

Geoffrey Stevens

Project 30 Group

SAFEGUARDING

Creating a *Safer* Cathedral

Safeguarding remains central to the Cathedral's life and ministry. In 2024, we committed to advancing our Safeguarding Improvement Plan, strengthening collaboration with statutory partners, and continuing to invest in training and engagement.

During 2025, significant progress was made against these commitments, including the appointment of an Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Committee. Work has continued to implement the Cathedral's Safeguarding Improvement Plan, strengthen relationships with statutory agencies, and ensure that safeguarding remains a shared responsibility across the Cathedral community.

Through ongoing training, governance and community engagement, we continue to work towards creating a safer environment for everyone who worships, works, volunteers or visits Bristol Cathedral.

"Safeguarding is fundamental to our commitment to being a place of welcome, trust and care for all."

Ben Silvey

Safeguarding Lead

GOVERNANCE

Supporting the Cathedral's mission and purpose

Bristol Cathedral is governed by its trustees, known as the Chapter. Chapter oversees the Cathedral's strategy, finances, safeguarding and mission, ensuring that resources are used responsibly in support of the Cathedral's purpose and ministry.

Two committees support the work of Chapter: the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and the Safeguarding Committee. Both comprise a mixture of trustees and independent members, providing scrutiny, challenge and specialist expertise while making recommendations to Chapter.

Members of the Cathedral congregations are represented through the Community Group, which provides an important channel for communication and engagement between congregations and Cathedral leadership.

We are grateful to all those who contribute their time, experience and expertise to the governance of Bristol Cathedral.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

- The Very Revd Dr Mandy Ford
  Dean and Chair of Chapter (executive ordained member)
- John Savage CBE
  Senior Non-Executive Member of Chapter
- The Revd Canon Neil Patterson
  Vice Dean (executive ordained member)
- David Cain
  Canon Treasurer (non-executive lay member)
- Naomi Miller
  (non-executive lay member)
- Elizabeth Cairncross
  (non-executive lay member)
- The Revd Canon Jonnie Parkin
  Canon Missioner (executive ordained member)

Revd Jonnie Parkin served as Canon Missioner and a member of Chapter during part of the reporting period. He was suspended in July 2025 and resigned from his post in May 2026.

FINANCE

Faithful Financial Stewardship

Everything we do at Bristol Cathedral is made possible through the faithful stewardship of resources entrusted to us.

Financial resilience is not an end in itself, but a means of sustaining worship, supporting our communities, caring for our heritage, and investing in the future.

During 2025, we sought to strengthen our financial position by diversifying income streams, growing support from congregations, donors and funders, and managing expenditure carefully. The following pages show how these resources have enabled us to invest in mission, accessibility, music, heritage and welcome.

"In a challenging financial environment, we have focused on building resilience through a combination of careful stewardship, diversified income and disciplined expenditure. This has helped strengthen the Cathedral's foundations for the future."

Susie Beasley-Suffolk

Director of Finance

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT 2025

TOTAL INCOME

£2,319,000

of which **£1,431,000** is restricted

£1,349,000
Received in grants from funding partners

£350,000
Received in donations and legacies

£244,000
Generated through events, venue hire and commercial activity

£376,000
Received in investment and other income

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

£2,710,000

of which **£1,627,000** is restricted

£1,534,000
Invested in Cathedral upkeep

£1,070,000
Invested in ministry, music and outreach

£64,000
Costs associated with generating income

£42,000
Invested in Education and Outreach

TOTAL FUNDS

£5,374,000
Total funds at year end

£175,000
Freely available reserves at year end

Growing income, *expanding* reach

A key priority in 2025 was broadening the Cathedral's sources of income while creating new opportunities for people to engage with its life and work.

Supported through the Cathedral Sustainability Fund, a dedicated Events and Venue Hire Manager was appointed in March. Alongside a growing programme of conferences, exhibitions, markets, concerts, lectures, corporate events and filming, this has helped attract new audiences and generate valuable unrestricted income.

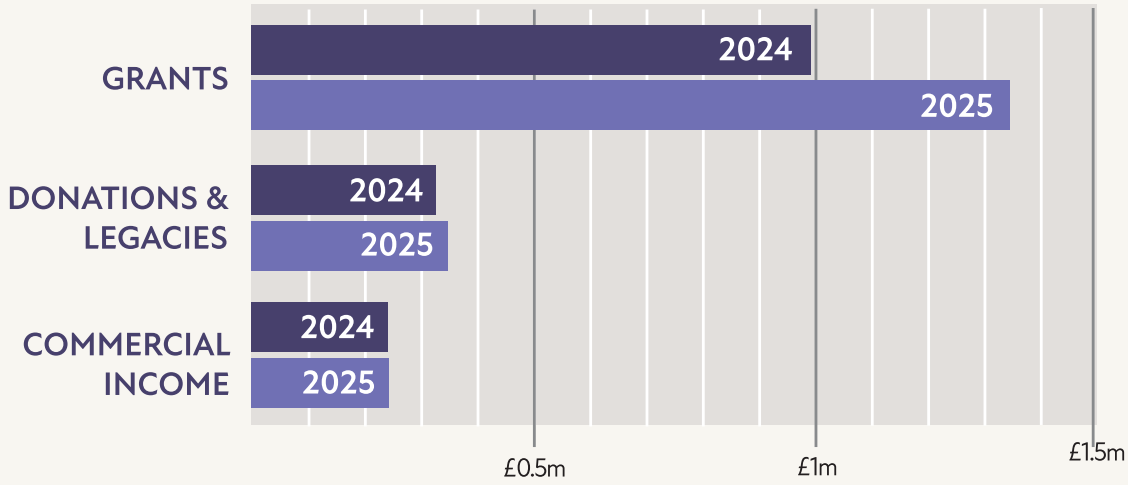
Productions filmed during the year included Young Sherlock (Amazon Prime), A Good Girl's Guide to Murder (BBC) and Industry (BBC), helping to showcase the Cathedral to audiences far beyond Bristol.

This focus on audience development has been supported by wider improvements to the visitor experience. Visitor Experience Assistants continued to provide a warm and consistent welcome. The remodelling of the cathedral shop and early days of Pinkmans cafe have enhanced the Cathedral's hospitality offer, encouraging visitors to spend longer exploring the Cathedral and its surroundings.

Alongside the growth in commercial income, support from congregations, donors and funders remained strong. Regular giving was maintained, while grant funding enabled investment in major projects.

Together, these developments are helping to create a more welcoming Cathedral, a more diverse audience base, and a broader and more resilient financial foundation for the future.

INCOME STREAMS



+36% on 2024
£1.35m grant income secured
supporting accessibility, conservation, music, mission and sustainability

+4% on 2024
£83,000 received through congregational giving
reflecting the continued generosity and commitment of the Cathedral community

+54% on 2024
£191,000 generated through venue hire
62 events welcomed new audiences and generated income

INVESTING

Access, Heritage and Music



Supporting Bristol Cathedral's Future

The Cathedral is grateful for the support of trusts, foundations and funding partners whose investment has enabled work across accessibility, music, heritage and organisational sustainability.

This included support from the *Church Commissioners* for staffing and the day-to-day Cathedral running costs. At the same time, significant funding was secured to support the future of Cathedral music and the next phase of the *Access for All* Project.

These partnerships continue to play a vital role in the life and long-term sustainability of Bristol Cathedral.

Supporters - *With thanks to:*

- Basil Brown Charitable Trust
- Bristol Cathedral Choral Foundation
- Bristol Cathedral Trust
- Cathedral Music Trust
- Church Commissioners
- Friends of Bristol Cathedral
- The Benefact Trust
- The Julia Rausing Trust
- The Nisbet Trust
- The Ouseley Trust
- Our congregations, Patrons and individual supporters

Investing in the Future

Resources entrusted to the Cathedral are invested carefully to support its mission, ministry and long-term future.

During 2025, progress continued on the Access for All project, with surveys, heritage investigations and specialist consultancy work helping to prepare for future accessibility improvements across the Cathedral.

Investment in music and worship remained a priority through the restoration of the Cathedral organ and continued support for musical programmes, helping to sustain worship, outreach and opportunities for young singers.

Alongside this, continued investment in Bristol Cathedral and the Lord Mayor's Chapel supported the conservation and care of these important buildings, ensuring they can continue to serve worshippers, visitors and the wider community.

Together, these investments reflect our commitment to caring for what has been entrusted to us while preparing the Cathedral for the future.

FUNDING RECEIVED IN 2025

£182,000
Bristol Cathedral Choral Foundation
Supporting the delivery of cathedral music.

£556,000
Access for All
Secured for the next phase of the project

£518,000
from Church Commissioners
Supporting ministry, staffing and the ongoing life of the Cathedral

RESOURCES INVESTED IN 2025

£217,000
Fabric & Heritage
Supporting the care of Bristol Cathedral and The Lord Mayor's Chapel

£543,000
Music & Worship
Invested in the restoration of the Cathedral organ

£79,000
Access
Preparing for the next phase for the *Access for All* project

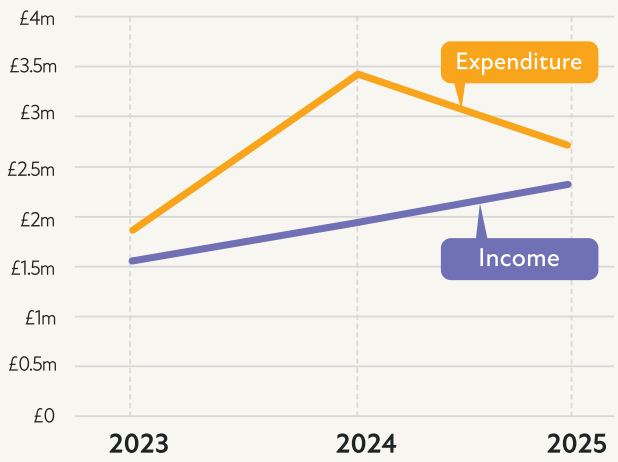
Strengthening financial Resilience

Alongside investment and growth, careful attention has been paid to cathedral running costs throughout 2025.

Through organisational review and restructuring, costs have been reduced and resources focused on strategic priorities. These actions have helped improve the Cathedral's financial position and create a stronger foundation for the future.

Restricted funding has enabled major projects to progress while protecting core operations, and expenditure continues to be carefully managed as the Cathedral works towards greater long-term sustainability.

As we move into 2026, growing earned income, maintaining expenditure discipline and strengthening unrestricted reserves will remain key priorities.



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