

Minutes of Kaleidoscope 2025 AGM held 18th February 2026 8.00 pm at Thomas Spencer Hall, Whittington, Lichfield

1. Apologies

Louise Troman, Pat Brant and Fiona Pawson

2. Minutes of 2024 AGM

It was proposed by Anne Mapley, and seconded by Sue Bowring, that these be adopted as a true record. This was agreed unanimously by the members present.

3. M.Ds Report

We had a good year with new members Jean and Jackie. Although we have said goodbye to Val.

We have gone down some new musical avenues. The 2nds are now dividing in some pieces. We have expanded our repertoire; Let it Go, Somewhere in my memory and Gilbert and Sullivan pieces among others. We are really pushing the repertoire now.

I have a lot of ideas for more music and we have started 3 new songs already this year with 3 more already in the pipeline.

The Christmas Concert was particularly good and I have enjoyed the whole year.

4. Treasurer's Report

All subscriptions have been paid on time.

Income exceeded expenditure by £778.62 but still no payment to musical director.

Our 2025 Charitable donation to MIND will be

£1 Square £86.45

Refreshments £86.50

26 July Concert £223.70

13 Dec Concert £723.81

Total £1120.46

Thank you to Catherine for supplying refreshment supplies.

Any Questions? No questions were asked

5. Chair's Report

Kaleidoscope started last year with a great achievement of presenting £900 to Mind Burton & District- for our year of fundraising for Helen's Bursary. We also had a unanimous vote at the AGM to continue to fundraise for this worthy cause.

I'd like to maintain the focus on the tragic loss of Helen before I talk about other aspects of the choir in 2025. Choir members have, of course, experienced great sadness at times over the years; we have endured losses of our friends, and serious health issues to face ourselves and for our family members. But Helen's awful and unnecessary death hit us hard- not least of all because she generously gave so much as our Chair. For this reason, I am pursuing permission for the choir to plant a small cherry tree –bearing the earliest blossom- which would coincide with the date she died, Christmas and her birthday in early January- within a wildlife area near

where she is buried. I understand that her husband Phil sits in this area and I hope it will provide some comfort and a permanent visual link for the family. I will keep you all informed. During the summer, the outcome of Helen's court case brought relief in terms of the outcome and also shocking revelations of the perpetrator. We all hope that coming through this milestone has been helpful for Helen's family and friends.

I am sure you were all aware that Yvonne has selflessly also taken on the role and responsibility of Secretary when Anne stepped down. Yvonne has been tirelessly stepping up for the choir. It is no secret that she has continued as Treasurer purely because nobody else has offered; and then she also took on the Secretary role. I do not think this is fair, we all benefit from the organisational work behind the scenes and I hope this can be more equally shared within the choir. It is fine to join the Committee for a year or two and then step down. Yvonne justly deserves to step down from the Committee now and to enjoy this special year she and Rupert have planned. Thank you, Yvonne; frankly, no bouquet of flowers seems enough for all you have done for us.

I'm pleased to say Catherine will be taking on the role of Treasurer. We now have the 'Sum Up' machine which simplifies payments not made on line. Please let's support Catherine by paying subs by bank transfer if possible and by not using copper coins for refreshments and 'poundsquare'.

The previous year, Anne stood down as Secretary after many years of service to the choir. We were delighted that in September she felt able to return to the Committee and is now willing to be Secretary again. Anne stepping down had made us all have a look at the workload of individuals and to share tasks. Part of this is helped by the role Stella has taken with the website and social media- and at this point a special thank you to Dave Trench for generously giving uptime to photograph and film us.

I would also like to thank Sandra for her enthusiasm and contribution on the Committee; she needed to step down in August but has managed to get to rehearsals as often as she can. Also, thanks to Louise for assisting Stella with the website 're-vamp'.

2025 saw our new member Jaki settling into the Altos, and we also welcomed Jean into sopranos in the summer. Anne and I moved parts in January to try to help with the balance of voices. And Valerie left us, as she prefers classical choral music. We continue to try to recruit new members, and the feedback from our performances has been very positive.

We held an EGM to formally agree alterations to the Constitution to better meet the choir's current needs. Rupert has appreciated choir members informing Cheryl of any non-attendance. The choir camaraderie is so important to us all; some members have faced very difficult times last year and I know how supportive you are. And when we have any sort of concert or event everyone helps out- so, thank you, all. A special "thank you" too to Jo for all your support and organisation of our music, folders and scarves. And to Sue Bowring for your energy and enthusiasm in stepping in to lead us sometimes at very little notice. Thank you to Catherine for your generosity in providing and serving refreshments; she will now hand over to Victoria and Cheryl for kitchen duties- thank you, both.

Our Social Evening is a treat after all the work towards our Christmas Concert- it never seems long enough! Chez' quiz is fast becoming a tradition! It is lovely to celebrate birthdays too- last year we rightly made a fuss of Victoria's 80th (who can believe it?) - our one original choir member from its' inception. And Rupert's mere 60th! Please bring a cake to celebrate your special day with friends- and a card for all to sign if you know of someone's special occasion.

We have appreciated all Rupert's hard work and passion for the choir, and his production of practice clips on our website really helps us to learn our parts. We have increased our repertoire and our performances and it is great that Rupert is so ambitious and enthusiastic in taking up these opportunities.

And this year, we look forward to Rupert & Yvonne's wedding, such wonderful news and I'm sure we all wish them every future happiness.

Flowers in appreciation were presented to Yvonne Ward, Sue Bowring and Jo Bull to a round of applause.

6. Nominations for Committee

All members of the committee stood down. However, all but Yvonne Ward were happy to be renominated

Rupert Feld proposed that all these committee members be re-elected. This was seconded by Sandra Derrick and passed unanimously by those present.

Fiona Pawson was nominated as a committee member by Margaret Leonard and seconded by Marilyn Heald. This was passed unanimously by those present and Fiona Pawson was duly elected to the Committee.

Rupert Feld proposed Lynne Walsh as Chair, Catherine Docherty as Treasurer and Anne Mapley as Secretary. This was seconded by Jill Street and passed unanimously by the members present.

7. 2026 Fees

Fees of £144 for 2026 were proposed by Catherine Docherty and seconded by Anne Mapley. This was passed unanimously by the members present.

8. Nominations for 2026 Charity

Three charity nominations had been received.

St Giles Hospice – proposed by stella Trench

The Cancer Support Centre – proposed by Anne Mapley

Burton and District Mind – proposed by Kathy Maskell

Each proposer spoke briefly about their nomination and a vote was held. Burton and District Mind received 2 votes, The Cancer Support Centre,10, and St Giles Hospice 11.

St Giles Hospice was duly voted as the choir's 2026 charity

9. A.O.B.

Yvonne Ward thanked Lynne Walsh for all her hard work over the year as chair which was applauded by those present

The meeting was closed at 8.25 pm.