

## 2025 AGM – Music Director's Report

### Circular Keys Chorus

It has been a year of both musical achievement and pivotal decisions for Circular Keys Chorus.

Over the past 12 months, we've continued to reach musical highs and have made significant strides in our artistic and technical development as an ensemble. Despite a smaller number on the risers, the commitment, skill, and heart within the group remain as strong as ever. Our performances reflect a deepening maturity and musical cohesion that we can all be proud of.

Like many choruses worldwide, we've experienced a natural ebb in membership, particularly as some long-standing members step back due to retirement and life changes. This, coupled with our decision to accept a wildcard invitation to compete on the international stage later this year, has created some unique challenges for recruitment. Our attention has necessarily been focused on preparing a world-class performance, and that has made it difficult to bring in and integrate new members during this intense time.

However, we are incredibly fortunate to have a group of talented dual members who have committed to join us for international contest preparations. Their support has strengthened our sound and spirit, and we are grateful for the energy and skill they bring to our journey.

I want to take a moment to sincerely thank my music team, whose support, advice, and dedication have been invaluable. They work tirelessly behind the scenes and alongside our members, helping to guide, encourage, and lift the musical experience for everyone. I'm deeply grateful to be working with such capable and passionate people who truly have the chorus's best interests at heart.

Looking ahead, the next 18 months will be crucial. This is a time of opportunity—to reinvigorate our membership, reimagine our community outreach, and set our sights on both musical and organisational growth. I believe with all my heart that the foundation we've built over the years is strong, and together we can create a vibrant, sustainable future for Circular Keys Chorus.

Thank you for your continued passion, commitment, and belief in what we do. The music we make and the community we build together matter—and I am excited for what's to come.