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Bath Gateway Out and About

Supporting adults with learning disabilities

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period from 01/08/2025 to 31/07/2026

A. Reference and administration details

Charity name: Bath Gateway Out & About Registered Charity number: 1135771

Principal address: Lytchett House, 13 Freeland Park, Wareham Road, Poole, Dorset BH16 6FA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee Name	Office (if any) during the year	Acting start date during the year	Acting end date (if applicable)
Evelyne Wilkinson	Chair	01/08/2025	n/a
Ray Egbufoama	Treasurer	01/08/2025	n/a
Susan Comben	Secretary	01/08/2025	n/a
Jonathan Plechowicz	Trustee	01/08/2025	n/a
Barry Thomas Vincent	Vice Treasurer	03/12/2025	n/a
Michael Henderson	Trustee	02/06/2026	n/a
Stefan Kerwin	Trustee	01/08/2025	28/02/2026

B. Structure, governance, and management

The charity is governed by its Constitution and is an unincorporated association governed by a Committee of Trustees. Any new Trustees are appointed by the Committee of Trustees, having been nominated by an existing Trustee and seconded by another Trustee. All the Trustees understand and have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit whilst carrying out their activities.

The Committee of Trustees meets at least every 2 months to:

- set the strategic direction of the charity, including its ongoing activities
- monitor and oversee the charity finances and current balances
- support the Charity Administrator and Club Leaders including assisting with fundraising and other activities
- take whatever decisions are necessary for the ongoing benefit of the Club

Reserves Policy

Bath Gateway Out & About's current reserves policy is to retain 6 months' worth of operational expenditure in hand – to cover all essential core running costs including current salaries for paid employees, plus other additional core running costs, as appropriate. We consider our essential running costs as for those things we would have to do, even if we were to be in the unfortunate situation of not being able to deliver our usual programme of activities for our club members.

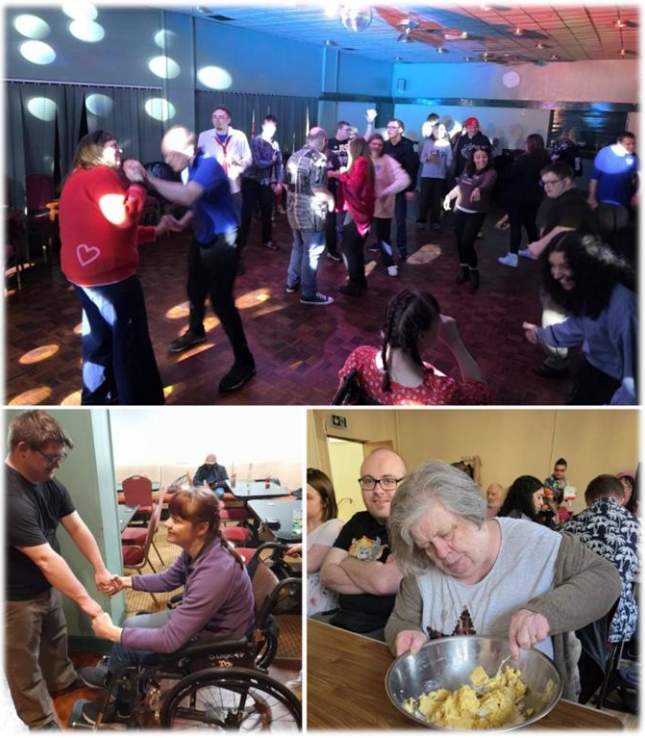
At the current time, this equates to at least £25,000 that the charity must keep in reserves.

C. Objectives and activities

Our objectives as a Charity and for our two Clubs are

- To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for the recreation or other leisure time occupation for people with learning disabilities, with the object of improving their conditions of life.
- To provide relief for people with a learning disability by the provision of help and support for them and for their families, dependants, and carers.
- To promote inclusion and participation amongst adults with a learning disability to take part in activities with a focus on developing friendships, improving health and wellbeing and experiencing new activities.

Summary of the main activities



Our club provides social and leisure activities for adult individuals 18 years and over who either have learning difficulties, are disabled, or both. Activities are under taken out and about in the community and enable our members to take part in a wide range of age-appropriate experiences helping them with their life skills, raising their self-esteem, building their confidence, and developing their friendships; and also in addition, providing exposure to, and integration with, the local community in Bath and the surrounding areas.

Kayleigh
(Wednesday Club member)

The best thing about club is being with friends. I like all the activities, but especially the cookery sessions. I feel so included and welcomed, I feel safe and everyone treats me with respect and listens to my ideas. I would really like to do a swimming activity again in the future!

Missy
(Wednesday Club member)

The activities make me laugh, and the best thing about club is socialising with my friends. In future I'd like to do trampolining and more bowling, also some swimming activities or anything to do with horses.

Michelle
(Monday Club Member)

I like all of the club activities, the best thing is meeting up with other people. I always like to try new things out, like the Salsa dancing.

The activities take place in general in the Bath & North East Somerset area with occasional holidays or day trips arranged outside the area. The Club nights take place on a weekly basis with other activities taking place on an intermittent basis as arranged.

Staffing Structure

Bath Gateway Out & About employs a full time Charity Adminstrator, and two part time Club Leaders. This team is fundamental to keeping the charity going strong, and ensuring that our objectives are fulfilled. We are so grateful to all three for their passion and commitment to the charity.

Contribution made by volunteers

A major contribution to the Club is made by our 20 volunteers who give their time willingly and selflessly, without whom the Club could not function, and we would like to thank every one of them all so very much for their magnificent and astounding contributions during the past year.

Without the help of our amazing volunteers, we would not be able to run our regular weekly evening Club sessions, let alone occasional day trips or holidays that the members also enjoy.

Layla: *"I have now been volunteering with Bath Gateway Out & About as an activity supporter for about 13 years.*

To see the happiness on the club members' faces is indescribable.

I have watched our members growing in confidence and thrive in a positive and uplifting atmosphere.

I love volunteering and I love everyone to bits!"

Ginny: *"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone at Bath Gateway Out and About for giving me the opportunity to volunteer with such a wonderful charity. It has been a privilege to be part of such a supportive and caring team, and I have learned so much during my time with you. The experience has been both rewarding and inspiring, and I will always be grateful for the trust and encouragement I received. Working alongside such dedicated staff and volunteers has been a pleasure, and I will cherish the memories and friendships I have made."*

Andy: *"My daughter is a club member with Bath Gateway Out & About, and I have been volunteering with the charity as an activity supporter for many years. It's such a pleasure to be a volunteer, we have fun and games a great time is had by all!"*

D. Achievements and performance

During the year starting in August 2025 and finishing near the end of July 2026, we have managed to run many fun, exciting and rewarding Club activities and events for our members.

August 2025 Bristol Zoo Project Trip

One Saturday near the beginning of August we visited Bristol Zoo Project, and from start to finish it was a fantastic day for all out members and volunteers to treasure forever!

January 2026 Pantomime Day Trip

Our members had a great time at Theatre Royal Bath watching the amazing Peter Pan pantomime show, and even got to meet some of the stars after the performance!

Boom Battle Bar Bath

Members are loving regular visits to the Battle bar, experiencing virtual darts, crazy golf, pool, music, shuffle pong, and more. All in an incredibly fun and safe environment.

All Cycle Bath & West

Here our members enjoy fully inclusive cycling for all abilities on a range of adapted bikes and trikes, in a safe traffic free environment. Great fun is had by all.

June 2026 Millfield Community Fun Day Trip

In the summer, we took our members on a trip to Millfield School's annual Community Day, where everyone was able to take part in a wide range of fun activities, including sports and games, rodeo, face painting, arts & crafts, baking, theatre, dancing, and much more!

Over the past year, we have disco danced, fancy dressed, quizzed, eaten out, sung Karaoke, had a mini concert, Flamencoed, salsa danced, exercised (including Yoga), walked, shopped, bowled, sung, enjoyed visits to restaurants and the cinema, and much much more !!

Picnics in the Park July 2026

Near the start of July, our Monday and Wednesday club members enjoyed 2 picnics with family and friends in Royal Victoria Park, Bath.

End of Year Barbecue July 2026

At the end of the summer term all our Monday and Wednesday Club members and volunteers met at The Hut in Twerton for a barbecue with fun and games.

E. Fundraising

Our charity is completely **self-fundraising**; thus, fundraising is essential to enable us to keep the club running, so we try to make it a fun experience for everyone who takes part….

Sponsored Walks

In June, we ran two sponsored walks for the two club nights, along the river tow path starting at Green Park (Sainsbury's) and finishing at the Golden Fleece pub in Twerton.

Overall we raised more than £830 from our Monday and Wednesday Clubs' sponsored walks – very many thanks and congratulations to any one who sponsored our members, and to all our wonderful members who took part and raised so much funds for us!

Bath Half Marathon March 2026

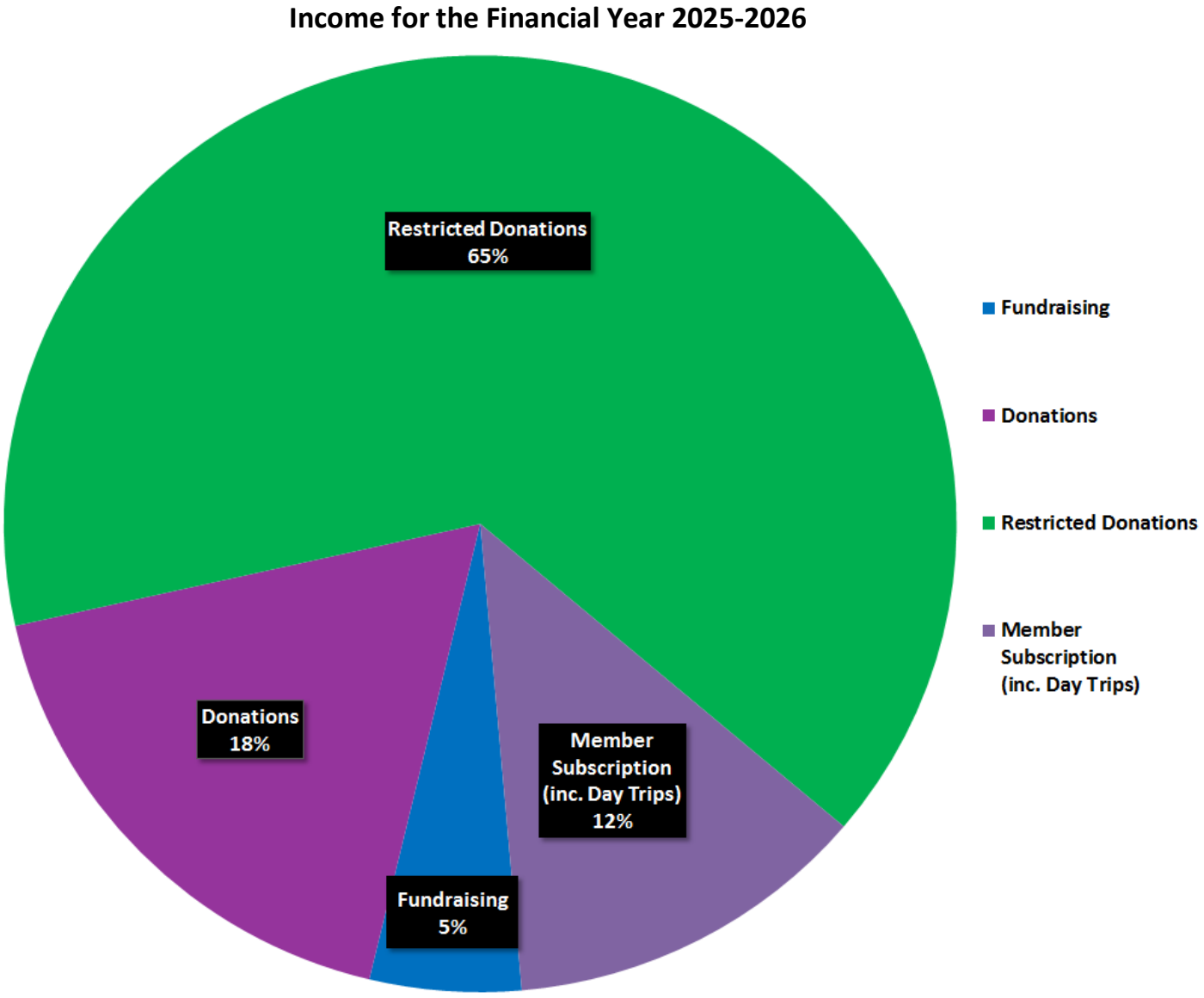
This year we had three people take part in the Bath Half for us including our Chair of Trustees, Ev (shown on the left), and ex-volunteer Anand (shown on the right). Also, Charles Crotty, who raised so much in previous years, ran for us again. Over £**2,000** was raised for the charity.

Thanks so much to them all!

F. Financial Review

Our finances continue to be in a strong position, improving in large part to the efforts of our Charity Administrator in raising substantial amounts of restricted and unrestricted grant donations.

Income Summary



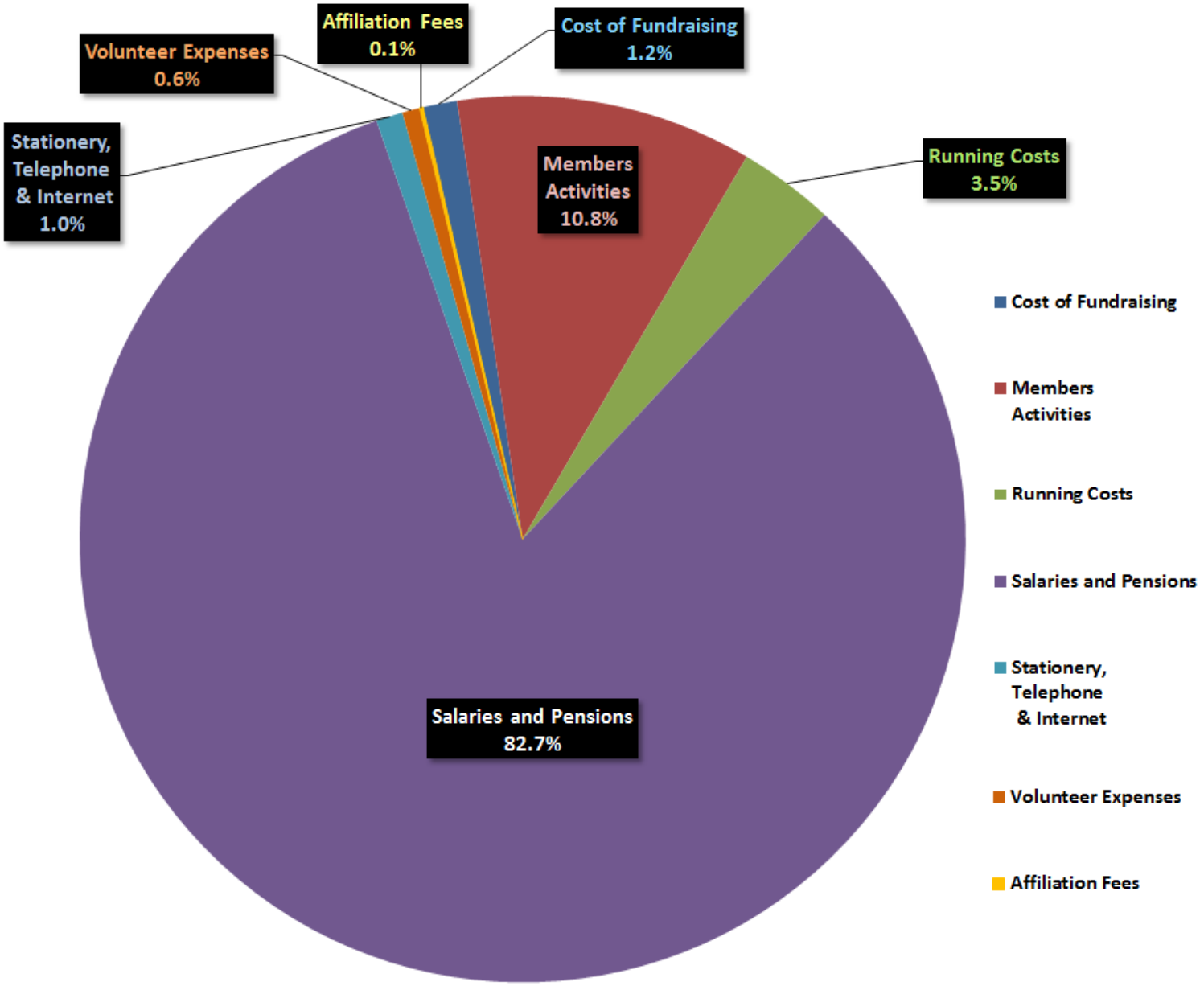
Our total **income** this year has **risen** slightly by **9%** to **£57,979**.

- One contributing factor has been an **11% increase** in **total donations**, amounting to **£47,798**.
- **Member subscriptions** have also **increased by 13%** this year to **£6,550** (in spite of our offer starting in March 2026 to halve the subs fees for any member who pays for a whole term in advance) – this was due to improved attendance at weekly club evening activity sessions.

Expenditure Summary

Our total **expenditure** has **stayed almost the same, falling** by only **1%** to **£49,432**.

Expenditure for the Financial Year 2025-2026



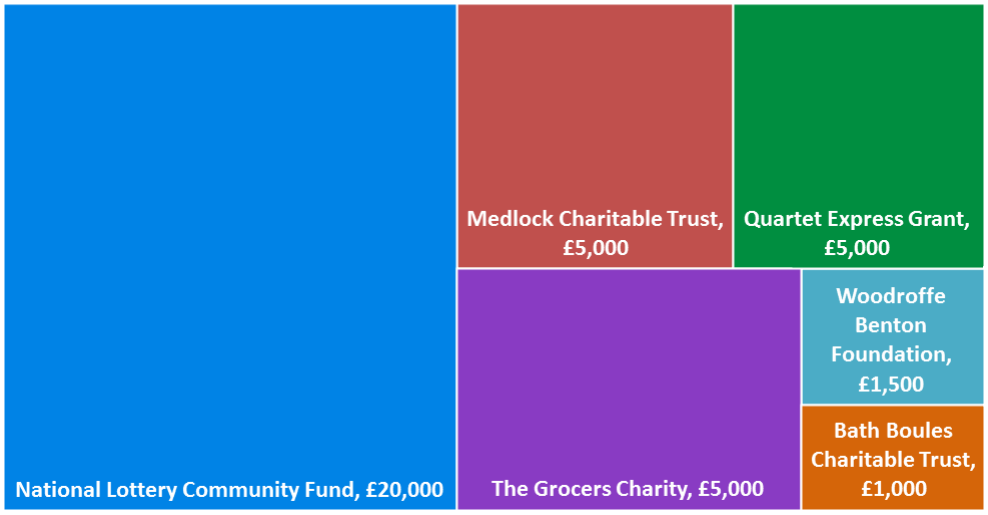
- As always, the **salary and pension costs are the biggest expense** for the charity. This year these have **reduced slightly more** by **8.6%** to **£40,885**.
- Other costs have remained mostly stable or reduced very slightly compared to the previous year. We are still successfully negotiating to get some member club activities for free, such as from the Boom Battle Bar venue in Bath.

Donations Summary

As a charity, we are aware that **we will not always be able to raise the same amount of money each year**. We are hugely dependant on the performance and willingness of grant makers, companies and individuals to donate their money and time.

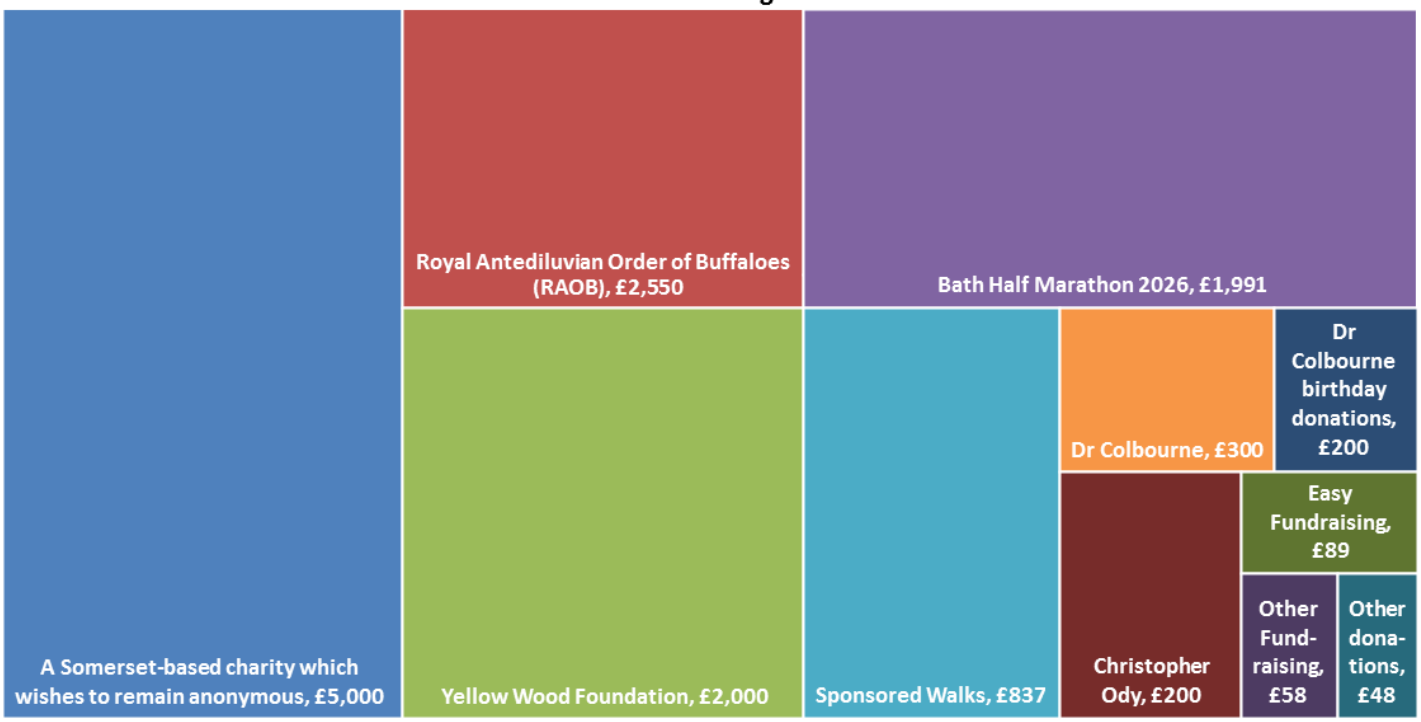
Owing to some signficant grant bid successes by our Charity Administrator, our **restricted funds income has increased** considerably by **44%** versus last year, to **£37,500**. Breakdown below:

Breakdown of Restricted Donations for the Financial Year 2025-2026



On the other hand, our **unrestricted donations dropped** by **22%** to **£13,373**, more detail below:

Breakdown of Unrestricted Fundraising and Donations in 2025-2026



We were very fortunate once again to receive some unrestricted funds from a "Somerset-based charity which wishes to remain anonymous" (£5,000) and also the Yellow Wood Foundation (£2,000), plus £2,550 from the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (RAOB) Prior Park Lodge this year. Alongside these, we managed to raise a good amount ourselves from the Bath Half Marathon 2026 sponsorship (£2,000+) and our own sponsored walks (£837).

We are continuously looking for new potential income streams to diversify the sources we draw from. We are building relationships with local businesses with the hope that these will develop into donations or reductions in costs for our members.

Supporters & Grant Awarders

Some notable grants and awards that have supported us significantly this financial year:

National Lottery Community Fund awarded us an amazing £20,000 this year - this was in addition to all the previous funds they have awarded us. So many thanks to them again, and to all the players of the National Lottery!

The Medlock Trust awarded us another grant of £5,000 this year to mainly be spent on salaries costs – again we thank them so much for these funds, and also all of their previous grants to our small charity. We are so very grateful to you!

The Grocer's Charity awarded us a fantastic amount of £5,000 this year to be spent on our club members' activities, including weekly club sessions, day trips and other events. We are so thankful to them!

Bath Boules Charitable Trust donated £1,000 early in 2026, to be spent solely on our club members' cooking and baking activities during the whole of the 2026 calendar year.

All contributions (large and small) have contributed to ensuring that we can continue to provide the members with fun and interesting activities.

A big thank you to everyone for your help and support!

G. Our plans for 2026/2027

Last year saw us focus on making sure the charity was well governed, stable and in a strong position for the future. We reviewed our finances, strengthened our systems, and continued to support our staff, volunteers and committee so that the Club could keep running safely and successfully.

We are pleased that the charity is now in a strong financial position. This means that, over the coming year, we can start to look more confidently at sustainable growth. We want to think carefully about how we can expand what we offer, while staying true to our mission and to the things our members value most about our existing Club nights: friendship, fun, inclusion, trying new activities, and feeling safe and supported.

Over the next year we will focus on the following areas:

- continuing to provide varied, fun and enjoyable activities for our Monday and Wednesday Club nights
- listening to members about the activities they enjoy most and the new things they would like to try
- looking at how we can grow in a careful and sustainable way, without losing what makes the Club special
- considering whether we can offer additional activities, events or support outside our regular Club nights
- continuing to support activities that improve confidence, independence, health and wellbeing
- building strong links with local organisations, venues and businesses
- continuing to seek funding and partnerships that help us keep costs affordable for members
- supporting our staff, volunteers and trustees with training and development
- continuing to improve our internal systems, governance and planning so that the charity remains well run and compliant

We would like to thank our members, volunteers, staff, trustees and supporters for everything they continue to bring to Bath Gateway Out & About. We are excited about the year ahead and want to make sure that any growth is shaped by our members, our mission and the friendly, welcoming spirit of our Club.

H. Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees

Signature		Signature	
Full name	Jonathon Plechowitz	Full name	Barry Thomas Vincent
Position	Chair of Trustees	Position	Vice Treasurer / Trustee
Date	07/10/2026	Date	07/10/2026