

28 Talks
50+ Activities
17 Venues
10 Days

In 2025 we **doubled our talks capacity** to try and meet demand and avoid disappointment – the main source of negative feedback in 2024.

2025 SALES OVERVIEW

5,636

Tickets sold through Ticketsource: 83% uplift on 2024 sales* **1,719** unique purchasers

279 £5 under 22s tickets: 5% of total

90%

Sold by volume

94%

Sold by value

2025 SUPPORTERS

25

Patrons

43

Friends

9

Sponsors

3

Trusts

47

Volunteers

26

Prog. distributors

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

3,000 Visits to the free Old Station Experience over 2 weekends

24 Completely free events

64 Free places on 4 dedicated workshops for 4 charity partners

120 Harvest trophies made during free Corn Dollies drop-in

350 Approx visits to free drop-ins excl. Old Station Experience

THE OLD STATION EXPERIENCE

300+ Work experience hours by Ciren College Design students on the VR experience

30% Survey respondents say they're most interested in local history

MANY NOTED A DIFFERENT DEMOGRAPHIC TO FESTIVAL TALKS

'What an amazing step back in time!' 'So emotional!'

'Took me right back to being a 5 year old standing on the platform'

'I absolutely LOVED my visit here!! The VR headset was really cool!'

SURVEY FEEDBACK BASED ON 307 REPLIES

98%

Believe CHF brings the community together

9.1

Average score for CHF out of 10, based on prog, booking, comms, design & the event itself

99%

Believe the CHF programme is exciting

44%

Live in Cirencester

FOLLOWERS BY THE END OF 2025 SEASON

3,194

Newsletter subscribers: up 90% on 2024

1,931

Instagram followers up 60% on 2024

686

Facebook followers

*Last year's published figures included partner activities ticketed by third parties, which (for greater clarity) we decided not to include this year.

EXPLORE THE PAST. CHALLENGE THE PRESENT. CRAFT THE FUTURE.

'IT WAS WONDERFUL TO HAVE SO MANY VISITORS. WE HAD ALL AGES FROM 4 TO 84 OR MORE. GRANDPARENTS AND GRANDCHILDREN, MUMS AND BABIES, WHOLE FAMILIES AND SOME SINGLE OLDER PEOPLE WHO HAD MADE A POINT OF COMING ALONG' PENNY MALTBY ON CORN DOLLY MAKING.

'Some book festivals are a chore and others just part of the job. But that evening in Cirencester was a real joy. And not just because of the setting. You made it feel what is rightly called a festival. These events are nowadays enriching villages and towns as real cultural centres ... and not places for urban expatriates to inhabit in a half life on-line. All strength to your arm.' **Simon Jenkins.**

'THIS IS A POSITIVE SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP ... THE ORGANISATION OF THE FESTIVAL HAS BEEN FANTASTIC AND WE FEEL TRULY PRIVILEGED TO BE INVOLVED' EMMA STUART, CORINIUM MUSEUM.

'You are putting Cirencester on the map!'

'I thoroughly enjoyed delivering workshops to such a diverse audience of mixed ages and mixed opinions. It was also empowering to work alongside a festival team who bring so much energy and enthusiasm to the table. A lovely experience' **Emma Kay, food historian.**

THANKS FOR LETTING US SPONSOR THE BENDOR GROSUENOR TALK, AN INSPIRED CHOICE - I HAVE HAD SUCH GREAT FEEDBACK ... WE HAVE ALREADY GAINED SOME NEW MEMBERS' ARTS SOCIETY CORINIUM.

'We were really proud of the CHF team, all events organised and managed so well ... A pleasure to be one of your patrons'.

'I do want to congratulate you on the genuine welcome and inclusion I felt every time I was volunteering at an event. Can't wait for next year'.

'OUTSTANDING ADDITION AND PRESTIGE FOR THE TOWN ... THE QUALITY AND CALIBRE OF THE SPEAKERS WAS ASTONISHING'.

'The Sixteen's Palestrina concert was an exquisite experience...unforgettable'.

'TERRIFIC ... THESE ACTIVITIES RAISE EVERYONE'S AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COMMUNITY, AND WAYS TO SUPPORT IT. HAVING A VARIETY OF VENUES AND A BROAD RANGE OF ACTIVITIES MEANS THE FESTIVAL IS HIGHLY INCLUSIVE'.

'The visit of the 'rail bus' was amazing. That it was free to see, seemed to turn it into a special gift to the whole town and helped create a sense that the festival was for everyone'.

WITH SINCERE THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO MADE OUR 2025 FESTIVAL SUCH A SUCCESS.



See our full 2025 photo gallery at www.cirencesterhistoryfestival.org

Cirencester History Festival is a project of Cirencester Community Development Trust (CCDT). Charity number 1150810.