

# Annual Report and Accounts

**For the financial year  
ended 31st August 2023**

[www.ohmi.org.uk](http://www.ohmi.org.uk)

The OHMI Trust  
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**Registered Charity**  
**England and Wales: 1143623**  
**Scotland: SC052047**



# **Annual Report and Accounts**

For the financial year  
ended 31st August 2023



**OHMI *Music-Makers* performing together at an ensemble day in Herefordshire**

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# Part One: Our Year in Review

## SEPTEMBER

OHMI's first music-making sessions delivered at Headway centres, for adults with acquired brain injuries.



## OCTOBER

OHMI led workshops for children with upper limb differences at the Reach Annual Family Weekend in Warwickshire,



## NOVEMBER

Hackcessible is launched at Sheffield University. OHMI's challenge was to create a drum kit pedal solution for a child with Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy.



## DECEMBER

The first ever 3D printed one-handed clarinet is shown to Martin Fröst, Swedish clarinetist and conductor, at the Wigmore Hall in London.



## JANUARY

OHMI took examples of a range of adapted instruments and equipment to a Lancashire Music Service event, focussed on children with Special Educational Needs.



## FEBRUARY

A 'Try It Day' was held in Tower Hamlets for children with physical impairments to explore a range of musical instruments and see some of the activities at THAMES.

## MARCH

One-handed recorders used for the first time at London's iconic Royal Albert Hall.



## APRIL

The launch of OHMI's first training course in partnership with Birmingham City University on how to assess the needs of physically disabled children.

### An Introduction to Music-Making for Physically Disabled Children

Do you believe in the power of music to change lives?

Do you believe that ALL children and young people should receive a high-quality music education?

For children with physical impairments, this starts with having the right instrument or supportive equipment that allows full participation in musical life.

Join us to learn:

how to assess the physical needs of students remotely.

When?

10:30am-2:30 pm  
Friday 28th April 2023

Where?

Birmingham City University,  
City South Campus,  
Westbourne Rd,  
Birmingham B15 3TN.

Cost?

£150 per delegate—  
including lunch and a  
comprehensive resource kit  
to take away.

Book Now!

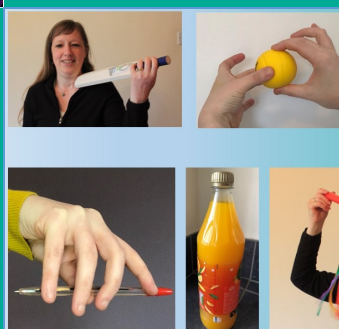
## MAY

OHMI presents opportunities for children in primary schools to the Primary School Teacher network, both in person and online!

LEICESTERSHIRE  
**MUSIC**  
HUB

## JUNE

International recorder influencer and player Sarah Jeffery features the one-handed recorder on her YouTube channel.



## JULY

We were busy assessing the needs of students prior to whole class ensemble tuition beginning in September. Every day equipment is used to test physical movements on a video



## AUGUST

Two OHMI students took part in the National Orchestra For All programme, held at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire



## A message from the Chair

2022-23 marked something of a watershed for OHMI, with the retirement - at least from active service as a trustee - of our Founder, Stephen Hetherington. Much of the year was spent in preparation for this, to ensure effective continuity for the charity as it moves into its next phase of operation. I was honoured to be asked to join Stephen as co-chair in summer 2023 and to succeed him when he formally stood down in September, taking on his new title of Founder and Chairman Emeritus.



Stephen leaves big shoes to fill. OHMI would not exist at all without his vision of ensuring fair and equal access for musicians with physical disabilities or impairments, and his determination not to settle for second-best or lowest-common-denominator solutions. While he would be the first to say that there remains significant work to do, there are musicians today who would have been totally excluded from meaningful music-making were it not for Stephen's inspiration and hard work, and the music and disability communities owe him a great deal.

Among Stephen's achievements has been building a trustee board with a broad range of relevant expertise to steer the charity forward in his absence. We come from academia, public service and the law. We bring with us lived experience of disability, and professional expertise in music education, engineering and charity governance. And we all share Stephen's goal of achieving fairer and more equal access to music-making.

We are supported by a dedicated staff team, led by our excellent General Manager, Rachel Wolffsohn. As this report shows, they have been working extremely hard this year to support OHMI's existing beneficiaries and to expand our work further. On behalf of the Trustee Board, I want to record our thanks to Rachel and the rest of the OHMI staff team for their tireless work this year and their firm commitment to our cause.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Salters".

Clare Salters

## A message from the General Manager

2022-23 was a year of preparation for significant change, while building on the many good things that had been developed over the past eleven years.

Our founding trustee and chair, Dr Stephen Hetherington MBE, was set to leave us at the end of the reporting year, and a key focus for the year was preparing to pass on the baton. We pay tribute to his vital contribution to OHMI in this report and remain committed to pursuing his vision in the years to come.



The day-to-day work of the organisation continued to expand as more individuals and organisations became aware of the needs of people with disabilities and the opportunities that exist. We were delighted to have the support of some key people in sharing our work with new audiences. For example, Sarah Jeffery produced a brilliant YouTube video where she explored and demonstrated the capabilities of the one-handed recorder, and our interview with Martin Fröst helped publicise the one-handed clarinet, including the new 3D printed version.

We had scalability firmly in our mind in our work with schools throughout the year, including building and testing online systems. The first will allow schools to identify students who might need adapted equipment in their whole class teaching and the second will be available to anyone to identify the options for their own physical impairment(s) or a specific instrument. We hope these will be available in the very near future.

Certainty that funding is in place for the long term is vitally important to our small charity. A significant funding award from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation will support the work of the OHMI Music Makers programme over the next three years, including the appointment of our first-ever full-time OHMI Music-Makers Manager.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Wolffsohn".

Rachel Wolffsohn

## A Review of our Programmes

OHMI's driving objective is to remove barriers to music-making faced by people living with an upper limb difference. Very few musical instruments can be played without ten dextrous figures. This denies unlimited and undifferentiated participation in musical life to those with congenital disabilities, as well as the millions who may have been injured, suffered a stroke, or amputation, developed arthritis or, for whatever reason, lack the strength and control of their upper limbs. Yet the primary barrier to music is not disability itself; rather the absence of suitably designed instruments. OHMI deals with this problem through four main areas of work:

### INSTRUMENTS



### TEACHING



### RAISING AWARENESS



### RESEARCH



## Instruments



Research has continued unabated into the creation of more affordable one-handed recorders and clarinets using 3D printing. Both instruments have been incredibly well-received and we're looking forward to ramping up production and making the instruments available to a much wider audience through the OHMI Instrument Hire Scheme.

Our Instrument Hire Scheme also received a significant boost thanks to the legacy of Neill Duncan. Neill, a world-renowned saxophonist from New Zealand, was a long-term friend and supporter of OHMI. When he lost his arm following a sarcoma diagnosis, his friends and family crowdfunded the investment needed for a one-handed saxophone. Our Instrument Hire Scheme proudly boasts two new additions of the one-handed saxophone. We offer our sincere thanks to Neill's wife Naomi, for helping fulfil Neill's wishes in this regard.



Neill Duncan and Maarten Visser, FluteLab NL (credit- Naomi Parry)

## Teaching

Our main vehicles for teaching throughout the year were through our OHMI *Music-Maker* programme (which offers children a weekly, individual 30-minute lesson with a specialist local teacher) and the IAMM programme. Arts Council England's decision not to award Creative United with continued NPO status has led to this important partner stepping back from the consortium. We would like to thank Creative United for all their support over the last three years and wish them all the best for the future. The work of the IAMM programme will continue under the title OHMI *Music-Makers Whole Class*.

Teacher training too is an important piece of the jigsaw. Our one-day CPD course in partnership with Birmingham City University offers very practical ways for teachers to assess the needs of children in their music service and it was great to meet representatives from music services that had not previously worked with OHMI.

Our individual lessons continue to expand in the variety of instruments and locations we are working in. We hope that it will become a natural progression route for students who start their musical journeys in the Whole Class programmes. We were delighted to be able to bring many of our individual *Music-Makers* together for an ensemble day in Hereford. It was great for each of them to meet others who played similar instruments!



A teacher exploring the kit we use to analyse the physical needs of children.

## Raising Awareness

Having the opportunity to present, explain and exhibit OHMI's work either in person or online is the perfect way to showcase our work and the capabilities of our instruments.

Here are a small selection of the organisations and people we met with over the year.

- **Music services**—working with teachers in Nottingham, Birmingham, Surrey, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire and Lancashire among others.
- **Health settings**—speaking with professional and clients including families at Birmingham Children's Hospital
- **Exhibitions** including the Technology in Music Education (TiME) conference. TiME are one of our partners in the Inclusive Music Consortium.
- **Key musicians** such as Martin Fröst and Sarah Jeffery, internationally renowned clarinet and recorder virtuosos.
- **Instrument makers and manufacturers**—Our colloquy with instrument makers at Queen Mary University, London, explored the processes and resources needed to turn a single prototype into a small batch.
- **Disabled individuals**—Our OHMI *Music-Makers 'Try It Day'* in Tower Hamlets enabled disabled children and their parents to try out one-handed instruments and enabling equipment for the first time.
- **Partner organisations**—A pioneering partnership with the brain injury charity, Headway, enabled people with acquired brain injuries at Headway Wyld Green, Rubery and Hereford to make music.



## Research

The OHMI Research Partnership (ORP) is a collaboration between the OHMI Trust, Queen Mary University of London, and Birmingham City University. The ORP's purpose is to form new research partnerships, on subjects relating to music and disability, with universities, researchers, musicians, educators, sociologists and instrument makers globally.



### Arts and Humanities Research Council funding

Funding has been secured through AHRC to hold networking events over the next two years to create new connections of people working in the spheres of music, disability, education and instrument making.

### Other research projects

OHMI has also partnered with others to bring instruments from concept design to prototype to finished product. Over recent months, we have worked with the charity DEMAND to design and manufacture a tenor horn / euphonium stand.

### IAMM evaluation

Birmingham City University was commissioned by OHMI to evaluate the IAMM programme and explore the lived experiences of IAMM participants as well as the effectiveness of IAMM's overall programme of support with regards to improving parity of access to music-making in WCET classes. The research, led by Emma Nenadic, Dr Elizabeth MacGregor and Nikki Booth can be read on the OHMI website at <https://bit.ly/IAMM2022-23>

## Partners

The OHMI Trust currently collaborates with the following organisations:



Imperial College  
London





## Priorities for 2023-24

Priorities for the year ahead will focus on the four key strands of our work, as well as raising funds to make this work possible:

### Instruments

- Continue to work with OHMI Competition Award winners to make their creations available through OHMI's Instrument Hire Scheme
- Expand the Instrument Hire Scheme in any other way possible

### Raising Awareness

- Continue to raise awareness of the barriers to music-making faced by people with an upper limb difference or weakness, and to offer solutions on how these issues might be overcome
- Ensure engagement with professionals across the board who are allied to music education, health, instrument making and music technology
- Gain leverage from the knowledge and connections of our Board of Trustees

### Teaching

- Continue the OHMI *Music-Maker* Whole Class programme in the existing music services, and look to expand this programme to a further three locations
- Use the data from these projects to prove need and then introduce the project in other regions of the UK
- Continue our support of individual students through our *Music-Makers* programme
- Provide opportunities for music services to gain the knowledge they need to deliver elements of our *Music-Makers* programme themselves, helping to make it more scalable in the future

### Research

- Develop new research partnerships in subjects relating to instrument design and adaptation, music education, policy, and social impact
- Deliver the AHRC Networking plan

## Thank You to Stephen Hetherington

Charities are about more than the ideas of a single person, but the OHMI Trust would never have existed without the inspiration and determination of Stephen Hetherington. His decision to stand down as Chair, just after the end of the reporting year, marks the end of an era. Although his departure occurred after the end of the reporting period, we wanted to pay tribute to him in this report, reflecting the enormity of his contribution to the charity.



Reflecting on this new chapter for the charity, Stephen said,

*"The OHMI Trust is now in its 12th year and going strong. So much so that our work has changed from the particular challenges we faced at its conception into the current management of a maturing and burgeoning organisation. We have now over 300 instruments and pieces of equipment (and growing), we work with over 600 schools and many adults both in the UK and overseas, while our research collaborations are ever-widening."*

*"There is still a very long way to go, but OHMI is now firmly established and with a strong and experienced board. With all this in mind, I have decided that it is time for me to step aside to allow new energy and ideas to carry forward the trust's work. What was needed to bring OHMI into fruition and gain firm acceptance in the musical world, now requires difference skills for its continuing development. I will, of course, remain active and fully supportive of the Trust's work as "Founder and Chairman Emeritus", but without responsibility."*

Stephen, whom we are delighted to retain a connection with through his new role of 'Founder and Chairman Emeritus', is succeeded in the role of OHMI Chair by Clare Salters, who joined the Trustee Board in early 2022. A former civil servant, Clare also has considerable experience working in the field of music and disability, with several students currently learning on OHMI instruments.

## How we're Making an Impact

OHMI's impact is best assessed by speaking to the musicians who have benefitted from our instruments and from our teaching, and from those within the music industry who advocate for the rights of disabled musicians.

Here's how OHMI is making a difference:

**"If this instrument could sound as good as a normal clarinet, then people will get so inspired and want to continue with it."**

Martin Fröst, Swedish clarinettist and conductor



**"The value of OHMI's Instrument Hire Scheme is that you can really get to know an instrument - at little financial cost, and with the opportunity to take the time to determine if it's really right for you."**

Brian Condon, hirer of the Chapman Stick (and Artiphon?)

**"It was through the OHMI Music-Makers project that I had the opportunity to meet other musicians at the charity's play along days. OHMI also played an important role in introducing me to National Orchestra for All."**

Rowan, the first OHMI *Music-Maker* to play the one-handed clarinet.



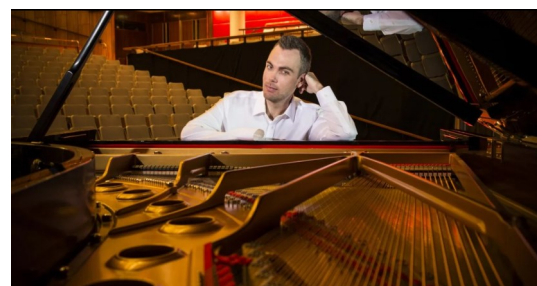
## Patrons and Ambassadors

Our thanks go to our Patrons and Ambassadors for their ongoing support of the work of the OHMI Trust:



**John Harle  
and  
Alison Balsom  
OBE**

**Dame Evelyn  
Glennie CH,  
DBE**



**Nicholas  
McCarthy**

## Part Two: Financial Report

We rely on financial support from many grant-making organisations to make our work possible. In 2022-23 we were very grateful to receive support from:



**Alison Hillman Charitable Trust**

**David Family Foundation**

**George Perkins Charitable Trust**

**Grantham Yorke Trust**

**John Avins Trust**

**Limoges Charitable Trust**

We have also received many donations from private individuals and would like to thank each one for their invaluable contributions to the work of the OHMI Trust—EVERY penny makes a huge difference to the work we are able to undertake.

We would also like to thank those organisations who have chosen to support OHMI as their 'Charity of the Year'. Organisations include:





# Governance

Charity Numbers: 1143623 (England and Wales)  
SC052047 (Scotland)

Postal address:  
c/o Tyndallwoods Solicitors  
29 Woodbourne Road  
Harborne  
Birmingham  
B17 8BY

Telephone 07491331599

## **Trustees at the point of signing off the annual report and accounts:**

Martin Dyke  
Nicola McLaughlin  
Prof. Martin Fautley  
Prof. Andrew McPherson  
Clare Salters  
Emma Brown  
Prof. Matthew Wright

## **Other trustees who served during the reporting year:**

Dr Stephen Hetherington MBE (resigned September 2023)  
Ruth Lester OBE FRCS (resigned July 2023)

## **Trustees, Management and Governance**

The OHMI Trust was formed by a declaration of trust on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

The Trust is governed by a board of trustees, who are appointed for their skills, knowledge and experience. The trustees are supported by a small staff team, who manage the day to day work of the charity. Trustees always have regard to the public benefit requirement when taking decisions on behalf of the Trust.

Trust meetings cover trust business, governance, and management. In practice, communications between Trustees and the management team are more frequently. Core topics in these communications include a full range of reports on progress of the Trust's work, financial and budgetary matters, and the quality of our work.



OHMI Staff and Trustees (L-R) Matthew Wright, Rachel Wolffsohn, Stephen Hetherington, Clare Salters, Nicola McLaughlin, Tim Low, Faye Oakland, Martin Dyke, Emma Brown, Andrew McPherson, Julie Sellers.



# Financial, Accounts and Reserves Policy

The reserves policy of The OHMI Trust states that it must hold at least 3 months' core funding, which currently equates to £30,000. Additionally, the Trust's policy remains that no work can be undertaken until it is fully funded in advance. This policy consequently requires a reserve fund so that early exploratory work and fundraising itself can be undertaken. It is an aim of the Trust to grow the reserve fund as work progresses.

That policy also results in apparent cash surpluses as funds are raised before being expended over the life of each project. These funds are, though, fully committed.

## Objects of the OHMI Trust:

1. To advance and enable the creation of musical instruments:
  - a. that can be played by people with a range of physical disabilities.
  - b. that are capable of fully and accurately emulating a traditional musical instrument to enable disabled individuals to enjoy undifferentiated participation in music-making.
2. To advance and enable these objectives by:
  - a. providing and assisting in the provision of appropriate facilities and funding.
  - b. the creation of partnerships with existing institutions and organisations, both in Great Britain and internationally.
  - c. bringing together different kinds of creative people.
  - d. creating a competitive environment to promote the research and development of such sophisticated musical instruments.
  - e. other such means as may be determined from time to time by the Trustees subject to the prior consent of the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees of The OHMI Trust (1143623) on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023, set out on pages 26-27

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.....  ..... Date 23/01/24

**Philip Young ACA**  
26 Pavillion Close  
Aldridge  
Walsall  
WS9 8LS

## OHMI Income and Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31/08/23

Income	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Donations	32,065.18	371.65	32,436.83
Charities	7,682.62	177,963.26	185,645.88
Voluntary Receipts	39,747.80	178,334.91	218,082.71
Promotional Events	1,995.00		1,995.00
Other Fundraising	959.27		959.27
Interest	126.62		126.62
	3,080.89	-	3,080.89
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>42,828.69</b>	<b>178,334.91</b>	<b>221,163.60</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Competition	-	-	-
Promotion	6,935.06	-	6,935.06
Travel	2,431.85		2,431.85
Administration	13,082.95	52.63	13,135.58
Instrumental Hire Scheme	196.79	279.04	475.83
OHMI Research Partnership	-	-	-
OHMI Music Makers	-	44,877.02	44,877.02
Instrument Acquisition	317.89	2,502.07	2,819.96
Inclusive Access to Music-Making 3		73,259.54	73,259.54
Depreciation		8,567.92	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>22,964.54</b>	<b>129,538.22</b>	<b>143,934.84</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>19,864.15</b>	<b>48,796.69</b>	<b>77,228.76</b>
Funds as at 1st September 2022	66,836.62	85,233.84	152,070.46
<b>Funds carried forward at 31st August 2023</b>	<b>86,700.77</b>	<b>134,030.53</b>	<b>220,731.30</b>

## OHMI Balance Sheet as at 31/08/23

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Fixed Assets (Note 1)	-	40,932.40	40,932.40
Cash at Bank	90,954.56	93,098.13	184,052.69
Debtors	289.20	-	289.20
Creditors	- 697.99	- -	697.99
- Refundable deposits	- 3,845.00	- -	3,845.00
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>86,700.77</b>	<b>134,030.53</b>	<b>220,731.30</b>

Represented by:

<b>Funds</b>	<b>86,700.77</b>	<b>134,030.53</b>	<b>220,731.30</b>
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### Note 1

Fixed Assets	Instruments	Office Eqpt	Total
<b>Cost</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
At 1 September 2022	35,179.00	1,546.14	36,725.14
Additions	25,781.00	1,869.40	27,650.40
At 31 August 2023	<b>60,960.00</b>	<b>3,415.54</b>	<b>64,375.54</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 September 2022	14,574.58	300.64	14,875.22
Charge for Year	7,895.17	672.75	8,567.92
At 31 August 2023	<b>22,469.75</b>	<b>973.39</b>	<b>23,443.14</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
At 1 September 2022	20,604.42	1,245.50	21,849.92
At 31 August 2023	<b>38,490.25</b>	<b>2,442.15</b>	<b>40,932.40</b>

### Note 2

#### Accounting Policies

#### Funds

General funds represent the funds of the charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the charity. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the charity are also unrestricted. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the charity is responsible.

#### Fixed Assets

Instruments will be depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years  
Office Equipment will be depreciated on a straight line basis over 3 years

**OHMI Music-Maker**  
with her certificate  
for Grade 2 having  
taken the exam on  
a one-handed flute

