



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 April 2024 Period start date To 31 March 2025 Period end date

Charity name: Water City Music

Charity registration number: 1166168

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To advance the education of the public in general on the subject of music and other performing arts as the Trustees see fit and by providing opportunities for novice or emerging musicians to develop their skills by performing in public.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The principal focus of the Charity is to organise events where children are provided with opportunities to perform in public in significant venues. Pre-pandemic the most significant of these was a week-long Festival at the Tower of London arranged in partnership with Historic Royal Palaces. However due to Covid-19 subsequent Festivals could not be held. The Charity therefore has extended its reach to alternative venues both within and outside London. The two videos we produced in 2021 continue to be available on YouTube. These are 'With her head tucked underneath her arm' and 'Walking in a Winter Wonderland'. To fulfil our charitable objectives and to give children the opportunity to receive excellent music tuition and to experience the thrill of performing, we continued to hold events in Southwark (at St George the Martyr, and more recently Friars Foundation Primary School) under our Oasis Programme. We delivered a series of events involving early career musicians and children from three primary schools in Southwark. These events included: School visits by WCM musicians; weekly after-school music lessons of school groups run by an experienced local music teacher who mentors University students from King's College London to teach school students (referred to as the Academy); concerts involving WCM professional musicians; an early career performing musician, and children singing and playing. King's College London very generously provides a donation of £5,000 a year for the Academy project. Also in Southwark, we organised local school children to perform at the Dragon Connects Festival in June 2024. This was a great success and more than 200 children from five Southwark schools joined emerging musicians and music students for a day of concerts designed to bring the local community together. We were delighted with the success of the day which also involved musicians, care staff and local pensioners. This was a real partnership between Water City Music, St George the Martyr and King's College. During the year around 240 children from local Cotswold schools joined a professional orchestra, Orchestra Pro Anima, in three successful "Classical Light" concerts in Malmesbury, Burford, Malvern and Stroud. In Melton Mowbray we were very pleased to have the opportunity to organise the Sherriff's Shindig to honour the appointment of John Chatfeild-Roberts as the High Sherriff of Leicestershire. This involved a day long series of performances from community musicians and was followed by an evening concert in the town centre church. It was a
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		great success with a further 120 children from 10 local schools performing with a professional orchestra. We are very grateful to the High Sherriff for funding these events.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's <i>guidance on public benefit</i> and believes the charity fulfils the commitment to public benefit through its concerts, teaching and the opportunities given to children to perform music.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The Charity does not make grants
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The Charity relies on volunteers for several activities and also relies on the goodwill and ambition of many musicians, teachers and other professionals.
Other		The Charity maintains an active social media presence and as a result our public profile and reach continue to expand. The Charity continues to develop its funding strategy to include grant funding, corporate donations and crowdfunding opportunities.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The Oasis project and the Academy project continued to give excellent teaching and performance opportunities to children from Southwark, London. The Dragon Connects Festival and the Sherriff's Shindig provided further opportunities for children to learn from and make music with professional musicians and music students. The concerts with the Orchestra Pro Anima give children the opportunity to perform in public with a professional orchestra. By providing these opportunities, the charity has enabled children to widen their horizons, extend their skills and enhance their self- confidence.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The Charity only commits itself to expenditure where the costs can be covered by income so the charitable activities are determined by the funds available.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	The only asset held by the Charity is the balance in the bank account.
Other		The Charity has policies and procedures on: - Health and Safety - Safeguarding – reviewed and updated during the year - GDPR and Privacy - Financial procedures - Risk management - Equal opportunities - Data sharing and memorandum of Understanding agreements with third parties and partners The Charity reviews its risk register at least annually. For each event, individual risk assessments are completed.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	WCM's income for the year was £56,838 while expenditure was £48,060. There was therefore an increase in our reserves.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	To date trustees have been able to raise sufficient funds for planned activities throughout the year but, if in the future funds could not be raised, then the activities would be either be curtailed or reserves used to fund events. With no employees and few fixed costs apart from insurance premiums, the Charity will continue to raise funds for specific events. During the financial year no reserves were drawn on to fund activities.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£30,417
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	In the main the Charity's funding comes from the Arts Council England, charitable foundations, ticket sales, personal and corporate donors.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Not applicable. All funds are held in a current account.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The Charity is very aware of potential safeguarding issues given that we work with children. However the prime responsibility for their safeguarding lies with the schools that we work with, thus mitigating the risk to the Charity itself.
Other		The Artistic Director of Water City Music, Michael Bochmann, is the creative inspiration of the Charity as well as the main contact with participating schools. His work in leading the musical work of the Charity has been invaluable, and the Trustees are very grateful to him for his energy, enthusiasm, experience and hard work. Dr Esther Cavett is our Associate Director and we could not function without her wisdom,

		commitment and guidance. Thank you to our dedicated part-time administrator, Caroline Bell.
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Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	By advertising on online charity specific websites, word of mouth and networks according to the specific skills and experience required at the time. There are no constitutional provisions relating to trustee appointments.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	New Trustees are provided with relevant Charity Commission reports and guidance, the Charity's constitution, the most recent Annual Report and accounts as well as minutes of recent Trustee meetings. Face to face meetings are held with the Artistic Director and Associate Director and with the Chair of the Trustees.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	As a small charity there is no organisational structure to note. The charity work in particular with schools, music students from London conservatoires, the Orchestra Pro Anima and, where relevant, staff of churches and other public venues.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Not applicable
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Water City Music
Other name the charity uses	
Registered	1166168

charity number	
Charity's principal address	The Barns, Village Farm, Ford, Near Cheltenham, GL54 5RU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Meriel Barclay	Chair and Treasurer		
2	Geoffrey Keeys			
3	Christopher O'Riordan			
4	Stephanie Godwin			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name	None	
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Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
None		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Artistic Director	Michael Bochmann	The Barns, Village Farm, Ford, Near Cheltenham, GL54 5RU
Associate Artistic Director	Dr Esther Cavett	Ananda, Seer Green Lane, Jordans, Bucks, HP9 2ST

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

The charity has no employees though there is one important self-employed administrator, Caroline Bell.

Exemptions from disclosure

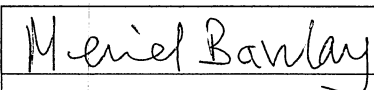
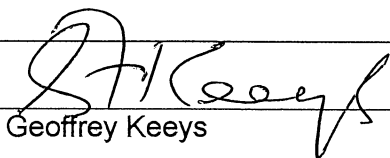
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Meriel Barclay	Geoffrey Keays
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	Trustee

Date 11 October 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Water City Music

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1166168

Set out on pages

1 - 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2025**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

F J Wilde

Date:

17 October 2025

Name:

F J Wilde

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA DChA

Address:

4 Marigold Drive

Bisley, Surrey

GU24 9SF

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Water City Music

No (if any)
1166168

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/2024

To

Period end date
31/03/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Private Donation	-	24,500	-	24,500	5,000
Small Private Donation	47	-	-	47	515
Kings College London	-	6,000	-	6,000	5,000
Ticket Sales	655	1,742	-	2,397	1,226
HMRC Gift Aid	19	6,125	-	6,144	1,329
Event Partner Donations	-	2,300	-	2,300	-
Grant Funding: United St Saviours	-	-	-	-	-
Grant Funding	13,500	1,950	-	15,450	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	14,221	42,617	-	56,838	13,070
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	14,221	42,617	-	56,838	13,070
A3 Payments					
Programme Artistic Direction	4,650	-	-	4,650	3,500
Programme Administration- all programmes	3,948	-	-	3,948	4,001
Insurance	204	-	-	204	172
Fundraising	846	-	-	846	801
Website & Technology	702	-	-	702	532
Social Media & Marketing	678	-	-	678	75
Training Resource Development	46	-	-	46	-
Southwark: Dragon Connects					
Artistic Direction	-	675	-	675	250
Musicians	-	575	-	575	181
Administration	-	241	-	241	276
Venue Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Social Media, Photography and Editing	-	250	-	250	-
Southwark: Oasis/StGTM Academy					
Musicians/Teaching Costs	20	3,150	-	3,170	5,785
Administration	-	847	-	847	1,209
Artistic Direction	600	-	-	600	750
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
Classical Light Programme					
Musicians	750	2,950	-	3,700	1,800
Development/Teaching & Artistic Direction	500	-	-	500	500
Venue Costs	220	-	-	220	145
Social Media & Marketing	-	-	-	-	150
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	95
Tetbury - Classical Light					
Musicians	-	-	-	-	2,000
Development/Teaching & Artistic Direction	-	-	-	-	500
Venue Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Social Media & Marketing	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
Leominster - Classical Light					
Musicians	-	-	-	-	-
Development/Teaching & Artistic Direction	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous/ License fees	-	-	-	-	234
Social Media & Marketing	-	-	-	-	-
Glos and Oxford Oasis					
Musicians	250	-	-	250	-
Sheriff's Shindig and Melton Proms					
Musicians/Teaching costs	-	2,580	-	2,580	-
Administration	-	2,908	-	2,908	-
CCXX R1 accounts (SS) Artistic Direction	-	1 2,500	-	2,500	17/10/2025

Venue and staging costs		10,030		10,030	
Social Media, photography, marketing and promotion		7,104		7,104	
Miscellaneous		221		221	-
Independent Examiner	618			618	600
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	14,032	34,031		48,063	23,556
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	14,032	34,031	-	48,063	23,556
Net of receipts/(payments)	189	8,586	-	8,775	- 10,486
A5 Transfers between funds			-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	14,997	6,646	-	21,643	32,129
Cash funds this year end	15,186	15,232	-	30,418	21,643

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	TSB	15,186	15,232	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	15,186	15,232	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Meriel Barclay	MERIEL BARCLAY	11-10-2025
Geoffrey Krey	GEOFFREY KREY	11-10-2025