



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01.08.2024 **Period start date** **T0** 31.07.2025 **Period end date**

Charity name: Whittington Music Festival

Charity registration number: 1168989

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To promote public appreciation of, and education in, classical music in and around Whittington, Oswestry by organising chamber music festivals
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	<p>Our mission is to provide world class performances of chamber music at affordable prices and to encourage young people and the general public to participate. The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and take it into account when making decisions that may affect the accessibility of its activities to the public at large (e.g. ticket prices, transport, access for the disabled). Anyone aged 25 or less is entitled to free tickets thanks to a scheme sponsored by The Cavatina Trust.</p> <p>Our venue has excellent acoustics and sight-lines, particularly suited to chamber music presented in an informal and inclusive way. Our artistic director selects young award-winning stars from a group she coaches and mentors. The residency during the festival offers them important professional development opportunities, including the opportunity to perform with eminent colleagues. Since its inception in May 2012 the festival has gained a reputation for excellence and audience numbers continue to increase.</p> <p>Outreach activities include workshops for schoolchildren and students with physical and learning disabilities, and masterclasses with festival musicians for talented teenage soloists.</p>

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees are aware of the SORP guidance and have ensured the public benefit of the Trust's activity.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>The festival programme is decided by the Artistic Director, Sophia Rahman, who also recruits the artists, and receives a fee for her services.</p> <p>Otherwise, the charity is run entirely on a voluntary basis. The trustees are responsible for all executive action involved in planning, publicising, funding and managing the festival. We are fortunate to have in addition a substantial number of volunteers who are willing to perform a wide range of tasks before and during the festival.</p>
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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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	<p>Audience numbers were similar to last year, but the numbers of subscribers and donors were higher.</p> <p>Audience feedback was very enthusiastic about both the programming and the standard of performance, and the outreach concerts had a profound effect on students with special educational needs and disabilities and primary school pupils</p> <p>Local musical talent was nurtured in free workshops and masterclasses leading to performances in a Saturday afternoon Family concert.</p>
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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	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	We remain secure in our funds this year. We received several grants from various charities. The magnificent generosity of our supporters continued this year; Income from the Friends' Scheme contributed a record 33% of income and ticket sales 22%. The Trust holds no fixed assets and all funds are held in a current bank account.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Reserves Policy states that we need reserves to cover anticipated expenditure coming due after the delivery of the festival (The Project Reserve) as well as commitment to expenditure for the following year's festival which has to be made before knowing what our income will be, (The Friends' Reserve), typically about 25% of the expected total budget.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£8,500
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	We can already say that we will be able to pay our artists in 2026, but because we depend on grants for at least 30% of our income, there is always uncertainty

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	Ticket income, supporters' donations and subscriptions, Gift Aid and grants from other charities.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The dire state of the economy; the current policy of Arts Council England which is hostile to both classical music and to our having funds in reserve; the need to find a new venue for the residency in 2027.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution – registered 1 September 2016 amended 20/10/17
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	After an initial induction and period of mutual evaluation, appointment of new trustees is voted on at an ordinary meeting. New trustees are given a copy of the CIO constitution and are made aware of the aims of the Charity.

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	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Whittington Music Festival
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1168989
Charity's principal address	53 High Fawr Avenue Oswestry SY11 1TB

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)
2	Mrs Maria Hollis			
3	Mrs Helen Hughes			
4	Mrs Patricia Lowe			
5	Mrs Debi Lumley-Edwards			
6	Mrs Ursula Neil	Fundraiser	13.06.2024 to present	
7	Mrs Pam Parish	Administrator		
8	Mrs Rachel Pittaway	Treasurer		
9	Mr Oliver Davies		03.04.2025 to present	
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
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

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

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

<i>Rachel Pittaway</i>	
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Full name(s)

Rachel Pittaway	
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Treasurer	
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Date

15/11/25



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Whittington Music Festival

No (if any)
1166989

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 1st August 2024	To	Period end date 31st July 2025
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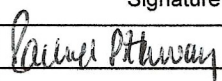
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Friends, sponsors and benefactors	14,769	-	-	14,769	12,854
Business sponsor	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,000
Donations	5,757	-	-	5,757	2,890
Ticket and programme sales	12,836	-	-	12,836	14,122
Grants received	7,407	8,500	-	15,907	21,850
Advertising income	750	-	-	750	900
Gift aid claimed	4,166	-	-	4,166	3,360
Fund raising concert	1,278	-	-	1,278	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	48,463	8,500	-	56,963	56,976
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	48,463	8,500	-	56,963	56,976
A3 Payments					
Musicians fees and costs	40,804	-	-	40,804	33,623
Venue rental	2,230	-	-	2,230	-
Bar costs	489	-	-	489	302
Transaction fees	693	-	-	693	1,208
Catering	2,392	-	-	2,392	2,418
Insurance	81	-	-	81	79
Printing and publicity	2,441	-	-	2,441	2,986
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions	2,067	-	-	2,067	791
Accommodation	1,000	-	-	1,000	509
Hire of instruments	1,800	-	-	1,800	2,407
Sundries	734	-	-	734	81
Accountant honorarium	600	-	-	600	350
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	55,330	-	-	55,330	44,754
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	55,330	-	-	55,330	44,754
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 6,867	8,500	-	1,633	12,222
A5 Transfers between funds	10,500	10,500	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	21,699	10,500	-	32,199	19,977
Cash funds this year end	25,332	8,500	-	33,832	32,199

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	Cash at bank	25,332	8,500	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	25,332	8,500	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Rana Pittman	15/11/2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Whittington Music Festival

On accounts for the year
ended

31/7/25

Charity no
(if any)

1168989

Set out on pages

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

As the charity's trustees, 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 all 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

M. W. J. Davie

Date:

15/10/25

Name:

Michael William John Davie

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

MD

Address:

The Hollies

West Felton, Oswestry

Shropshire SY11 4JU

Section B**Disclosure**

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

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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