

CLASSICAL SHEFFIELD

England & Wales · Charity number 1170970

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-01-04

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Central Library
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Sheffield
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Website <http://www.classicalsheffield.org.uk/>

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY ANY MEANS THE TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF FESTIVALS, EVENTS, PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS

Activities: Classical Sheffield is a local charity committed to championing music makers and music making across the city of Sheffield. In doing so the charity connects over 60 organisations across the city's amateur, professional, and educational classical music provision. As part of this work Classical Sheffield promotes a major bi-annual festival the Classical Weekend.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Sheffield City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-05	£22,539	£23,210	-	-
2024-07-05	£8,187	£10,570	-	-
2023-07-05	£25,823	£20,602	-	-
2022-07-05	£7,058	£7,290	-	-
2021-07-05	£9,280	£4,326	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Joanne Towler	Chair	2018-09-21
CATHERINE ANNE ADAMS		2017-01-04
Lucy Revis		2022-12-01
Michael Buxton		2018-11-15
Nicholas Potter		2022-01-20
Professor George Thomas Frederick Nicholson		2022-12-01
WILLIAM DANIEL CLARKE		2017-01-04

Accounts



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
5 July 2025**

Registered Charity Number: 1170970

Report of the Trustees

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Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present this report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 July 2025. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

1. Classical Sheffield Objectives

Having started life as a company in 2016, Classical Sheffield became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 4 January 2017.

Trustees and members of the previous Steering Group established Classical Sheffield's mission and vision through a process of debate and consultation with the classical music-making community of the city.

Vision

Making more music, in more places, with more people

Mission

Classical Sheffield is a local charity committed to championing classical music-making and connecting music-makers across the city of Sheffield.

Strategic goals

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Goal 1 Developing: | cultivate a platform to strengthen and develop classical music-making in Sheffield |
| Goal 2 Advocating: | be the voice of classical music-making across the city of Sheffield and beyond |
| Goal 3 Creating | enrich Sheffield's cultural vibrancy through shaping a high-quality classical music offer |
| Goal 4 Building: | actively support the vision to develop a physical home for classical music-making in Sheffield |

Charitable objectives

The objects of the CIO as set out in the Constitution are *'to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees think fit, including the presentation of festivals, events, public concerts and recitals'*.

2. Public benefit and membership

Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 requires trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The trustees conduct an annual review of the public benefit derived from Classical Sheffield activities and are pleased to report that they have met this duty, the benefit being derived from the classical music events detailed in this report.

Members of the public have access to a high-quality website that is a 'one-stop shop' with regards to classical music-making across the city. All Classical Sheffield's public information is written in plain, easy-to-understand English to enable anyone who is curious about classical music to find out more about what is on in the city and how to experience it.

Classical Sheffield continues to encourage voluntary and young music-making groups across Sheffield to collaborate with one another and with a range of musicians, performing a diverse repertoire of works, old and new, conventional and innovative.

Anyone based in and around Sheffield who is committed to the development and celebration of classical music in its widest definition can become a member of Classical Sheffield, whether an

individual or a member of another group or organisation. Annual membership fees, which help support the operation of the CIO and deliver its programme, were collected for the first time in January 2018 and have been set as low as possible to enable anyone to become a member. Individuals or groups who lack the funds to become members are offered support to do so on a case-by-case basis.

Membership fees reflect the size of participating groups and organisations, and for 2024-25 were £2.00 per person, per year, with a minimum fee of £32 and a maximum of £200 (£5 minimum and £50 maximum for youth groups). Promoter members paid 0.7% of their annual income but with a similar minimum of £32 and a maximum of £200.

In return for their subscription, members can promote concerts, groups and organisations on the Classical Sheffield website, which has around 3,000 users per month on average, increasing to nearly 9,000 around the biennial Festival, of which 8,000 are new users. Their events are also included in weekly listing bulletins and feature in Classical Sheffield social media, and of course all members are able to participate in festivals and events.

3 Governance, structure and management

3.1 Governing document

Classical Sheffield officially became a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) on 4 January 2017 and was entered into the Register of Charities. It had previously been a limited company (number 10264934), incorporated 6 July 2016 and terminated 4 April 2017, with all assets and bank accounts transferred to Classical Sheffield, CIO.

The Constitution, drawn up on 16 December 2016, is based on the Charity Commission's model constitution for a CIO with voting members other than Trustees (the 'Association' model). The Constitution was accepted at the first AGM on 23 March 2018 and can only be amended at a meeting of the members.

3.2 Organisational structure

Any member of Classical Sheffield may seek election to the Board of Trustees, as long as they are eligible under Charity Commission requirements. Trustees will normally be elected at the AGM, but may also be appointed by the existing Trustees during the year. A Trustee Pack is sent to each Trustee following election; guidance documents produced by the Charity Commission help them to understand and meet their responsibilities as Trustees of a CIO.

The Trustees plan the activity of Classical Sheffield, meeting regularly to ensure it benefits the public by meeting its charitable objects and supporting its members. They are helped by subgroups, each with a specific remit and agreed Terms of Reference, led by a Chair who is a Trustee, but with membership drawn from Classical Sheffield members and member groups. The Board of Trustees annually review the purpose and longevity of subgroups, as well as governance and policies.

The Trustees are responsible for appointing freelance officers to enable Classical Sheffield to meet its charitable objectives. In 2024-25 these were the Classical Sheffield Coordinator and Digital Marketing Officer. During the year a web designer was engaged to create a new website for the organisation that can be managed in-house as opposed to an external web developer, benefitting the organisation financially and practically for the long-term.

During 2025, the Treasurer stood down from the board due to personal circumstances, although he remained involved to produce the Annual Report and other documents. A new Treasurer has been appointed who is the finance director of a large charitable arts organisation in Sheffield.

4 Activities, achievements and future plans

4.1 Activities and Achievements

Classical Sheffield continued to support its members in 2024/25 through promoting events on social media and its website, issuing a weekly events newsletter and organising free pop-up events for the public during the year.

During the autumn, a new website was created by a web designer, which refreshed the feel and presentation of our online presence as well as enabling Classical Sheffield to have full control of the website without the need for an external web developer. This gives us much more flexibility and agency to develop it in future years in line with the needs of members and the organisation without incurring ongoing and additional costs. After a few teething problems, the vast majority of members are now able to upload their own events without the support of the Digital Officer, which was frequently needed with the old website, freeing her up to focus on social media and other areas of online activity.

Events for members

As in recent years, a number of member groups took part in the Sheffield Festival Showcase Weekend in September 2025. This included presenting music in Firth Park Library by the Sheffield Chamber Choir and Sheffield University students. The event went very well, with library users engaging with the music and there was a pleasant informal atmosphere. This event arose out of the first meeting of an Equity, Diversity & Inclusion group, created in response to a desire to further our strategic aim of taking classical music into the wider Sheffield community, especially to places where people may not usually seek it out or choose to experience it.

Christmas is a busy time of year for members, and after the success of recent years of promoting the dozens of events by hundreds of music-makers in the city, Classical Sheffield again shared the huge amount of music taking place in December 2025. An online flyer highlighted the many events taking place, which member groups could easily use on their social media, and it created a sense of city-wide music-making with members supporting each other's events. The flyer was promoted and shared widely, continuing to build Classical Sheffield's online presence and engagement.

Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend 2025

The biennial Festival Weekend took place from 21-23 March 2025 and included over 50 events across multiple venues from more than 90 members. These included intimate workshops, concerts, family events, a large-scale opera and free outdoor performances, with a total attendance of over 6,000 people. On the Friday, ITV Calendar News filmed the 'Pop-Up Choir Crawl' rehearsal and first performance, creating an item for local news that went out at the early and later evening news slots that day, giving a fantastic profile and publicity for Classical Sheffield.

Highlights of the weekend included:

- **'Carmen' at Canon Medical Arena:** An operatic performance in a sports arena with 1,000 attendees in a collaboration between Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Opera on Location, Hallam Choral Society and Sheffield Music Hub.



- **Family Organ Workshop at Sheffield Cathedral:** A hands-on experience for children and families to have a go on this amazing instrument (pictured © Maria Ellmore).
- **Winter Garden Performances:** A variety of choirs and ensembles performed throughout the day for free; there were over 1,300 people who gathered to watch 21 performances from a selection of wonderful ensembles and singing groups.
- **Musical Pocket Park:** A particularly memorable event where 15 children engaged in music education workshops, hosted by the Emergence Collective.
- **Choir Crawl:** Classical Sheffield's first Choir Crawl, a choir of 40 singers, rehearsing once before taking to the streets of Sheffield to promote the festival in locations such as Leah's Yard, Sheffield City Hall, Tudor Square and Sheffield Train Station, attracting hundreds of people passing by.
- **Open Rehearsal with The Hallé:** 160 people including families, attended a free Open Rehearsal at Sheffield City Hall with The Hallé, increasing numbers by almost 100 from when we launched this at the last Festival in 2023.
- **Collaboration with Tracks:** For the first time, we collaborated with Sheffield Music School and their Tracks music project, welcoming performances of spoken word with Classical music themes, performed to over 100 people in Orchard Square.



Music in the Round's Ensemble 360 cellist Gemma Rosefield performed with Hallam Sinfonia in Victoria Hall, 22 Mar 2025

Evaluation highlights

Responses from over 200 attendees of the Festival showed that:

- 35% of people had never heard of Classical Sheffield
- 10% had heard of us, but didn't know what we do
- 24% had visited our website / social media pages
- 30% had been to performances before

Positive feedback emphasized the quality of performances:

***“I enjoyed the variety, the enjoyment of the performers and the very high standard of playing. The spots were showcases for the various groups.
I was impressed that it was free”***

This is a word cloud of responses to “What did you enjoy about the performance you saw today?”



Digital engagement

The Festival drove a lot of traffic to our website and social media channels over two campaigns:

- Campaign 1 (30 days)
 - 63,000 views
 - 23,570 reach
 - 2,541 link clicks
- Campaign 2 (16 days)
 - 16,000 views
 - 21,000 reach
 - 2,000 link clicks

Due to the change in website, some of the statistics of use are lower than anticipated for a Festival year due to the lack of analytics for a short period of time. Without that changeover we certainly would have surpassed last year as the Festival drove a lot of traffic to our channels. Despite this changeover, the number of new users increased, reflecting the impact the new website has had. Statistics and information for our digital and online activity as follows (with year-on-year comparison in brackets):

- 27k visitors (2023-24: 32k)
- 27k new users (2022-23: 25k)

- 198k event count (*new metric: measures how many times something has been clicked on the website - eg buttons, videos etc.*)
- 2k average monthly visitors (2023-24: 2k)
- Most clicked on page: 'Events' (same as last few years)
- 412 events uploaded by members (2023-24: 384)

More people are engaging with Classical Sheffield on social media and the e-newsletter:

- Facebook: 1,542 Followers (2023-24: 1,448)
- Twitter/X: – now not in use
- BlueSky: 50 followers
- Email: 1,355 subscribers (2023-24: 1,266)

On average, 740 (over 50%!) of subscribers open and engage with the weekly newsletter. This shows the impact it has, and that what members put into social media and events online pays off in terms of Classical Sheffield promotion. It is also worth noting that this figure is well above average for similar sector marketing communication (21.4%).

Vision Meeting

In June, an additional meeting was organized to enable trustees to reflect on the core purpose and aims for Classical Sheffield. This started by reviewing successes and challenges of recent activity, looking at the Festival and its participants, as well as year-round events. It was felt that the Festival had expanded its range of programming with the inclusion of the Choir Crawl, Music Pocket Park, music-makers from Tracks and events at Gut Level. This showed the increase in connections being made across the city and broadening of the range of music presented and was welcomed as a positive for the organisation.

It was agreed that using these networks and seeking new ones in other parts of the city would enable Classical Sheffield to continue its current trajectory of changing expectations around classical music and supporting more people to be able to access music to enrich their lives. New outputs and ways of achieving this were discussed, and a working group put in place to take actions forward.

4.2 Future Plans

Following on from the Vision meeting in June 2025, next steps were proposed to be taken forward by the small working group, which includes trustees who will continue to be involved once they step down from the board at the 2025 AGM to ensure continuity. These included:

- Link with other festivals for exposure, either for our projects or for members, eg, Tramlines fringe.
- A new members event, hosted as a social; various suggestions as to focus.
- Training sessions for members eg marketing, funding
- An accessibility project
- Details re rehearsal spaces as next step in development of the Venue section of the website
- Look into Local Area Committee funding
- North Sheffield targeted pop-up events eg Southey Library, Firth Park
- Targeted events

- Broadening definition of 'Classical Music' - making this clear, then seeking out groups for projects

Sheffield Council has recently produced a new Cultural Strategy, in consultation with hundreds of people involved in the cultural sector from across the city. During 2025/26 its aims and actions will start to be brought to life, and Classical Sheffield will ensure it is included as part of the city's cultural ecology as part of this.

The dates for the 2027 Classical Sheffield Weekend have been agreed to fit in with The Hallé's appearance at Sheffield City Hall so that it can be part of the Weekend again and will take place from 12-14 March 2027. Early plans are already being put in place by member groups, with collaborations beginning to be discussed and brought together, demonstrating the long-term legacy of sharing live music-making across the city through the biennial Festival Weekend.

4.3 Thanks

Many thanks to all the members and music-makers from across the Sheffield area for another amazing year of music-making. The Festival was a real highlight of the year, and there seem to be more events and an ever-broadening range of musical activity being presented in the city for people of all ages and abilities.

The trustees of Classical Sheffield are dedicated to the organisation and have been wonderful throughout the year, especially volunteering to support activity during the Festival Weekend. It has been great to see trustees driving towards generating more inclusiveness in the organisation's activity and how we can achieve this in the coming years as part of the city's new Cultural Strategy. At the AGM Jess O'Neill formally stood down, having resigned as a trustee during the year due to a change in personal circumstances. Many thanks to Jess for her managing of the transition from the old to the new Classical Sheffield website and keeping all parties happy so as not to disrupt its continuity. As per the constitution, one third (three) trustees stepped down and were re-elected, being within the maximum term of nine years. A new trustee, Benjamin Tassie, was elected to replace Jess, keeping the board at 12 members.

Huge thanks go to Michael Buxton, who stepped down as Treasurer during 2025 after several years in post. His hard work kept the organisation on the straight and narrow as we negotiated the pandemic and subsequent return to performing. He has been incredibly diligent and also regularly liaised with our bank, for which we are all very grateful. Thanks also to the other members of the Finance & Fundraising Group, especially its Chair, Anne Adams, for their ongoing oversight of the organisation and its governance. Georgina Hulse also stepped down as a trustee during 2025, and we are grateful for her input into the organisation in recent years.

Thanks are also due to Alex Burns, Lucy Revis, Anne Adams, Nick Potter and Rose Wilcox for giving so much of their time and energy to the Working Group for Classical Weekend 2025. Particular thanks to our amazing Coordinator Rose, who made Classical Weekend 2025 such a success and a smooth operation, and also to Alex for her additional time and energy on its publicity and promotion.

Jo Towler, Chair, September 2025

5 Thanks to funders, supporters and members

Thanks are due to the generous organisations and individuals who fund and support our activities, as listed on page 17, especially Sheffield City Council for continuing to support us.

Special thanks are of course also due to our member groups and individuals, without whose passionate commitment to classical music in Sheffield, none of the achievements and performances listed in this report would be possible. We gained 6 members during the year, including Doot Duo and Halcyon Saxophone Quartet, and 16 groups and individuals left the organisation, some through leaving the area or disbanding. We had 74 members as at 5 July 2025, a mix of large organisations, small ensembles and individual music-makers and promoters:

Choruses & Chamber Choirs

Abbeydale Singers, Baslow Choir, Escafeld Chorale, Hallam Choral Society, Octogenesis, Sheffield Bach Choir, Sheffield Lydian Singers, Sheffield Oratorio Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus, Sheffield Chamber Choir, Sheffield Singers, Sheffield U3A A Capella Singers, Sheffield University Singers' Society, Singing In..., Sinsontes, Sonority, Steel City Choristers, Sterndale Singers, The Sheffield Chorale, The Singers Collective, Vintage Voices, Waldershelf Singers, Westside Singers

Ensembles

Abbeydale Strings, Black Velvet Clarinet Quintet, City of Sheffield Youth Festival Band, COMA Sheffield, Doot Duo, Ensemble 360, First Position Strings, Halcyon Sax Quartet, Lucy Philips & Jonny Ingall, Opera on Location, Saxauphonics Saxophone Quartet, Sheffield Clarinet Ensemble, Sheffield Viola Ensemble, Silver Spectrum Wind Band, Sheffield Music Academy, Steel City 5, West Riding Ensemble

Orchestras

The Brigantes, City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra, Endcliffe Orchestra, Hallam Sinfonia, London Concertante, Sheffield Chamber Orchestra, Sheffield Music Hub, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Sheffield Youth Orchestra, Sheffield Symphony Orchestra

Soloists

David Milsom, Hailu Ni, Kaoru Bingham, Elizabeth Hanks, Lucy Phillips, Ruth Lee, Shelley Walsh

Organisations

Bradfield Festival of Music, Concerteenies, Hardy Violins, Music in the Round, Opera on Location, Peak Music Society, David Clover Festival of Singing, Sheffield Cathedral, Sheffield City Hall, The University of Sheffield Concerts Venues, St John's Ranmoor

Brass Bands

Crookes Brass Band
Sheffield Region Brass Network

Composers / Conductors

Matthew J Leese
George Morton
River Edis-Smith

We remain committed to providing opportunities for participation in high quality, accessible classical music both new and old, conventional and innovative, for increasing numbers of people from every part of Sheffield, so that our city truly experiences '*more music in more places with more people*'.

6 Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements and annual report in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. The Charities Act 2011 and Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods of and principles in the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

7 Financial Review (6 July 2024 to 5 July 2025)

7.1 Overview

Successful fundraising was vital to the success of Classical Weekend 2025, and we were fortunate to receive funding from ten trusts and foundations, totalling £13,450 (see Note 9.3.2). Support from Sheffield City Council was gratefully received, with their contribution for the year continuing at £4,000. This income meant that the Festival Weekend could be promoted with significant marketing assets, including social media advertising, and box office income for the Festival was £3,247.

Income from subscriptions was £5,710 (2024: £5,564), and with a small amount of interest received from the bank account (£132; 2024: £123), total income for the year was £22,539.

Expenditure for the year includes the annual costs for the Coordinator, Digital Marketing Officer, insurance and the independent examination, as well as the additional costs for the Festival Weekend for marketing support, promotion and Coordinator time, totalling £23,210 (2024: £10,570). Although this shows a slight loss for the year of £671, there was a significant expenditure (£2,580) on the creation of the new website, and it is worth noting that the day to day running costs for the year were £9,146, which were funded by a grant of £4,000 from Sheffield City Council, members' subscriptions of £5,710 and the bank interest, resulting in a surplus of £696.

Total income from grants and ticket sales for the Festival was £12,697, and expenditure was £11,484, providing a surplus of £1,213. This expenditure does not include the outstanding costs for the Festival Evaluation and Performing Rights Society (PRS) royalties, but it is anticipated that the these costs will not be significant.

7.2 Year on Year Comparison

The financial strategy of the charity is to understand that there may be a need to carry forward a surplus during years where there has been a festival and a deficit in other years when Classical

Sheffield plans small fringe events. This fluctuation in annual turnover is acceptable given the nature of an organisation presenting a biennial festival.

7.3 Risk Management

The Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy and have worked together to identify and mitigate the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Trustees regularly review these risks, including an annual review of organisational and financial risk, and are committed to monitoring a risk register and to continually improving the management of Classical Sheffield.

7.4 Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually and is summarised here. Reserves may be needed to:

- enable Classical Sheffield to manage an unexpected need for funds, eg to enable a project to be moved forward quickly, or to secure a pre-event commitment.
- cover unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example, employing temporary staff to cover sickness absence of contracted staff, or replacing staff who suddenly leave.
- make up for a shortfall in income for particular projects where the income is already committed.
- provide funds needed to enable an orderly closure in the event of a decision to wind up Classical Sheffield.

The charity's Policy is therefore to maintain unrestricted funds of £9,000 as working capital to a level that can cover this expenditure, which also aids cash flow during the quieter months and finances its fundraising activities. The trustees have assessed the charity's needs and determined that this minimum is desirable given the uncertainties that currently exist around public funding.

Classical Sheffield is currently within this target. This is achieved by prudent financial management, including seeking low-cost options wherever appropriate, reviewing the charity's financial position at every Board meeting, and planning and delivering events within the budget restrictions agreed in advance.

7.5 Investment Powers and Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees deem appropriate.

7.6 Fixed Assets

The charity has no fixed assets.

8 Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Classical Sheffield for the year ended 5 July 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Classical Sheffield, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Classical Sheffield as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Craig Williamson
White Rose Accounting for Charities
The Ghyll, Threaplan, Aspatia,
CA7 2EL

Date: 2025

9. Financial Statements

9.1 Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

Year ended 5 July 2025

		5 July 2025	5 July 2024
		Total funds	Total funds
INCOME	Notes	£	£
Donations and legacies	2	5,710	5,564
Grants	3	13,450	2,500
Charitable activities		3,247	0
Investments	4	132	123
Total		22,539	8,187
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	5	0	0
Charitable activities	6	23,210	10,570
Total		23,210	10,570
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(671)	(2,383)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		17,098	19,481
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		16,427	17,098

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

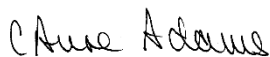
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

9.2 Balance Sheet

Year ended 5 July 2025

		5 July 2025	5 Jul 2024
		Total funds	Total funds
		£	£
	Notes		
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		16,552	17,226
		<u>16,552</u>	<u>17,226</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	8		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(125)	(125)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>16,427</u>	<u>17,098</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		16,427	17,098
NET ASSETS		<u>16,427</u>	<u>17,098</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		16,427	17,098
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>16,427</u>	<u>17,098</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 15 October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Anne Adams – Trustee



Jo Towler – Chair

The notes form part of these financial statements

9.3 Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 5 July 2025

9.3.1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

9.3.1.1 Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in Oct 2019.

Classical Sheffield constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

9.3.1.2 Cash flow statement

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in the Charities SORP from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is a small charity with a turnover of less than £500,000.

9.3.1.3 Income

Income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is deemed to be probable, and the amount can be measured reliably. This includes receipt of membership subscriptions by member organisations where these are, in substance, donations rather than payment for goods or services, and grants of a general, non-contractual nature provided by government and charitable foundations.

9.3.1.4 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category.

9.3.1.5 Taxation

No provision has been made for taxation as the entity is a public benefit entity, which is exempt from UK direct taxation on its charitable activities.

9.3.1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. Income received for restricted funds is subject to specific conditions imposed by the donor or has been

raised by the company for particular purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by trustees for particular purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued
9.3.2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	5 July 2025	5 July 2024
	£	£
Grants	13,450	2,500
Subscriptions	5,710	5,564
	19,160	8,064
Grants received:		
Sheffield City Council	5,200	1,500
Sheffield Church Burgesses Trust	0	1,000
Sheffield Town Trust	1,500	
Radcliffe Trust	2,000	
Freshgate Trust Foundation	1,000	
Gripple Foundation	250	
Sarah Nulty Power of Music Foundation	500	
JG Graves	1,000	
Tramlines	500	
South Yorkshire Company	1,500	
	13,450	2,500

9.3.3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2025	5 July 2024
	£	£
Ticket sales	3,247	0

9.3.4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	5 July 2025	5 July 2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	132	123

9.3.5. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	5 July 2025	5 July 2024
	£	£
Cost of fundraising	0	0

9.3.6. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2025	5 July 2024
	£	£
Direct Costs	20,317	10,068

Website Upgrade	2,580	
Support Costs (including governance costs)	<u>313</u>	<u>502</u>
	23,210	10,570

9.3.7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

While acting in the capacity of a Trustee, no person received remuneration or reimbursement of expenses for the period ending 5 July 2025. No Trustee received payment for professional or other services provided to the charity. There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ending 5 July 2025.

9.3.8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5 Jul 2025	5 Jul 2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	0	0
Other creditors	125	125
	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>

9.3.9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 6 July 2024	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 5 July 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General	17,908	22,539	(23,210)	16,427
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>17,908</u>	<u>22,539</u>	<u>(23,210)</u>	<u>16,427</u>

	Balance at 6 July 2023	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 5 July 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	19,841	8,187	(10,570)	17,908
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>19,841</u>	<u>8,187</u>	<u>(10,570)</u>	<u>17,908</u>

9.3.10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 5 July 2025

10 CIO information - reference and administrative details**10.1 Registered Charity Number**

1170970

10.2 Registered address

4th floor, Sheffield Central Library, Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 1XZ

10.3 Trustees

Anne Adams (Chair, Finance & Fundraising Subgroup)

Michael Buxton (resigned 30 April 2025)

Elizabeth Charlesworth

Bill Clarke

Georgina Hulse (resigned 30 April 2025)

Jess O'Neill (resigned 28 November 2024)

George Nicholson

Nick Potter

Lucy Revis

Judith Sunderland

Jo Towler (Chair)

Robert Webb

10.4 Coordinator

Rose Wilcox

10.5 Independent Examiner

Craig Williamson, White Rose Accounting for Charities,
The Ghyll, Threapland, Aspatria CA7 2EL

10.6 Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC, Pinstone Street, Sheffield S1 2HN

10.7 Freelance officers

Classical Sheffield Coordinator: Rose Wilcox

Digital Marketing Officer: Alex Burns

Accounts



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
5 July 2024**

Registered Charity Number: 1170970

Report of the Trustees

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Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present this report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 July 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

1. Classical Sheffield Objectives

Having started life as a company in 2016, Classical Sheffield became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 4th January 2017.

Trustees and members of the previous Steering Group established Classical Sheffield's mission and vision through a process of debate and consultation with the classical music-making community of the city.

Vision

Making more music, in more places, with more people

Mission

Classical Sheffield is a local charity committed to championing classical music-making and connecting music-makers across the city of Sheffield.

Strategic goals

- Goal 1 Developing: cultivate a platform to strengthen and develop classical music-making in Sheffield
- Goal 2 Advocating: be the voice of classical music-making across the city of Sheffield and beyond
- Goal 3 Creating: enrich Sheffield's cultural vibrancy through shaping a high-quality classical music offer
- Goal 4 Building: actively support the vision to develop a physical home for classical music-making in Sheffield

Charitable objects

The objects of the CIO as set out in the Constitution are *'to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees think fit, including the presentation of festivals, events, public concerts and recitals'*.

2. Public benefit

Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 requires trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The trustees conduct an annual review of the public benefit derived from Classical Sheffield activities and are pleased to report that, despite the ongoing complications managing the various restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, they have met this duty, the benefit being derived from the classical music events detailed in this report.

Members of the public have access to a high-quality website that is a 'one-stop shop' with regards to classical music-making across the city. All Classical Sheffield's public information is written in plain, easy-to-understand English to enable anyone who is curious about classical music to find out more about what is on in the city and how to experience it.

Classical Sheffield continues to encourage voluntary and young music-making groups across Sheffield to collaborate with one another and with a range of musicians, performing a diverse repertoire of works, old and new, conventional and innovative.

Anyone based in and around Sheffield who is committed to the development and celebration of classical music in its widest definition can become a member of Classical Sheffield, whether an individual or a member of another group or organisation. Annual membership fees, which help support the operation of the CIO and deliver its programme, were collected for the first time in January 2018 and have been set as low as possible to enable anyone to become a member. Individuals or groups who lack the funds to become members are offered support to do so on a case-by-case basis.

Membership fees reflect the size of participating groups and organisations, and for 2023-24 were £1.90 per person, per year, with a minimum fee of £30 and a maximum of £190 (£5 minimum and £50 maximum for youth groups). Promoter members paid 0.67% of their annual income but with a similar minimum of £30 and a maximum of £190.

In return for their subscription, members are able to promote concerts, groups and organisations on the Classical Sheffield website, which has over 2,400 users per month on average, increasing to nearly 9,000 around the biennial Festival. Their events are also included in weekly listing bulletins and feature in Classical Sheffield social media, and of course all members are able to participate in festivals and events.

3 Governance, structure and management

3.1 Governing document

Classical Sheffield officially became a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) on 4 January 2017 and was entered onto the Register of Charities. It had previously been a limited company (number 10264934), incorporated 6 July 2016 and terminated 4 April 2017, with all assets and bank accounts transferred to Classical Sheffield, CIO.

The Constitution, drawn up on 16 December 2016, is based on the Charity Commission's model constitution for a CIO with voting members other than Trustees (the 'Association' model). The Constitution was accepted at the first AGM on 23 March 2018, and can only be amended at a meeting of the members.

3.2 Organisational structure

Any member of Classical Sheffield may seek election to the Board of Trustees, as long as they are eligible under Charity Commission requirements. Trustees will normally be elected at the AGM, but may also be appointed by the existing Trustees during the course of the year. A Trustee Pack is sent to each Trustee following election; guidance documents produced by the Charity Commission help them to understand and meet their responsibilities as Trustees of a CIO.

The Trustees plan the activity of Classical Sheffield, meeting quarterly to ensure it benefits the public by meeting its charitable objects and supporting its members. They are helped by subgroups, each with a specific remit and agreed Terms of Reference, led by a Chair who is a Trustee, but with membership drawn from Classical Sheffield members and member groups. The Board of Trustees annually review the purpose and longevity of subgroups, as well as governance and policies.

The Trustees are responsible for appointing freelance officers to enable Classical Sheffield to meet its charitable objectives. In 2023/24 these were the Classical Sheffield Coordinator, Digital Marketing Officer and Web Developer. The Trustees are extremely grateful for the commitment and hard work of these individuals, who are listed in section 10 of this report.

4 Activities, achievements and future plans

4.1 Activities and Achievements

Classical Sheffield continued to support its members in 2023/24 through promoting events on social media and its website, issuing a weekly events newsletter and organising free pop-up events for the public during the year.

In summer 2023 Classical Sheffield arranged for an old piano to be moved to the foyer of Sheffield Central Library. This provides an opportunity for visitors to the library to play it as well as being available to use for performances in the library and nearby. It saves expensive piano hire costs for events as well as enabling members of the public to re-remember their piano lessons, improvise and just enjoy playing on an ad hoc basis, bringing the library foyer space to life, in line with our mission. The Sheffield Festival Showcase Weekend in September 2023 gave groups an opportunity to perform to the passing public in Sheffield Central Library, using this piano.

Christmas is a busy time of year for members, and after the success of producing flyers celebrating the dozens of events in the city during December 2022, Classical Sheffield decided to continue sharing the huge amount of music taking place in December 2023. Instead of print, online flyers were created to highlight and promote the many events taking place via social media, which member groups could easily share and created a sense of city-wide community music-making with members supporting each other's events. The flyer was promoted and shared widely, continuing to build Classical Sheffield's online presence and engagement.

Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus was nominated for a Royal Philharmonic Society (RPS) 'Inspiration Award', widely regarded as the BAFTAs of the classical music world and a sought-after achievement by everyone in the industry. The Award is for a non-professional ensemble or individual, and celebrated the Chorus's efforts to increase its diversity and support for young musicians, notably the Stella Jockel Young Composer Competition that featured in the final concert of the Festival Weekend in 2023. It didn't win, but it was wonderful to see the Chorus featured at the RPS Awards evening at the Royal Northern College of Music, including footage of Classical Sheffield's Weekend, showcasing the collaborative music-making that happens in the city.

In May 2024 the Music in the Round's 40th anniversary Sheffield Chamber Music Festival took place, with Classical Sheffield members invited to take part in it by performing pop-up events in the Winter Garden during the first weekend. They really helped to create a buzz in the centre of the city, bringing live classical music-making to passers-by and adding to the overall Festival feel alongside other events in the Crucible Theatre. Groups performing during the afternoon included Black Velvet Clarinet Quartet, Sonority, Singing In... and Sinsontes.



Black Velvet performing in the Winter Garden, May 2024

Digital engagement

The 10th Anniversary Weekend Festival in March 2023 drove a lot of traffic to our website and social media channels, so we anticipated there would be a small drop in online engagement, although there was an 13% increase in the number of page views. It is still good to see more people accessing and using our website, e-newsletter and social media, and we expect to see a significant increase again next year with the 2025 Festival Weekend. Statistics and information for our digital and online activity as follows (with year-on-year comparison in brackets):

- 32k visitors between July 22-July 23 (2022-23: 36k)
- 25k new users (2022-23: 27k)
- 98k page views (2022-23: 87k)
- 2k average monthly visitors (2022-23: 2k)
- Most clicked on page: 'Events' (same as last few years)
- 384 events uploaded by members in this period (2022-23: 464; 2021-22: 353)

More people are engaging with Classical Sheffield on social media and the e-newsletter:

- Facebook: 1,236 Likes (2022-23: 1,192)
- Facebook: 1,448 Followers (2022-23: 1,358)
- Twitter/X: 1,656 Followers (2022-23: 1,652)
- Email: 1,266 subscribers (2022-23: 1,234)

On average, 760 (over 50%!) of subscribers open and engage with the weekly newsletter. This shows the impact it has, and that what members put into social media and events online pays off in terms of Classical Sheffield promotion. It is also worth noting that this figure is well above average for similar sector marketing communication (21.3%).

4.2 Future Plans

Another Sheffield Showcase Weekend in September 2024 gave groups an opportunity to perform to the passing public in a new venue outside the centre of Sheffield, Firth Park Library, situated in an area where residents tend to be from low socio-economic backgrounds and have a range of diverse backgrounds and heritages. In November, dozens of singers from across the city are coming together with Music in the Round, Sheffield Music Hub and other partners to present a community opera on the iconic Crucible Theatre stage, which has generated much excitement across the city.

Plans are nearly complete for the Classical Weekend 21-23 March 2025, with events taking place across Sheffield by over 60 member groups. Many concerts are collaborations between members, continuing to show the long-term legacy of sharing live music-making across the city through the biennial Festival Weekend. There is a wide range of music planned to appeal to audiences from a variety of different backgrounds: classical to experimental; choral to family shows. Several groups are also coming together to present an opera, *Carmen*, in a new venue on the east of the city.

The website is being refreshed during 2024, as it is becoming ever more of a focus for classical music in the city and needs to be able to respond to increasing demand and provide more accessible and better information.

4.3 Thanks

Thanks to our members for another amazing year of music-making. It is wonderful to see so many events on our website with such a wide range of musical creativity for people of all ages and abilities.

The trustees of Classical Sheffield are dedicated to the organisation and have been wonderful throughout the year. In 2023/24 the board retained its 12 trustees, with three stepping down at the AGM and all being renominated to stay on as a trustee for a further term.

I would like to thank the members of the Finance & Fundraising Group for their constant support during the year, keeping on top of the finances and governance, especially the hard-working Treasurer Michael Buxton and Chair Anne Adams. Thanks are also due to Alex Burns, Lucy Revis, Anne Adams, Nick Potter and Rose Wilcox for giving so much of their time and energy to the Working Group for Classical Weekend 2025. Particular thanks to our amazing Coordinator Rose, who has made such good connections with and between member groups in the last couple of years and has led on developing the new website. Thank you, Rose!

Jo Towler, Chair, September 2024

5 Thanks to funders, supporters and members

Thanks are due to the generous organisations and individuals who fund and support our activities, especially Sheffield City Council for continuing to support us.

Special thanks are of course also due to our member groups and individuals, without whose passionate commitment to classical music in Sheffield, none of the achievements and performances listed in this report would be possible. We gained 11 members during the year, including Brass Bands England and new group The West Riding Ensemble, and seven groups and individuals left the organisation, some through leaving the area or disbanding. We had 78 members as at 5 July 2024, a mix of large organisations, small ensembles and individual music-makers and promoters:

Abbeydale Singers, Abbeydale Strings, Albion Choir, Bakewell Choral Society, Baslow Choir, Black Velvet Clarinet Quintet, Bradfield Festival of Music, The Brigantes, Brass Bands England, Candlelight Concerts, City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra, COMA Sheffield, Concerteenies, Crescent Records, David Milsom, Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society, David Clover Festival of Singing, Darton Church, Elizabeth Charlesworth, Elizabeth Hanks, Emma Hardy, Ensemble 360, Escafeld Chorale, First Position Strings, George Morton, Hailu Ni, Hallam Choral Society, Hallam Sinfonia, Hyuk Namkoong, Kaoru Bingham, Katia Farn, Lucy Phillips, Lucy Philips & Jonny Ingall, Matthew Leese, Music in the Round, Octogenesis, Opera on Location, Peak Music Society, Platform 4, River Edis-Smith, Saxauphonics Saxophone Quartet, Sheffield Bach Society, Sheffield Cathedral, Sheffield Chamber Choir, Sheffield Chamber Orchestra, Sheffield Clarinet Ensemble, Sheffield City Trust (City Hall), Sheffield Lydian Singers, Sheffield Music Academy, Sheffield Music Hub, Sheffield Oratorio Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Sheffield Singers, Sheffield Symphony Orchestra, Sheffield U3A A Capella Singers, Sheffield Music Makers, Sheffield Theatres, Sheffield University Singers' Society, Sheffield Viola Ensemble, Sheffield Youth Orchestra, Shelley Walsh, Silver Spectrum, Singing In..., Sinsontes, Sonority, Steel City 5, Steel City Choristers, Sterndale Singers, The Endcliffe Orchestra, The Sheffield Chorale, The Singers, The West Riding Ensemble, The University of Sheffield Concerts, Tom Pickles, Viva Voce Chamber Choir, Waldershelf Singers, Westside Singers

We remain committed to providing opportunities for participation in high quality, accessible classical music both new and old, conventional and innovative, for increasing numbers of people from every part of Sheffield, so that our city truly experiences '*more music in more places with more people*'.

6 Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements and annual report in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. The Charities Act 2011 and Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods of and principles in the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

7. Financial Review (6th July 2023 to 5th July 2024)

7.1 Overview

The total income for the year ending 5th July 2024 was £8,187 with an expenditure of £10,570 resulted in shortfall of £2,383 mainly due to not having received the expected £4,000 grant from Sheffield City Council. However, we received a grant in April from the Council on behalf of The Crookes Brass Band which was immediately paid out for their concert in April.

We receive a late awarded grant from Victoria Wood Foundation of £1,000 in support of the Weekend Festival in March 2023, and have also received a grant from Sheffield Church Burgess Trust of £1,000 towards the remodeling of our website which is currently under construction and is expected to be completed by the end of 2024. We currently have 80 members who have contributed a total of £5,564 in subscriptions.

The expenditure for this year includes the normal annual running costs for the Co-ordinator, Digital Manager, Insurance, Website Maintenance, Marketing, the AGM and the Independent Examination of the accounts, totaling to £9,034. Other expenditure throughout the year has been some small weekend events costing a total of £1,036.

Our closing balance at the yearend for the Current Account was £8,062.94 and for the Premium Account £9,162.80 totaling £17,225.74. This means we are now able to hold our Reserves Policy level in the Premium Account and use only the Current Account for day-to-day transactions, putting us in a reasonable financial position and enabling us to plan for events during 2024-2025 and beyond with confidence in an ever-increasingly volatile public funding environment.

7.2 Year on Year Comparison

The financial strategy of the charity is to understand that there may be a need to carry forward a surplus during years where there has been a festival and a deficit in other years when Classical Sheffield plans small fringe events. This fluctuation in annual turnover is acceptable given the nature of an organisation presenting a biennial festival.

7.3 Risk Management

The Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy and have worked together to identify and mitigate the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Trustees regularly review these risks, including an annual review of organisational and financial risk, and are committed to monitoring a risk register and to continually improving the management of Classical Sheffield.

7.4 Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually and is summarised here. Reserves may be needed to:

- enable Classical Sheffield to manage an unexpected need for funds, eg to enable a project to be moved forward quickly, or to secure a pre-event commitment.
- cover unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example, employing temporary staff to cover sickness absence of contracted staff, or replacing staff who suddenly leave.
- make up for a shortfall in income for particular projects where the income is already committed.
- provide funds needed to enable an orderly closure in the event of a decision to wind up Classical Sheffield.

Classical Sheffield has, and aims to maintain, a reserve of £9,000. Trustees aim to do this by prudent financial management, including seeking low-cost options wherever appropriate, reviewing the charity's financial position at every Board meeting, and planning and delivering events within the budget restrictions agreed in advance.

7.5 Investment Powers and Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees deem appropriate.

7.6 Fixed Assets

The charity has no fixed assets.

8 Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Classical Sheffield for the year ended 5 July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Classical Sheffield, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Classical Sheffield as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Craig Williamson
White Rose Accounting for Charities
The Ghyll, Threaplan, Aspatria,
CA7 2EL

Date: 29 October 2024

9. Financial Statements

9.1 Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

Year ended 5 July 2024

		5 July 2024	5 July 2023
		Total funds	Total funds
INCOME	Notes	£	£
Donations and legacies	2	5,564	5,397
Grants	3	2,500	14,600
Charitable activities	3	0	5,801
Investments	4	123	25
Total		8,187	25,823
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	5	0	1,008
Charitable activities	6	10,570	19,594
Total		10,570	20,602
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(2,383)	5,221
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		19,481	14,260
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		17,098	19,481

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

9.2 Balance Sheet

Year ended 5 July 2024

		5 July 2024	5 Jul 2023
		Total funds	Total funds
		£	£
	Notes		
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		17,226	19,606
		<u>17,226</u>	<u>19,606</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	8		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(125)	(125)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>17,098</u>	<u>19,481</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		17,098	19,481
NET ASSETS		<u>17,098</u>	<u>19,481</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		17,098	19,481
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>17,098</u>	<u>19,481</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on DATE and were signed on its behalf by:



Michael Buxton – Treasurer



Jo Towler – Chair Person

The notes form part of these financial statements

9.3 Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 5 July 2024**9.3.1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****9.3.1.1 Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in Oct2019.

Classical Sheffield constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

9.3.1.2 Cash flow statement

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in the Charities SORP from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is a small charity with a turnover of less than £500,000.

9.3.1.3 Income

Income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is deemed to be probable, and the amount can be measured reliably. This includes receipt of membership subscriptions by member organisations where these are, in substance, donations rather than payment for goods or services, and grants of a general, non-contractual nature provided by government and charitable foundations.

9.3.1.4 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category.

9.3.1.5 Taxation

No provision has been made for taxation as the entity is a public benefit entity, which is exempt from UK direct taxation on its charitable activities.

9.3.1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. Income received for restricted funds is subject to specific conditions imposed by the donor or has been raised by the company for particular purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by trustees for particular purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued
9.3.2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	5 July 2024	5 July 2023
	£	£
Donations	0	18
Grants	2,500	14,600
Subscriptions	5,564	5,379
Ongoing activities	-	-
	8,064	19,997
Grants received:		
Sheffield City Council	1,500	5,100
Sheffield Church Burgess Trust	1,000	1,000
Sheffield Town Trust	0	2,500
Foyle Foundation	0	5,000
Freshgate Trust Foundation	0	1,000
	2,500	14,600

9.3.3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2024	5 July 2023
	£	£
Ticket sales	0	5,801

9.3.4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	5 July 2024	5 July 2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	123	25

9.3.5. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	5 July 2024	5 July 2023
	£	£
Cost of fundraiser	0	1,008

9.3.6. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2024	5 July 2023
	£	£
Direct Costs	10,068	19,272
Support Costs (including governance costs)	502	332
	10,570	19,594

9.3.7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

While acting in the capacity of a Trustee, no person received remuneration for the period ending 5 July 2023. No Trustee received payment for professional or other services provided to the charity.

9.3.8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5 July 2024	5 July 2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Other creditors	125	125
	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>

9.3.9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance At 6 July 2023	Income	Expenditure	Balance At 5 July 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General	19,481	8,187	(10,570)	17,098
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>19,481</u>	<u>8,187</u>	<u>(10,570)</u>	<u>17,098</u>

	Balance At 6 July 2022	Income	Expenditure	Balance At 5 July 2023
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	14,260	25,823	(20,602)	19,481
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>14,260</u>	<u>25,823</u>	<u>(20,602)</u>	<u>19,481</u>

9.3.10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 5 July 2024

10 CIO information - reference and administrative details**10.1 Registered Charity Number**

1170970

10.2 Registered address

4th floor, Sheffield Central Library, Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 1XZ

10.3 Trustees

Anne Adams (Chair, Finance & Fundraising Subgroup)

Michael Buxton (Treasurer)

Elizabeth Charlesworth

Bill Clarke

Georgina Hulse

Jess O'Neill

George Nicholson

Nick Potter

Lucy Revis

Judith Sunderland

Jo Towler (Chair and Chair of Events Subgroup)

Robert Webb

10.4 Coordinator

Rose Wilcox

10.5 Independent Examiner

Craig Williamson, White Rose Accounting for Charities,

The Ghyll, Threapland, Aspatia CA7 2EL

10.6 Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC, Pinstone Street, Sheffield S1 2HN

10.7 Freelance officers

Classical Sheffield Coordinator: Rose Wilcox

Digital Marketing Officer: Alexandra Burns

Web Developer: Ian Parr

Accounts



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
5 July 2023**

Registered Charity Number: 1170970

Report of the Trustees

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Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present this report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 July 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

1. Classical Sheffield Objectives

Having started life as a company in 2016, Classical Sheffield became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 4th January 2017.

Trustees and members of the previous Steering Group established Classical Sheffield's mission and vision through a process of debate and consultation with the classical music-making community of the city.

Vision

Making more music, in more places, with more people

Mission

Classical Sheffield is a local charity committed to championing classical music-making and connecting music-makers across the city of Sheffield.

Strategic goals

- Goal 1 Developing: cultivate a platform to strengthen and develop classical music-making in Sheffield
- Goal 2 Advocating: be the voice of classical music-making across the city of Sheffield and beyond
- Goal 3 Creating: enrich Sheffield's cultural vibrancy through shaping a high-quality classical music offer
- Goal 4 Building: actively support the vision to develop a physical home for classical music-making in Sheffield

Charitable objects

The objects of the CIO as set out in the Constitution are *'to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees think fit, including the presentation of festivals, events, public concerts and recitals'*.

2. Public benefit

Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 requires trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The trustees conduct an annual review of the public benefit derived from Classical Sheffield activities and are pleased to report that, despite the ongoing complications managing the various restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, they have met this duty, the benefit being derived from the classical music events detailed in this report.

Members of the public have access to a high-quality website that is a 'one-stop shop' with regards to classical music-making across the city. All Classical Sheffield's public information is written in plain, easy-to-understand English to enable anyone who is curious about classical music to find out more about what is on in the city and how to experience it.

Classical Sheffield continues to encourage voluntary and young music-making groups across Sheffield to collaborate with one another and with a range of musicians, performing a diverse repertoire of works, old and new, conventional and innovative.

Anyone based in and around Sheffield who is committed to the development and celebration of classical music in its widest definition can become a member of Classical Sheffield, whether an individual or a member of another group or organisation. Annual membership fees, which help support the operation of the CIO and deliver its programme, were collected for the first time in January 2018 and have been set as low as possible to enable anyone to become a member. Individuals or groups who lack the funds to become members are offered support to do so on a case-by-case basis.

Membership fees reflect the size of participating groups and organisations, and for 2022-23 were £1.80 per person, per year, with a minimum fee of £29 and a maximum of £180 (£5 minimum and £50 maximum for youth groups). Promoter members paid 0.65% of their annual income but with a similar minimum of £29 and a maximum of £180.

In return for their subscription, members are able to promote concerts, groups and organisations on the Classical Sheffield website, which has over 2,000 users per month on average, increasing to nearly 9,000 around the biennial Festival. Their events are also included in weekly listing bulletins and feature in Classical Sheffield social media, and of course all members are able to participate in festivals and events.

3 Governance, structure and management

3.1 Governing document

Classical Sheffield officially became a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) on 4 January 2017 and was entered onto the Register of Charities. It had previously been a limited company (number 10264934), incorporated 6 July 2016 and terminated 4 April 2017, with all assets and bank accounts transferred to Classical Sheffield, CIO.

The Constitution, drawn up on 16 December 2016, is based on the Charity Commission's model constitution for a CIO with voting members other than Trustees (the 'Association' model). The Constitution was accepted at the first AGM on 23 March 2018, and can only be amended at a meeting of the members.

3.2 Organisational structure

Any member of Classical Sheffield may seek election to the Board of Trustees, as long as they are eligible under Charity Commission requirements. Trustees will normally be elected at the AGM, but may also be appointed by the existing Trustees during the course of the year. A Trustee Pack is sent to each Trustee following election; guidance documents produced by the Charity Commission help them to understand and meet their responsibilities as Trustees of a CIO.

The Trustees plan the activity of Classical Sheffield, meeting quarterly to ensure it benefits the public by meeting its charitable objects and supporting its members. They are helped by subgroups, each with a specific remit and agreed Terms of Reference, led by a Chair who is a Trustee, but with membership drawn from Classical Sheffield members and member groups. The Board of Trustees annually review the purpose and longevity of subgroups, as well as governance and policies.

The Trustees are responsible for appointing freelance officers to enable Classical Sheffield to meet its charitable objectives. In 2022/23 these were the Classical Sheffield Coordinator, Digital Marketing Officer and Web Developer. The Trustees are extremely grateful for the commitment and hard work of these individuals, who are listed in section 10 of this report.

4 Activities, achievements and future plans

4.1 Activities and Achievements

In 2022/23 events and audiences were still recovering from the pandemic and associated lockdowns, with many groups not having met or performed since autumn 2019. However, groups began to reconvene in spring 2022, and members' activity gradually increased during the year.

Classical Sheffield supported members with returning to performing again during 2022. This included a pop up event in the city centre on The Moor as part of the Sheffield Festival Showcase Weekend 2022 on 3 September, featuring Crescent Recorders, Vivacity Choir, Thurgoland Community Choir and Sheffield Viola Ensemble. There were so many events happening around Christmas that Classical Sheffield decided to celebrate the huge amount of music taking place in the city during December. Posters and flyers highlighting the many events taking place were produced and distributed, creating a sense of city-wide community music-making with members supporting each other's events. They were also all promoted on social media, building a greater online presence and engagement in advance of the 2023 Festival.

The 10th anniversary Festival Weekend took place from 17-19 March 2023, opening with a sell-out concert from Music in the Round and Ensemble 360 in Upper Chapel and culminating in a sell-out performance in Sheffield City Hall of Mahler's *Resurrection* Symphony, featuring four member groups conducted by George Morton. It was a huge success for all involved and we are so pleased with the results of the festival; there was an overwhelming buzz that was created from events taking place across the city, which helped to boost civic pride and excitement whilst bringing people together who are often hearing live classical music for the first time.

The whole event was evaluated by Dr Sarah Price (Lecturer in Music Industries, University of Liverpool) as part of her ongoing research into audiences for non-professional classical music events, and in particular how audiences engaged with the Festival. These insights will feed into future Classical Sheffield Festivals as well as inform the wider music sector.



Hallam Sinfonia, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus and Hallam Choral Society rehearse Mahler Symphony No.2 in Sheffield City Hall before the sell-out concert on 19 March

Statistics of the Weekend:

- 72 hours of music-making
- 40 events in 10 venues
- over 1,000 musicians performed to more than 7,000 people
- 42 Classical Sheffield member groups took part

The survey question 'what did you think of this performance' produced the following word cloud:



Highlights of the weekend:

- Special Classical Sheffield 10th anniversary commission, ***Being Human***, of 10 arrangements of pieces by folk star **Kate Rusby**, arranged by local choir leader **Kate Shipway**, premiered by four community choirs in Firth Hall on Sunday in the presence of Kate Rusby
- Over **1,000 people** watched **free live performances** in the **Winter Garden** on Saturday from 12 Classical Sheffield member groups, including around 50 young people in the Young Voices Choir, and several Young Music Makers performing in public for the very first time
- An open rehearsal from **The Hallé** on Friday attracted 150 people ahead of its evening concert in City Hall, attended by 800 people.
- Inaugural **Stella Jockel Young Composer Competition** led and organised by Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus, with joint winners Mason Birch and James Thomas sharing the first prize of £2,500 and their pieces being sung by Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus in City Hall as part of the performance on Sunday evening.
- Over **300 people** enjoyed a **free samba workshop** from Sheffield Music Hub Samba Band and Concord All Stars in Orchard Square
- A full house of over **1,400 people** enjoyed a performance of **Mahler Symphony No.2** in City Hall on Sunday evening in the presence of several dignitaries including **Oliver Coppard**, Sheffield City Region Mayor; **Dame Hilary Chapman**, Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorkshire; and **Sioned-Mair Richards**, Lord Mayor of Sheffield

Evaluation data

Surveys were issued to audiences, and fully completed responses showed:

- 44% of attendees were not 'friends and family', showing its appeal to the wider city
- 34% were not regular attenders of classical concerts
- 6% said this was their first live classical music experience
- 12% had 'stumbled on' the performance, especially in the Winter Garden (29%)
- 15% of submitted forms were from people aged 17-35

The majority of respondents were from the South Yorkshire region (79%), with the remaining coming from Derbyshire (7%), elsewhere in the East Midlands (3%), elsewhere in Yorkshire and The Humber (2%), the North West (2%) and further afield. 228 respondents (42%) were regular concert-goers, 186 respondents were not (34%). For 34 respondents (6%), this was their first time hearing classical music live.

These statistics show that this Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend reached a significant number of people who do not usually attend classical concerts, and also attracted audiences from outside South Yorkshire. The performance of Mahler Symphony No.2 attracted the greatest number of people from further away, with only 56% of respondents coming from the South Yorkshire region.

Digital engagement

With having the 10th Anniversary Weekend Festival in March 2023, traffic to our website and engagement on social media hugely increased year-on-year. Statistics and information for our digital and online activity as follows (with year-on-year comparison in brackets):

- 36,723 Visitors between July 22-July 23 (71% increase)
- 27,276 New users (30% increase)
- 43,764 Sessions on the website (44% increase)
- 87,352 Page views (20% increase)
- 2,100 Average monthly visitors (30% increase)
- Most clicked on page: 'Events' (same as previous year)
- The top ways people are coming to the website are Google Search / Direct Links / Facebook
- 464 Events uploaded by members in this period (2022: 353)

More people are engaging with Classical Sheffield on social media and the e-newsletter:

- Facebook: 1,192 Likes (8% increase)
- Facebook: 1,358 follows (8% increase)
- Twitter: 1,652 (5% increase)
- Email: 1,234 subscribers (11% increase)
- On average, 642 (48% of subscribers) open and engage with the weekly newsletter. Although this is likely due to it being a Festival year, it is worth noting that this figure is well above average for similar sector marketing communication (21.3%), showing that the newsletter is of interest to subscribers.

4.2 Future Plans

Another Sheffield Festival Showcase Weekend in September 2023 gave groups an opportunity to perform to the passing public in Sheffield Central Library, and a general promotion of the seasonal activity in the region is planned for Christmas again.

Plans are underway for the Classical Weekend 21-23 March 2025, with a Working Group already in place, led by the Coordinator and supported by trustees. The theme will be families and young people, with the aim of encouraging members to think of ways of engaging young people as well as expanding the range of live music presented to appeal to audiences from a variety of different backgrounds. Links formed by members during the 2023 Festival Weekend are already continuing in the coming months and years, demonstrating its long-term legacy of sharing live music-making across the city.

Member groups are being asked to participate in Music in the Round's 40th anniversary Sheffield Chamber Music Festival in May 2024, showcasing local music-making in Winter Garden as part of the anniversary celebrations, and it is planned for the world-class musicians of Ensemble 360 to be part of this event.

It is also proposed to update the website and its server during 2023/24, as it is becoming ever more of a focus for classical music in the city, and needs to be able to respond to increasing demand and provide more accessible and better information.

4.3 Thanks

It has been an amazing year of music-making, seeing member groups beginning to perform again, and coming together to create some amazing events during the whole year, not just for the Festival Weekend. The trustees of Classical Sheffield are dedicated to the organisation and have been wonderful throughout the year. In 2022/23 the board expanded to 12 members, with Lucy Revis and George Nicholson joining as trustees, and their complementary experience of music-making is an exciting step forward for Classical Sheffield. Lucy is the inspiring Director of Sheffield Music School, interested in improvisation, pop and folk music as well as classical; and George Nicholson is Emeritus Professor of Music at The University of Sheffield, who keeps his creative hand in as Director of Sheffield Lydian Singers and President of the Sheffield Bach Society. Trustee Ruth Bacon stepped down in September 2022 after being involved with Classical Sheffield from its earliest days, and we would like to thank her for her support of the organisation over the last several years.

I would like to thank the members of the Finance & Fundraising Group for their constant support during the year, keeping on top of the finances and governance, especially the hard-working Treasurer Michael Buxton and Chair Anne Adams. Thanks are also due to Anne Adams, Sophie Anderson, Kate Shipway and Rose Wilcox for giving so much of their time and energy to the Working Group for Classical Weekend 2023. In particular, our Coordinator Rose has been an absolutely amazing producer of the Festival, submitting successful fundraising applications and planning events alongside developing relationships with new and long-standing members to produce a fantastic 10th Anniversary Festival Weekend.

Jo Towler, Chair, September 2023

5 Thanks to funders, supporters and members

Thanks are due to the generous organisations and individuals who fund and support our activities, especially Sheffield City Council for continuing to support us during another challenging year.

Special thanks are of course also due to our member groups and individuals, without whose passionate commitment to classical music in Sheffield, none of the achievements and performances listed in this report would have been possible. Members as of 5 July 2023:

Abbeydale Singers, Abbeydale Strings, Bakewell Choral Society, Black Velvet Clarinet Quintet, Bradfield Festival of Music, The Brigantes, Brian Wilshire, Candlelight Concerts, City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra, COMA Sheffield, Concerteenies, Crescent Records, Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society, David Clover Festival of Singing, Darton Church, Elizabeth Charlesworth, Emma Hardy, Ensemble 360, Escafeld Chorale, First Position Strings, George Morton, Hailu Ni, Hallam Choral Society, Hallam Sinfonia, Hyuk Namkoong, Kaoru Bingham, Kristýna Farag, Lucy Phillips, Lucy Philips & Jonny Ingall, Music in the Round, Octogenesis, Opera on Location, Philip Collin, Platform 4, River Edis-Smith, Sheffield Bach Society, Sheffield Brass Network, Sheffield Cathedral, Sheffield Chamber Choir, Sheffield Chamber Orchestra, Sheffield Clarinet Ensemble, Sheffield City Trust (City Hall), Sheffield Lydian Singers, Sheffield Music Academy, Sheffield Music Hub, Sheffield Oratorio Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Sheffield Singers, Sheffield Symphony Orchestra, Sheffield U3A A Capella Singers, Sheffield Music Makers, Sheffield Theatres, Sheffield University Singers' Society, Sheffield Viola Ensemble, Sheffield Youth Orchestra, Shelley Walsh, Silver Spectrum, Singing In..., Sinsontes, Sonority, Stannington Mixed Choir, Steel City 5, Steel City Choristers, Sterndale Singers, The Endcliffe Orchestra, The Sheffield Chorale, The Singers, The University of Sheffield Concerts, Tom Pickles, Vivacity Choir, Waldershelf Singers, Westside Singers

Members that have joined since 5 July 2023: Madeleine Lake, Peak Music Society

We remain committed to providing opportunities for participation in high quality, accessible classical music both new and old, conventional and innovative, for increasing numbers of people from every part of Sheffield, so that our city truly experiences '*more music in more places with more people*'.

6 Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements and annual report in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. The Charities Act 2011 and Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods of and principles in the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports)

Regulations 2008 and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

7 Financial Review (6 July 2022 to 5 July 2023)

7.1 Overview

Successful fundraising was vital to the success of Classical Weekend 2023, and we were fortunate to receive funding from five trusts and foundations, totalling £10,500 (see Note 9.3.2). Additional support from Sheffield City Council was also gratefully received, with their contribution for the year increasing to £4,000 (2022: £3,000). This income meant that the Festival Weekend could be promoted with significant marketing assets, with paid-for social media advertising being used for the first time. As a result, box office income for the Festival was £5,801, exceeding target by £476.

With several new members joining, and some members rejoining after the pandemic, income from subscriptions was £5,379 (2022: £4,028). With a few small donations from Amazon Smile and a contribution towards presenting an event in the Sheffield Showcase Weekend, total income for the year was £25,799 (2022: £7,058).

Expenditure for the year includes the annual costs for the Coordinator, Digital Marketing Officer, insurance and the independent examination, as well as the additional costs for the Festival Weekend for marketing support, promotion and Coordinator time, totalling £23,602 (2022: £7,290).

Our closing balance at the year-end for the Current Account was £10,567 and for the Premium Account (the reserves account) £9,040, totalling £19,607. This means we are now able to hold our Reserves Policy level in the Premium Account and use only the Current Account for day-to-day transactions, putting us in a healthy financial position and enabling us to plan for events during 2023/24 and beyond with confidence in an ever-increasingly volatile public funding environment.

7.2 Year on Year Comparison

The financial strategy of the charity is to understand that there may be a need to carry forward a surplus during years where there has been a festival and a deficit in other years when Classical Sheffield plans small fringe events. This fluctuation in annual turnover is acceptable given the nature of an organisation presenting a biennial festival.

7.3 Risk Management

The Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy and have worked together to identify and mitigate the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Trustees regularly review these risks, including an annual review of organisational and financial risk, and are committed to monitoring a risk register and to continually improving the management of Classical Sheffield.

7.4 Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually and is summarised here. Reserves may be needed to:

- enable Classical Sheffield to manage an unexpected need for funds, eg to enable a project to be moved forward quickly, or to secure a pre-event commitment.
- cover unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example, employing temporary staff to cover sickness absence of contracted staff, or replacing staff who suddenly leave.
- make up for a shortfall in income for particular projects where the income is already committed.

- provide funds needed to enable an orderly closure in the event of a decision to wind up Classical Sheffield.

Classical Sheffield has, and aims to maintain, a reserve of £9,000. Trustees aim to do this by prudent financial management, including seeking low-cost options wherever appropriate, reviewing the charity's financial position at every Board meeting, and planning and delivering events within the budget restrictions agreed in advance.

7.5 Investment Powers and Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees deem appropriate.

7.6 Fixed Assets

The charity has no fixed assets.

8 Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Classical Sheffield for the year ended 5 July 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Classical Sheffield, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Classical Sheffield as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Craig Williamson White Rose Accounting for Charities The Ghyll, Threaplan, Aspatria, CA72EL

Date: 1 November 2023

9. Financial Statements

9.1 Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

Year ended 5 July 2023

		5 Jul 2023	5 Jul 2022
		Total funds	Total funds
INCOME	Notes	£	£
Donations and legacies	9.3.2	5,397	4,057
Grants	9.3.2	14,600	3,000
Charitable activities	9.3.3	5,801	-
Investments	9.3.4	25	1
Total		25,823	7,058
EXPENDITURE			
Raising funds	9.3.5	1,008	-
Charitable activities	9.3.6	19,594	7,290
Total		20,602	7,290
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		5,221	(232)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		14,260	14,492
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		19,481	14,260

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

9.2 Balance Sheet

Year ended 5 July 2023

		5 Jul 2023	5 Jul 2022
		Total funds	Total funds
		£	£
	Notes		
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		19,606	14,385
		<u>19,606</u>	<u>14,385</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	9.3.8		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(125)	(125)
		<u></u>	<u></u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>19,481</u>	<u>14,260</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		19,481	14,260
NET ASSETS		<u>19,481</u>	<u>14,260</u>
FUNDS	9.3.9		
Unrestricted funds		19,481	14,260
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>19,481</u>	<u>14,260</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 01 November 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



M Buxton –Trustee



Jo Towler – Chair

The notes form part of these financial statements

9.3 Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 5 July 2022**9.3.1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****9.3.1.1 Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in Oct 2019.

Classical Sheffield constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

9.3.1.2 Cash flow statement

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in the Charities SORP from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is a small charity with a turnover of less than £500,000.

9.3.1.3 Income

Income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is deemed to be probable, and the amount can be measured reliably. This includes receipt of membership subscriptions by member organisations where these are, in substance, donations rather than payment for goods or services, and grants of a general, non-contractual nature provided by government and charitable foundations.

9.3.1.4 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category.

9.3.1.5 Taxation

No provision has been made for taxation as the entity is a public benefit entity, which is exempt from UK direct taxation on its charitable activities.

9.3.1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. Income received for restricted funds is subject to specific conditions imposed by the donor or has been raised by the company for particular purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by trustees for particular purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued
9.3.2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	5 July 2023	5 July 2022
	£	£
Donations	18	30
Grants	14,600	3,000
Subscriptions	5,379	4,028
	<u>19,997</u>	<u>7,058</u>
Grants received:		
Sheffield City Council	5,100	3,000
Sheffield Church Burgesses Trust	1,000	-
Sheffield Town Trust	2,500	-
Foyle Foundation	5,000	-
Freshgate Trust Foundation	1,000	-
	<u>14,600</u>	<u>3,000</u>

9.3.3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2023	5 July 2022
	£	£
Ticket sales	<u>5,801</u>	<u>-</u>

9.3.4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	5 July 2023	5 July 2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>25</u>	<u>1</u>

9.3.5. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	5 July 2023	5 July 2022
	£	£
Cost of fundraiser	<u>1,008</u>	<u>-</u>

9.3.6. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2023	5 July 2022
	£	£
Direct Costs	19,272	6,930
Support Costs (including governance costs)	332	360
	<u>19,594</u>	<u>7,290</u>

9.3.7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

While acting in the capacity of a Trustee, no person received remuneration or reimbursement of expenses for the period ending 5 July 2023. No Trustee received payment for professional or other services provided to the charity. There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ending 5 July 2023.

9.3.8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5 Jul 2023	5 Jul 2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Other creditors	125	125
	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>

9.3.9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 6 July 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 5 July 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	14,260	25,823	(20,602)	19,481
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>14,260</u>	<u>25,823</u>	<u>(20,602)</u>	<u>19,481</u>

	Balance at 6 July 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 5 July 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	14,492	7,058	(7,290)	14,260
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>14,492</u>	<u>7,058</u>	<u>(7,290)</u>	<u>14,260</u>

9.3.10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 5 July 2023

10 CIO information - reference and administrative details**10.1 Registered Charity Number**

1170970

10.2 Registered address

4th floor, Sheffield Central Library, Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 1XZ

10.3 Trustees

Anne Adams (Chair, Finance & Fundraising Subgroup)

Ruth Bacon (resigned 7 September 2022)

Michael Buxton (Treasurer)

Elizabeth Charlesworth

Bill Clarke

Georgina Hulse

Jess O'Neill

George Nicholson (joined 1 December 2022)

Nick Potter

Lucy Revis (joined 1 December 2022)

Judith Sunderland

Jo Towler (Chair)

Robert Webb

10.4 Coordinator

Rose Wilcox

10.5 Independent Examiner

Craig Williamson, White Rose Accounting for Charities,
The Ghyll, Threapland, Aspatria CA7 2EL

10.6 Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC, Pinstone Street, Sheffield S1 2HN

10.7 Freelance officers

Classical Sheffield Coordinator: Rose Wilcox

Digital Marketing Officer: Alexandra Burns

Web Developer: Ian Parr

Accounts



**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
5 July 2022**

Registered Charity Number: 1170970

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Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present this report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 July 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

1. Classical Sheffield Objectives

Having started life as a company in 2016, Classical Sheffield became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 4th January 2017.

Trustees and members of the previous Steering Group established Classical Sheffield's mission and vision through a process of debate and consultation with the classical music-making community of the city.

Vision

Making more music, in more places, with more people

Mission

Classical Sheffield is a local charity committed to championing classical music-making and connecting music-makers across the city of Sheffield.

Strategic goals

- Goal 1 Developing: cultivate a platform to strengthen and develop classical music-making in Sheffield
- Goal 2 Advocating: be the voice of classical music-making across the city of Sheffield and beyond
- Goal 3 Creating: enrich Sheffield's cultural vibrancy through shaping a high-quality classical music offer
- Goal 4 Building: actively support the vision to develop a physical home for classical music-making in Sheffield

Charitable objects

The objects of the CIO as set out in the Constitution are *'to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the Trustees think fit, including the presentation of festivals, events, public concerts and recitals'*.

2. Public benefit

Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 requires trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The trustees conduct an annual review of the public benefit derived from Classical Sheffield activities and are pleased to report that, despite the ongoing complications managing the various restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, they have met this duty, the benefit being derived from the classical music events detailed in this report.

Members of the public have access to a high-quality website that is a 'one-stop shop' with regards to classical music-making across the city. All Classical Sheffield's public information is written in plain, easy-to-understand English to enable anyone who is curious about classical music to find out more about what is on in the city and how to experience it.

Classical Sheffield continues to encourage voluntary and young music-making groups across Sheffield to collaborate with one another and with a range of musicians, performing a diverse repertoire of works, old and new, conventional and innovative.

Anyone based in and around Sheffield who is committed to the development and celebration of classical music in its widest definition can become a member of Classical Sheffield, whether an individual or a member of another group or organisation. Annual membership fees, which help support the operation of the CIO and deliver its programme, were collected for the first time in January 2018 and have been set as low as possible to enable anyone to become a member. Individuals or groups who lack the funds to become members are offered support to do so on a case-by-case basis.

Membership fees reflect the size of participating groups and organisations, and for 2021-22 were £1.50 per person, per year, with a minimum fee of £24 and a maximum of £150 (£5 minimum and £50 maximum for youth groups). Promoter members paid 0.54% of their annual income but with a similar minimum of £24 and a maximum of £150.

In return for their subscription, members are able to promote concerts, groups and organisations on the Classical Sheffield website, which has around 2,500 visitors per month in a normal year. Their events are also included in weekly listing bulletins and feature in Classical Sheffield social media, and of course all members are able to participate in festivals and events.

3 Governance, structure and management

3.1 Governing document

Classical Sheffield officially became a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) on 4 January 2017 and was entered onto the Register of Charities. It had previously been a limited company (number 10264934), incorporated 6 July 2016 and terminated 4 April 2017, with all assets and bank accounts transferred to Classical Sheffield, CIO.

The Constitution, drawn up on 16 December 2016, is based on the Charity Commission's model constitution for a CIO with voting members other than Trustees (the 'Association' model). The Constitution was accepted at the first AGM on 23 March 2018, and can only be amended at a meeting of the members; there have been no amendments to date.

3.2 Organisational structure

Any member of Classical Sheffield may seek election to the Board of Trustees, as long as they are eligible under Charity Commission requirements. Trustees will normally be elected at the AGM, but may also be appointed by the existing Trustees during the course of the year. A Trustee Pack is sent to each Trustee following election; guidance documents produced by the Charity Commission help them to understand and meet their responsibilities as Trustees of a CIO.

The Trustees plan what Classical Sheffield does, ensuring it benefits the public by meeting its charitable objects. They are helped by subgroups, each with specific remit and agreed Terms of Reference, led by a Chair who is a Trustee but with membership drawn from the Classical Sheffield members and member groups. The Board of Trustees annually review the purpose and longevity of subgroups.

The Trustees are responsible for appointing freelance officers to enable Classical Sheffield to meet its charitable objectives. In 2022 these were the Classical Sheffield Coordinator, Digital Marketing Officer and Web Developer. The Trustees are extremely grateful for the commitment and hard work of these individuals, who are listed in section 10 of this report.

4 Activities, achievements and future plans

4.1 Activities and Achievements

In July 2021 the country was still in partial lockdown, with social distancing still very much in place, and even more frustratingly for many Classical Sheffield members, non-professional singing groups were still not allowed to rehearse and perform indoors. The need for reduced audience capacity combined with the need to sit further apart in rehearsals made life very difficult for all groups, with the need to rehearse in larger, more expensive venues, while not able to perform to the large audiences required in order to offset these costs. Individual members of groups were also understandably anxious at being inside with large groups of people given the ongoing risk of infection. In addition, over Christmas 2021 a new COVID variant rampaged through the country and led to restrictions being reimposed. For these reasons, many groups did not reconvene until spring 2022.

However, Classical Sheffield supported members through providing information on the website for different/new rehearsal venues for those that needed to move somewhere with more space.

As concerts started happening again, the weekly e-mail newsletter was restarted in autumn 2021, informing subscribers of events that were happening as well as the latest news, and planning started in earnest for Classical Weekend 2023.

Classical Sheffield organised pop up events in the Winter Garden and in Sheffield Central Library Reading Room as part of a Sheffield Festival Showcase Weekend on Saturday 4 September, giving members an opportunity to perform for the first time in over 18 months. This was welcomed by several groups who took part, and perhaps it was appropriate that the opening piece performed by the first group in Winter Garden, Octogenesis, was one that had gone viral during lockdown, The Wellerman! Groups of up to 50 people stayed and engaged with the performances in Winter Garden over the course of the afternoon, and in the Library many people sat or stood to listen to the music. Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra also opened its doors for an open rehearsal. Many commented how wonderful it was to hear live music again and they were really enjoying listening.

At Christmas further pop-up performances were organised for the Central Library foyer, again with many passers-by stopping to listen, and even singing along to the carols. The Steel City Choristers also braved the weather to perform to shoppers on The Moor.



Sinsontes performing in Sheffield Central Library, 11 December 2021

In May 2022 the Sheffield Chamber Music Festival, organised by Music in the Round, was live for the first time in three years. As part of this, Classical Sheffield members were invited to take part in it by performing in the Winter Garden and around the city. They really helped to bring a buzz to the centre of the city, bringing live classical music-making to passers-by and adding to the overall Festival feel alongside other events in the Crucible Theatre.

Digital engagement

As music-making gradually moved from being online to live during the year, no specific digital assets were created, and instead traffic increased to the Classical Sheffield website about events. Many new people also engaged with the website, demonstrating how important it is to members and public alike for sharing information, which is also clear from the huge increase in number of page views. Statistics and information for the year as follows (with comparison in brackets):

- 21,371 Visitors between July 21-July 22 (45% increase)
- 21,039 New Users (81% increase)
- 30,129 Sessions on the website (114% increase)
- 72,427 Page Views (168% increase)
- 1,780 Average Monthly Visitors (33 % increase)
- Most clicked on page 'Events' (same as previous year)
- The top ways people are coming to the website are: Google Search / Direct Links / Facebook
- 353 Events uploaded by members in this period, which is a huge increase on the previous year due to the pandemic

More people are engaging with Classical Sheffield on social media and the e-newsletter:

- Facebook: 1,107 Likes (6.3% increase)
- Facebook: 1,252 follows (8.6% increase)
- Twitter: 1,569 (2.4% increase)
- Email: 1,108 subscribers (6.2% increase)
- On average, 425 (35% of subscribers) open and engage with the weekly newsletter. This has increased since 2020-21, and is also above average for such communication (21.3%), showing that the newsletter continues to be of interest to subscribers.

There were no videos uploaded to the Classical Sheffield YouTube channel, so activity was minimal on this compared to 2020-21, as to be expected.

4.2 Future Plans

Another Sheffield Festival Showcase Weekend in September 2022 gave groups an opportunity to perform to the passing public in the Winter Garden again, and further pop-up events are planned for the run up to Christmas, which will be used to promote Classical Sheffield's forthcoming Festival Weekend.

Plans for the Classical Weekend 17-19 March 2023 moved forward, led by the Coordinator, the Working Group and trustees. The themes of Females, Families and Fusion are inspiring groups with programming, under the over-arching theme of collaboration. Many members are working together on joint concerts or sharing performance slots, and it is hoped that these links will continue after the

Festival in the long-term as a legacy of the 10th anniversary weekend celebrating live music-making across the city.

Planned events feature a combination of concerts organised by member groups as part of their regular season alongside events coordinated by Classical Sheffield to support those who have less resources or capacity to present public performances. Highlights include appearances from The Hallé, Ensemble 360, Sheffield Bach Choir, a joint choir event with arrangements of songs by Kate Rusby and a performance of Mahler Symphony No.2 in Sheffield City Hall by Sheffield Philharmonic Choir, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Hallam Choral Society and Hallam Sinfonia. Sheffield Philharmonic Choir is also leading on a composition competition for young people during autumn 2022, and the winner of this will have their piece performed at the start of the event at City Hall on Sunday 19 March.

4.3 Thanks

It has been another difficult year for many, so thanks are due to many people who have kept live music-making going in tricky circumstances. The trustees of Classical Sheffield are dedicated to the organisation and have been wonderful throughout the year. In 2022 the trustees were joined by Nick Potter and Georgina Hulse, and we are delighted to welcome them on board. Nick is passionate about electronic music alongside his role running musical events for The University of Sheffield, and Georgina is heavily involved as a singer and choral conductor in the city.

I would like to thank the members of the Finance & Fundraising Group for being so supportive during the year, keeping on top of the finances and governance, especially the hard-working Treasurer Michael Buxton and Anne Adams. Thanks are also due to Anne Adams, Sophie Anderson, Kate Shipway and Rose Wilcox, the Coordinator, for giving so much of their time and energy to the Working Group. Rose has been absolutely fantastic throughout the year, juggling fundraising applications and planning events alongside developing relationships with long-standing members and encouraging new groups to join as we emerge from the pandemic.

Jo Towler, Chair, October 2022

5 Thanks to funders, supporters, and members

Thanks are due to the generous organisations and individuals who fund and support our activities, especially Sheffield City Council for continuing to support us during another challenging year.

Special thanks are of course also due to our member groups and individuals and our Associates, without whose passionate commitment to classical music in Sheffield, none of the achievements and performances listed in this report would be possible. Members as at 5 July 2022:

Abbeydale Singers, Abbeydale Strings, Albion Choir, Andrew Thompson, Bakewell Choral Society, Bradfield Festival of Music, Brigantes Orchestra, Candlelight Concerts, City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra, COMA Sheffield, Concerteenies, Crescent Records, David Clover Festival of Singing, Elizabeth Charlesworth, Emma Hardy, Ensemble 360, Escafeld Chorale, First Position Strings, Fox Valley Voices, George Morton, Hallam Choral Society, Hallam Sinfonia, Hyuk Namkoong, Karou Bingham, Lucy Phillips, Lucy Phillips & Jonny Ingall, Music in the Round, Octogenesis, Opera on Location, Philip Colin, Platform 4, Quintaphonics, Ray Kohn (St Andrew's Festival), Robert Webb, Sheffield Bach Society, Sheffield Brass Network, Sheffield Chamber Choir, Sheffield Chamber Orchestra, Sheffield City Trust (City Hall), Sheffield Lydian Singers, Sheffield Music Academy, Sheffield Music Hub, Sheffield Oratorio Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Sheffield Singers, Sheffield Symphony Orchestra, Sheffield Theatres, Sheffield U3A A Cappella Singers, Sheffield University Singers' Society, Sheffield Viola Ensemble,

Sheffield Youth Orchestra, Singing In..., Sinsontes, St Marie's Cathedral Concerts, St Matthew's Carver Street, Sonority, Stannington Mixed Choir, Steel City 5, Steel City Choristers, Sterndale Singers, The City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir, The Endcliffe Orchestra, The Sheffield Chorale, The Singers, The University of Sheffield Concerts, Thurgoland Community Choir, Viva Voce Chamber Choir, Vivacity Choir, Waldershelf Singers, Westside Singers, Whirlow Spirituality Centre

Members who joined in August 2022:

Black Velvet Clarinet Quartet, DAB Music, Sheffield Cathedral, Sheffield City Hall

We remain committed to providing opportunities for participation in high quality, accessible classical music both new and old, conventional and innovative, for increasing numbers of people from every part of Sheffield, so that our city truly experiences '*more music in more places with more people*'.

6 Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements and annual report in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. The Charities Act 2011 and Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods of and principles in the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

7 Financial Review (6 July 2021 to 5 July 2022)

7.1 Overview

The year ending 5 July 2022 has been another difficult year for Classical Sheffield, its members and the performing arts in general, due to the impact of the continued coronavirus pandemic, particularly at the start of the year. As a result, Classical Sheffield membership numbers were down compared with pre-pandemic levels. Members of choirs, singing groups and orchestral ensembles were still suffering from not returning to full strength or not having concerts at the beginning of the year. However, subscriptions did total just over 90% including several new members who were encouraged to join Classical Sheffield by our Coordinator. In addition to the membership subscriptions of £4,028, we were grateful for the continued support from Sheffield City Council who awarded us a further grant of £3,000. We also received a few small donations through Virgin Money Giving and Amazon Smile, giving us a total income of £7,058.

The expenditure for this year includes the normal annual running costs for the Digital Manager, insurance, the independent examination, and the new part-time Coordinator, totalling £7,290 and leaving us with a shortfall of just £232. However, it must be stressed that the extra cost of employing the Coordinator has been invaluable, as one of her main tasks was to start organising the Weekend Festival in March 2023. Also, as already mentioned, she has encouraged new members to join Classical Sheffield, as well as coordinating the Sheffield Showcase Weekend in September 2022.

Our closing balance at the year-end for the Current Account was £8,370 and for the Premium Account £6,015, totalling £14,385.

5.2 Year on Year Comparison

The financial strategy of the charity is to accept that there may be a need to carry forward a surplus during years where there has been a festival and a deficit in other years when Classical Sheffield plan small fringe events. As there was no festival in March 2022, this year our Coordinator arranged, in association with Music in the Round, for our members to take part in the Sheffield Chamber Music Festival in the Winter Garden. This was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by all the members taking part, the public and the guests staying at the Mercure Hotel that overlooks the Winter Garden.

5.3 Risk Management

The Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy and have worked together to identify and mitigate the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Trustees regularly review these risks, including an annual review of organisational and financial risk, and are committed to monitoring a risk register and to continually improving the management of Classical Sheffield.

5.4 Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually and is summarised here. Reserves may be needed to:

- enable Classical Sheffield to manage an unexpected need for funds, eg to enable a project to be moved forward quickly, or to secure a pre-event commitment.
- cover unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example, employing temporary staff to cover sickness absence of contracted staff, or replacing staff who suddenly leave.
- make up for a shortfall in income for particular projects where the income is already committed.
- provide funds needed to enable an orderly closure in the event of a decision to wind up Classical Sheffield.

Classical Sheffield has, and aims to maintain, a reserve of £9,000. Trustees aim to do this by prudent financial management, including seeking low-cost options wherever appropriate, reviewing the charity's financial position at every Board meeting, and planning and delivering events within the budget restrictions agreed in advance.

5.5 Investment Powers and Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees deem appropriate.

5.6 Fixed Assets

The charity has no fixed assets.

8 Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Classical Sheffield for the year ended 5 July 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Classical Sheffield, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Classical Sheffield as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Craig Williamson
White Rose Accounting for Charities
The Ghyll, Threaplan, Aspatia,
CA7 2EL

Date: 2 November 2022

9. Financial Statements

9.1 Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

Year ended 5 July 2022

		5 July 2022	5 July 2021
		Total funds	Total funds
INCOME	Notes	£	£
Donations and legacies	2	4,057	3,279
Charitable activities	3	-	-
Investments	4	1	1
Grants		3,000	6,000
Total		7,058	9,280
EXPENDITURE ON	6		
Raising funds			
Charitable activities		7,290	3,376
Event Video			950
Total		7,290	4,326
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(232)	4,955
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		14,492	9,537
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		14,260	14,492

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

9.2 Balance Sheet

Year ended 5 July 2022

		5 July 2022	5 Jul 2021
		Total funds	Total funds
		£	£
	Notes		
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		14,385	14,617
		<u>14,385</u>	<u>14,617</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	8		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(125)	(125)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>14,260</u>	<u>14,492</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		14,260	14,492
NET ASSETS		<u>14,260</u>	<u>14,492</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		14,260	14,492
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>14,260</u>	<u>14,492</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 19 October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



M Buxton –Trustee



Jo Towler – Chair

The notes form part of these financial statements

9.3 Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 5 July 2022

9.3.1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

9.3.1.1 Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in Oct2019.

Classical Sheffield constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

9.3.1.2 Cash flow statement

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in the Charities SORP from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is a small charity with a turnover of less than £500,000.

9.3.1.3 Income

Income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is deemed to be probable, and the amount can be measured reliably. This includes receipt of membership subscriptions by member organisations where these are, in substance, donations rather than payment for goods or services, and grants of a general, non-contractual nature provided by government and charitable foundations.

9.3.1.4 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category.

9.3.1.5 Taxation

No provision has been made for taxation as the entity is a public benefit entity, which is exempt from UK direct taxation on its charitable activities.

9.3.1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. Income received for restricted funds is subject to specific conditions imposed by the donor or has been raised by the company for particular purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by trustees for particular purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued
9.3.2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	5 July 2022	5 July 2021
	£	£
Donations	30	135
Grants	3,000	6,000
Subscriptions	4,028	3,145
Ongoing activities	-	-
	7,058	9,280
Grants received:		
Sheffield City Council	3,000	6,000
Arts Council England	-	-
D'Oyly Carte Trust	-	-
Foyle Foundation	-	-
Freshgate Trust Foundation	-	-
Golsoncott Foundation	-	-
Radcliffe Trust	-	-
	3,000	6,000

9.3.3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2022	5 July 2021
	£	£
Ticket sales	-	-

9.3.4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	5 July 2022	5 July 2021
	£	£
Deposit account interest	1	1

9.3.5. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	5 July 2022	5 July 2021
	£	£
Cost of fundraiser	-	-

9.3.6. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2022	5 July 2021
	£	£
Direct Costs	6,930	3,970
Support Costs (including governance costs)	360	356
	<u>7,290</u>	<u>4,326</u>

9.3.7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

While acting in the capacity of a Trustee, no person received remuneration or reimbursement of expenses for the period ending 5 July 2022. No Trustee received payment for professional or other services provided to the charity. There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ending 5 July 2022.

9.3.8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5 July 2022	5 July 2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Other creditors	125	125
	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>

9.3.9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance At 6 July 2021	Income	Expenditure	Balance At 5 July 2022
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General	14,492	7,058	(7,290)	14,260
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>14,492</u>	<u>7,058</u>	<u>(7,290)</u>	<u>14,260</u>

	Balance At 6 July 2020	Income	Expenditure	Balance At 5 July 2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	9,537	9,280	(4,326)	14,492
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>9,537</u>	<u>9,280</u>	<u>(4,326)</u>	<u>14,492</u>

9.3.10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 5 July 2022

10 CIO information - reference and administrative details**10.1 Registered Charity Number**

1170970

10.2 Principal address

4th floor, Sheffield Central Library
Sheffield, S1 1XZ, England

10.3 Trustees

Anne Adams
Ruth Bacon
Michael Buxton (Treasurer)
Elizabeth Charlesworth
Bill Clarke
Georgina Hulse (elected January 2022)
Jess O'Neill
Nick Potter (elected January 2022)
Judith Sunderland
Jo Towler (Chair)
Robert Webb

10.4 Administrator

Rose Wilcox

10.5 Independent Examiner

Craig Williamson, White Rose Accounting for Charities,
The Ghyll, Threapland, Aspatria, CA7 2EL

10.6 Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HN

10.7 Freelance officers

Classical Sheffield Coordinator: Rose Wilcox (from 21 July 2021)
Digital Marketing Officer: Alexandra Burns
Web Developer: Ian Parr

Accounts



**Classical
Sheffield**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
5 July 2021**

Registered Charity Number: 1170970

Report of the Trustees

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3.1 Governing document

Classical Sheffield officially became a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) on 4 January 2017 and was entered onto the Register of Charities. It had previously been a limited company (number 10264934), incorporated 6 July 2016 and terminated 4 April 2017, with all assets and bank accounts transferred to Classical Sheffield, CIO.

The Constitution, drawn up on 16 December 2016, is based on the Charity Commission's model constitution for a CIO with voting members other than Trustees (the 'Association' model). The Constitution was accepted at the first AGM on 23 March 2018, and can only be amended at a meeting of the members; there have been no amendments to date.

3.2 Organisational structure

Any member of Classical Sheffield may seek election to the Board of Trustees, as long as they are eligible under Charity Commission requirements. Trustees will normally be elected at the AGM, but may also be appointed by the existing Trustees during the course of the year. A Trustee Pack is sent to each Trustee following election; guidance documents produced by the Charity Commission help them to understand and meet their responsibilities as Trustees of a CIO.

The Trustees plan what Classical Sheffield does, ensuring it benefits the public by meeting its charitable objects. They are helped by a series of subgroups, each with specific remit and agreed Terms of Reference, led by a Chair who is a Trustee but with membership drawn from the Classical Sheffield members and member groups. The purpose and longevity of subgroups are reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees.

The Trustees are responsible for appointing freelance officers to enable Classical Sheffield to meet its charitable objectives. In 2021 these were the Classical Sheffield Coordinator, Digital Marketing Officer and Web Developer. During 2021 the Coordinator role was expanded to include administration, and a new Coordinator appointed following a move across the Pennines by the previous post-holder. The Trustees are extremely grateful for the commitment and hard work of these individuals, who are listed in section 10 of this report.

4 Activities, achievements and future plans

4.1 Activities and Achievements

In the autumn of 2020, some members managed to rehearse in person and a couple even presented concerts in October, but the majority either remained online or didn't get together. However, the second lockdown from November onwards meant that any plans for music-making in late autumn and winter were again postponed.

Having taken the decision in summer 2020 to postpone Classical Weekend 2021, in the autumn it was agreed that even March 2022 felt very soon for groups in such challenging times and uncertainty as to when any live events would be able to take place again, so the next Classical Weekend will take place 17-19 March 2023.

Instead, to replace Classical Weekend 2021, Classical Sheffield commissioned the creation of a video montage featuring its members, which was released on what would have been the first day of that weekend, Friday 17 March 2021. The Coordinator led on this activity, working with local conductor and arranger George Morton, to create a 'Steel City Celebration' montage video in which everyone involved with Classical Sheffield was invited to take part. Although some larger groups have created videos during the year, it was felt appropriate to arrange a participatory event in which all groups could take part. The final 4-minute video featured over 140 people, representing more than 20 member groups in the city, and has been viewed nearly 1,500 times.

On 17 May 2021, orchestras and instrumental ensembles were allowed to rehearse and perform together again, as were professional choirs. However, non-professional singing groups were not, which had a massive impact on many members of Classical Sheffield for whom singing together is such an important part of their lives and supports well-being. Some groups met outside; others met in groups of six indoors, but this unexpected turn of events resulting in hundreds of thousands of people across the country not being able to sing together hit the national news. Classical Sheffield was in touch with local media to highlight the impact on its members, which led to a feature article in early June in the Sheffield Telegraph about the unfairness of the situation and added to the national discourse on the issue: <https://www.sheffieldtelegraph.co.uk/news/people/sheffield-amateur-choirs-call-for-change-to-illogical-covid-guidance-pressing-pause-on-their-rehearsals-3257789>

Online activity

Classical Sheffield resumed sending out an email update on a weekly basis in summer 2020, informing members and subscribers of musical activity online as well as providing updates with the latest guidance from the UK Government, DCMS and Making Music. Classical Sheffield was also active on social media, engaging with groups as they created any musical activity, and continued to make good use of the 'digital concerts' section on its website, created the previous year for members to advertise their online events.

Website

- 14,689 visitors from July 2020 – July 2021 (2019-20: 28,670)
- 27,024 page views (5% year-on-year increase)
- 1,335 visitors on average each month (2019-20: 2,400)
- Most clicked on page during the year: 'Events'

Social Media

- Facebook: 1,041 likes (4% increase year-on-year)
- Facebook: 1,152 followers (6% increase year-on-year)
- Twitter: 1,532 followers (3% increase year-on-year)
- YouTube: 160 subscribers (virtually no subscribers in 2019-20)
- YouTube: Most watched video: Steel City Celebrations with 1,470 views

Email newsletter

- 1,063 subscribers (decrease of 0.7%)
- 400 people open and actively engage with the newsletter on an average weekly basis (around 32% of subscribers)

These statistics show that people are continuing to engage with Classical Sheffield. The number of subscribers that opens the weekly email newsletter is much higher than the industry average of 20%, showing that its content appeals to those who receive it. The slight drop in subscribers is disappointing, but mostly from people moving away from the area.

The lack of events impacted on the number of people visiting the website, yet there were more page views, showing that people were returning to look at certain pages throughout the year, probably linked to Covid updates and resources. Social media interaction showed only a slight increase – again due to lack of events – and we hope this will increase over the next 18 months as we build towards the Classical Weekend 2023, as well as the number of email subscribers.

In addition to featuring members' digital events, the Classical Sheffield website continued to support its members by including guides for how to return to rehearsals and live music-making in a COVID-secure manner. As well as official guidance, insights are provided by case studies from local groups that have returned to music-making. The website also gives other resources, such as details of venues where groups are able to rehearse in Sheffield in a safe, well-ventilated setting.

A new, closed Facebook group was created for members to connect with each other and share information on rehearsal venues as well as a starting point for future collaborations. It is hoped this group will grow as plans for Classical Weekend 2023 start to come together, as well as a way for more members to be in direct touch with each other rather than just through each group's one representative.

There has been a long-standing campaign by both individual and organisation members of Classical Sheffield to encourage venues become more accessible for people who are d/Deaf or have hearing loss, especially when listening to acoustic music. Such lobbying has been successful, with both Sheffield City Hall and Upper Chapel recently installing new audio induction loops that have improved the concert-going experience for anyone who needs assistance with hearing.

4.2 Future Plans

The trustees amalgamated the roles of Coordinator and Administrator into one role in early 2021, as it was felt having just one point of contact for members with Classical Sheffield, rather than two, would make life more straightforward for everyone. Following the departure of Katie Williamson, Rose Wilcox was appointed to this new role in summer 2021, and has already been busy organising activity for members as restrictions on performing have reduced.

A Sheffield Festival Showcase Weekend (3-6 September) was an opportunity for all the cancelled and postponed festivals of the last 18 months to come together and bring Sheffield city centre to life. Classical Sheffield members performed in Winter Garden and Sheffield Central Library reading room, and Sheffield Philharmonic opened its doors to guests as it rehearsed in Victoria Hall.

Plans for Classical Weekend 2023 are also being reignited, picking up on the threads of discussions for plans for the 2021 Weekend. To facilitate this, a Working Group of five people has been created, led by the Classical Sheffield Chair and including the Coordinator, trustees and external advisors, to move ideas and plans forward in a timely fashion. The aim is for fundraising for Classical Weekend 2023 to begin in autumn 2021, with venues booked and some concerts for 17-19 March already in place with member groups. Planning further in advance in this way should enable more and better fundraising to happen, more groups to be involved, more collaboration and better marketing and promotion of the 10th anniversary Weekend.

As well as the over-arching theme of COLLABORATION for Classical Weekend 2023, three more focused themes have been agreed:

- Females
- Families
- Fusion

These will be used to ignite ideas from members as to the music they could perform in the Festival as well as focusing on important aspects of music-making. Females in the music industry have long been overlooked as composers, conductors and performers, so we see our 10th anniversary Weekend as an opportunity to provide a platform for female music-makers past and present.



Octogenesis performing in the Winter Garden, 5 September 2021

Families is a broad topic, which will include events for and by young people and their grown ups as well as thinking about families of composers and groups of performers. The third theme, Fusion, encourages thinking about music-making in its widest sense, opening the way to collaboration with communities and music-makers from all across Sheffield, not just classical music but brass bands, Indian, Romany and many other musical traditions that thrive in Sheffield.

Over the next 18 months Classical Sheffield will reach out to its members and beyond to broaden the scope of the Festival, providing opportunities for members to perform out and about in the city. More Music in More Places for More People is not just about the Festival, but our ongoing aim, and by performing live music in libraries across the city, in the Winter Garden and even in the Moor Market to Christmas shoppers, we can give members a chance to perform after being silent for so long as well as brightening the lives of people across Sheffield.

Invaluable continuing support from Sheffield City Council enables the Coordinator to lead on this activity, and we are excited about what this role will lead to over the next few years for our members and people across Sheffield.

The Finance & Fundraising Sub-group will continue to meet regularly to ensure that Classical Sheffield is in a position to produce a fantastic 10th anniversary Classical Weekend in 2023.

4.3 Thanks

It has been a torrid time for many since the COVID-19 pandemic hit the UK in March 2020. I would like to thank all the trustees, and the member volunteers on the various sub-groups, for their time and effort to keep Classical Sheffield going as well as managing the stresses and strains of their own lives. A special thanks to Mark Sutherland, who stepped down as Vice-chair in February 2021 after hugely supporting the charity with its business planning.

It was great to see new trustees joining us during the year to help guide Classical Sheffield through trying times and into the future, so we are delighted to welcome Elizabeth and Jess to the board. Elizabeth has many years of experience as both performer and festival organiser from which we will no doubt benefit; and Jess ensures that young people have a voice within Classical Sheffield with her role at Sheffield Music Academy, as well as being an experienced fundraiser.

Huge thanks are due to Kate Shipway for giving us her time and expertise as our Administrator, working on an entirely voluntary basis to help keep everything in order. Thanks as always to the Finance & Fundraising Group for keeping a close eye on Classical Sheffield finances and governance during such a challenging year, and especially to the Group's Chair, Anne Adams, and our excellent Treasurer Michael Buxton. I would also like to thank Anne Adams, Sophie Anderson, Kate Shipway and Katie Williamson for being willing to be members of the Working Group for Classical Weekend 2023 and to drive it forward.

Jo Towler, Chair, November 2021

5 Thanks to funders, supporters and members

Special thanks are due to the generous organisations and individuals who fund and support our activities, especially Sheffield City Council for continuing to support us during a challenging year.

Special thanks are of course also due to our member groups and individuals (and Associates for 2021), without whose passionate commitment to classical music in Sheffield, none of the achievements and performances listed in this report would be possible.

Abbeydale Singers, Abbeydale Strings, Andrew Thompson, Annabelle Lawson, Bradfield Festival of Music, Brigantes Orchestra, City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra, COMA Sheffield, Concerteenies, David Clover Festival of Singing, David M Brothers, Dore Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Elizabeth Charlesworth, Ensemble 360, Escafeld Chorale, First Position Strings, Fox Valley Voices, Hallam Choral Society, Hallam Sinfonia, Hyuk Namkoong, in:spire, Karou Bingham, Lucy Phillips, Lucy Phillips & Jonny Ingall, Music in the Round, Octogenesis, Opera on Location, Peter Fagerlind, Philip Colin, Platform 4, Quintaphonics, Ray Kohn (St Andrew's Festival), Robin Ireland, Sheffield Bach Society, Sheffield Brass Network, Sheffield Chamber Choir, Sheffield Chamber Orchestra, Sheffield City Trust (City Hall), Sheffield Flute Choir, Sheffield Lydian Singers, Sheffield Music Academy, Sheffield Music Hub, Sheffield Oratorio Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, Sheffield Symphony Orchestra, Sheffield U3A A Cappella Singers, Sheffield University Singers' Society, Sheffield Viola Ensemble, Sheffield Youth Orchestra, Singing In..., Sinsontes, St Marie's Cathedral Concerts, St Matthew's Carver Street, Stannington Mixed Choir, Steel City Choristers, Sterndale Singers, The City of Sheffield Teachers' Choir, The Endcliffe Orchestra, The Sheffield Chorale, The University of Sheffield Concerts, Viva Voce Chamber Choir, Vivacity Choir, Waldershelf Singers, Westside Singers, Whirlow Spirituality Centre

We remain committed to providing opportunities for participation in high quality, accessible classical music both new and old, conventional and innovative, for increasing numbers of people from every part of Sheffield, so that our city truly experiences *'more music in more places with more people'*.

6 Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements and annual report in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. The Charities Act 2011 and Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods of and principles in the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

7 Financial Review

7.1 Overview

The year ending 5 July 2021 has been a difficult year for Classical Sheffield, its members and the performing arts in general, due to the impact of the continued coronavirus pandemic.

As a result, Classical Sheffield only received 83% of the full membership subscriptions as we lost a number of members and a few who were unable to pay due to having no income in the past year. These were made Associate Members. In addition to the membership subscriptions, we were grateful for the support from Sheffield City Council who awarded us two grants totalling £6,000, and we also received a private donation through Virgin Money Giving, giving us a total income of £9,280.

The expenditure for this year includes the normal annual running costs for the Digital Manager, insurance, website maintenance and the independent examination of the accounts, totalling to £3,376. With the cancellation of the 2021 bi-annual festival, CS invited all members to take part in making a 'Steel City Celebrations' special video. This was a professionally produced video that was a huge success and at a very modest cost of just £950. Also due to the cancellation of the 2021 Festival, we were able to save on the organisational costs, which will be carried forward to plan for the March 2023 Weekend festival. We have therefore transferred £2,000 into the Premium Account.

Our closing balance at the end of the year was £8,603 for the Current Account and £6,014 for the Premium Account.

7.2 Year on Year Comparison

The financial strategy of the charity is to accept that there may be a need to carry forward a surplus during years where there has been a festival and a deficit in other years when Classical Sheffield were planning small fringe events. However, this year, due to the weekend festival being cancelled and we were unable to plan any fringe events, we have carried forward a surplus which we will use to fund the planning costs for the March 2023 weekend festival.

7.3 Risk Management

The Trustees have developed a Risk Management Policy and have worked together to identify and mitigate the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Trustees regularly review risk, including an annual review of organizational and financial risk, and are committed to monitoring a risk register and to continually improving the management of Classical Sheffield.

7.4 Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy is reviewed annually against changes to the company's circumstances and activity and is summarised here. Reserves may be needed to:

- enable Classical Sheffield to manage an unexpected need for funds, eg to enable a project to be moved forward quickly, or to secure a pre-event commitment.
- cover unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example, employing temporary staff to cover sickness absence of contracted staff, or replacing staff who suddenly leave.
- make up for a shortfall in income for particular projects where the income is already committed.
- provide funds needed to enable an orderly closure in the event of a decision to wind up Classical Sheffield.

The charity's aim is therefore to maintain unrestricted funds of £9,000 as working capital to a level that can cover this expenditure, which will also aid cash flow during the quieter months and finance its fundraising activities. The trustees have assessed the company's needs and determined that this minimum is desirable given the uncertainties that currently exist around public funding.

Classical Sheffield is within this target, of which £6,014 is held in a separate savings bank account to the current account. Trustees aim to keep within the target by prudent financial management, including seeking low-cost options wherever appropriate, reviewing the charity's financial position at every Board meeting, and planning and delivering events within the budget restrictions agreed in advance.

7.5 Investment Powers and Policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees deem appropriate.

7.6 Fixed Assets

The charity has no fixed assets.

8 Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Classical Sheffield for the year ended 5 July 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Classical Sheffield, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Classical Sheffield as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Craig Williamson
White Rose Accounting for Charities
The Ghyll, Threaplan, Aspatria,
CA7 2EL

Date: 19 December 2021

9. Financial Statements

9.1 Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

Year ended 5 July 2021

		5 July 2021	5 July 2020
		Total funds	Total funds
INCOME	Notes	£	£
Donations and legacies	2	3,279	3,408
Charitable activities	3	-	-
Investments	4	1	6
Grants		6,000	-
Total		9,280	3,414
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	7		180
Charitable activities	8	3,376	4,738
Event Video		950	-
Total		4,326	4,918
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		4,955	(1,504)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		9,537	11,041
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		14,492	9,537

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

9.2 Balance Sheet

Year ended 5 July 2021

		5 July 2021	5 Jul 2020
		Total funds	Total funds
		£	£
	Notes		
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		14,617	9,662
		<u>14,617</u>	<u>9,662</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	8		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(125)	(125)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>14,492</u>	<u>9,537</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		14,492	9,537
NET ASSETS		<u>14,492</u>	<u>9,537</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		14,492	9,537
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>14,492</u>	<u>9,537</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 24 November 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



M Buxton – Trustee



Jo Towler – Chair

The notes form part of these financial statements

9.3 Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 5 July 2021

9.3.1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

9.3.1.1 Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

Classical Sheffield constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

9.3.1.2 Cash flow statement

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in the Charities SORP from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the organisation is a small charity with a turnover of less than £500,000.

9.3.1.3 Income

Income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is deemed to be probable and the amount can be measured reliably. This includes receipt of membership subscriptions by member organisations where these are, in substance, donations rather than payment for goods or services, and grants of a general, non-contractual nature provided by government and charitable foundations.

9.3.1.4 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category.

9.3.1.5 Taxation

No provision has been made for taxation as the entity is a public benefit entity, which is exempt from UK direct taxation on its charitable activities.

9.3.1.6 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. Income received for restricted funds is subject to specific conditions imposed by the donor or has been

raised by the company for particular purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by trustees for particular purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements continued
9.3.2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	5 July 2021	5 July 2020
	£	£
Donations	135	336
Grants	6,000	-
Subscriptions	3,145	3,072
Ongoing activities	-	-
	9,280	3,408
Grants received:		
Sheffield City Council	6,000	-
Arts Council England	-	-
D'Oyly Carte Trust	-	-
Foyle Foundation	-	-
Freshgate Trust Foundation	-	-
Golsoncott Foundation	-	-
Radcliffe Trust	-	-
	6,000	-

9.3/3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2021	5 July 2020
	£	£
Ticket sales	-	-

9.3.4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	5 July 2021	5 July 2020
	£	£
Deposit account interest	1	6

9.3.5. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	5 July 2021	5 July 2020
	£	£
Cost of fundraising	-	180

9.3.6. COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	5 July 2021	5 July 2020
	£	£
Direct Costs	3,970	4,116
Support Costs (including governance costs)	356	622
	<u>4,326</u>	<u>4,738</u>

9.3.7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

While acting in the capacity of a Trustee, no person received remuneration or reimbursement of expenses for the period ending 5 July 2021. No Trustee received payment for professional or other services provided to the charity. There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ending 5 July 2021.

9.3.8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5 July 2021	5 July 2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	-
Other creditors	125	125
	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>

9.3.9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 6 July 2020	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 5 July 2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General	9,537	9,280	(4,326)	14,492
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>9,537</u>	<u>9,280</u>	<u>(4,326)</u>	<u>14,492</u>
	At 6 July 2019	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 5 July 2020
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	11,041	3,414	(4,918)	9,537
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>11,041</u>	<u>3,414</u>	<u>(4,918)</u>	<u>9,537</u>

9.3.10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 5 July 2021

10 CIO information - reference and administrative details**10.1 Registered Charity Number**

1170970

10.2 Principal address

4th floor, Sheffield Central Library
Sheffield, S1 1XZ, England

10.3 Trustees

Anne Adams
Ruth Bacon
Michael Buxton (Treasurer)
Elizabeth Charlesworth (from 4 August 2020)
Bill Clarke
Sampa Mulenga (resigned 23 March 2021)
Jess O'Neill (from 4 August 2020)
Judith Sunderland
Mark Sutherland (resigned 23 February 2021)
Jo Towler (Chair)
Robert Webb

10.4 Administrator

Kate Shipway (to 20 July 2021)

10.5 Independent Examiner

Craig Williamson, White Rose Accounting for Charities,
The Ghyll, Threapland, Aspatria, CA7 2EL

10.6 Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HN

10.7 Freelance officers

Classical Sheffield Coordinator: Katie Williamson (to 20 July 2021)
Classical Sheffield Coordinator (revised role): Rose Wilcox (from 21 July 2021)
Digital Marketing Officer: Alexandra Burns
Web Developer: Ian Parr