

Wensleydale Concert Series

Registered Charity 1172472

Lairdswood Cottage, Carperby, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 4DB

Telephone: 01969 663026 Email: concerts@wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk

Annual Report 2024

Trustees

Our Trustees during 2024 were:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Carol Haynes | Carperby, Leyburn |
| Elizabeth Sowter | Carperby, Leyburn |
| Jacqueline Simper | Carperby, Leyburn |
| Sir Joseph Pilling | Gayle, Hawes |
| Brian Kershaw | Woodhall, Leyburn |
| Pip Pointon | Aysgarth, Leyburn |

Our 2024 Season

In 2024 we held eight concerts, with our season running from May to September.

Our concerts included several returning artists, often with different ensembles, and some who were new to the series.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 11 th May 2024 | The Jervaulx Singers |
| 15 th June 2024 | Yasmin Rowe and Daniel Grimwood, piano (4 hands) |
| 21 st June 2024 | Nazrin Rashidova, violin, and Daniel Grimwood, piano |
| 6 th July 2024 | Benjamin Frith and Heidi Rolfe, piano (4 hands) |
| 27 th July 2024 | The Herschel Trio |
| 17 th August 2024 | Ashley Fripp, piano |
| 7 th September 2024 | Tango Siempre |
| 21 st September 2024 | Vitaly Pisarenko, piano |

This was a good year in terms of audience numbers.

Finances

Once again we received many donations, some as small top-ups on TicketSource, others as more substantial gifts and concert sponsorship from individuals. We also reclaimed Gift Aid from HMRC for the years 2021 to 2024.

Priorities for 2025/2026 and onwards

At the time of writing our 2026 programme is finalised with a series of six concerts. We have returned to a six concert series following feedback from audience members and focussed on smaller ensembles as finding accommodation for larger groups in 2025 proved more difficult and generated both higher fees and particularly much higher expenses. A reduced number of concerts will also allow us to avoid clashes with other local winter societies.

In late 2019 we received support for 12 months from the Coop Community Fund. This funding was specifically aimed at promoting the series to a wider audience in and around Wensleydale and further developing community links. Some of this funding still remains in our reserves and a few people have taken up the offer of free tickets in return for bringing an audience member with mobility issues and one attended the whole series. We have also used this funding to provide cost free parking at the Yorkshire Dales National Park Visitor Centre at Aysgarth in 2025 and hope to continue this provision into 2026 and beyond. We continue to advertise this support, in person at concerts and in our printed materials.

Carol Haynes
October 2025

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