

CLASSICAL MUSIC ROCKS

England & Wales · Charity number 1185672

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2019-10-07

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

Contact

Address 8 The Avenue
Snettisham
King's Lynn
PE31 7QT

Phone 07972752343

Email peterbarker21@gmail.com

Website cmrschoolswestnorfolk.com

Activities

Objects: FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN THE ARTS, IN THE NORFOLK AREA, BY CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO HEAR CLASSICAL MUSIC. THIS IS TO BE AT SCHOOL, OR AT CONCERTS ELSEWHERE, AT LITTLE OR NO COST

Activities: CMR aims to enable children in Norfolk, Suffolk and surrounding areas to hear live classical music in their school setting, inspire and interest to hear more classical music, encourage them to learn an instrument, provide free short recitals in schools and other venues, create links and initiate community collaborations, and advocate for children to have more access to live classical music.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Norfolk
- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£29,928	£29,125	-	-
2024-03-31	£51,805	£29,310	-	-
2023-03-31	£19,519	£27,877	-	-
2022-03-31	£24,419	£20,546	-	-
2021-03-31	£10,864	£9,772	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PETER MOORE BARKER	Chair	2019-10-07
ADRIAN CARON COSKER		2019-10-07
Andrew Mark John Tyler		2021-10-15
Fiona Jane Mc Govern		2025-02-01
Joanne Edna Sara Rust		2024-09-01
Sarah Cook		2025-02-18

CLASSICAL MUSIC ROCKS

England & Wales - Charity number 1185672

Accounts

**CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 9th AGM OF CLASSICAL MUSIC ROCKS
on TUESDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2025 (4pm)**

Julie Atkins

The single most important event of 24/25 was the appointment of Julie Atkins as Project Manager to take over most of the burdens of the Chair. After a gradual period of orientation during 2025, Julie has shown herself to be a highly capable administrator quickly gaining the respect of schools and musicians. The transfer has been almost seamless. She is a superb communicator and brings skills in diplomacy to this stressful role. Her thorough engagement with the task has enabled CMR to survive, coming out the other side of a very difficult period when closure of the charity seemed almost certain.

For this reason we have been able to deliver another splendid year of the CMR schools programme which included our most successful Big Zoom to date with 80 schools tuned in. Julie managed the whole process.

In 2026/27 Julie will lead the organisation. I will continue to offer advice and support with such frequency as is required. I will not be in a supervisor role and Julie will be accountable to the Trustees.

Trustees

It is important that Trustees offer Julie support on a regular basis thus ensuring that she is not isolated in coping with the complexities of CMR. Willingness to attend certain important meetings by zoom with key stakeholders would be much appreciated.

We have made valuable appointments in both Jo Rust and Fiona Mc Govern who bring formidable experience to their role. Many thanks to our departing Trustees, including our superbly reliable and committed Treasurer, Adrian Cosker (leaving April 26) and Hugh Hawkins (November 25) who helped to keep us above water in 24/25. Meanwhile our long serving journalist, classical music commentator and Alderman, Andy Tyler, is staying on board.

We need to rebuild our team in 2026 so that we remain a team of 6. A new Treasurer is a priority.

We need a current Trustee to move into the largely symbolic role of Chair.

Due to banking procedures and convoluted bureaucracy, it is quite likely that there may be a need for residual assistance from departing Trustees until we are 100% sure we can pay our musicians.

Funding

CMR has continued to be precariously funded as a direct result of West Norfolk as a whole not being prepared to offer more than minimal support. The expansion of the Norfolk Music Hub to include Suffolk has not led to any improvement in the size of our commission which remains at £9,000 pa. As a result we are now in a degree of conflict with managers who keep a low glass ceiling in place. News next year I hope.

Nevertheless, our direction of travel has to be to make modest moves into areas outside West Norfolk and into Suffolk, (see strategy document already issued) which will result in a shift away from our valued main base. A reduction to two visits to selected schools will also take place from April 26.

However, due to continued efforts by CMR to maintain income we can confidently say that our funds at bank will help us to deliver our full programme until April and beyond. Our 10th AGM is a strong possibility! I will continue to assist Julie in regard to fund raising if needed.

Ambitions to expand

As noted above, expansion geographically is a necessity, whilst building on the success of our recent zoom is a top priority. We also aim to create a trial high quality recording of a CMR duo, to be made available to all schools on a private YouTube channel. This may be achievable late in 2026. The high cost of £6,000 will require specific funding, but not at the expense of live visits to schools.

Musicians

No annual report is complete without praising our exceptional team of 12 musicians. Yu-Wei Hu, a stalwart since 2017, has excelled in her performances as a baroque flute soloist, though her work with Johan Lofving (theorbo) has also been a real delight. Siobhain O'Higgins (piano) and Kio Blonz (flute), also recruits from 2017, continue to enthrall children...and teachers. New musicians include Philippa Mo (violin), Emma Purslow (violin) and Sarah Williamson (our newest recruit, clarinettist and former Young Musician of the Year performs in February)

Children

Our informal feedback from schools remains excellent though we have now put to one side our requests for detailed information. Schools are just too busy. It would be good if somehow we could hear the voice of the child. Ideas welcome!

The Place of CMR in the UK

Since the creation of CMR in 2016, I have long wished to find a more mature version of our charity, or even a baby CMR just starting. This would have greatly helped us to plot our path through the numerous difficulties we have faced. But sadly, rather like the Earth, we are a lonely planet! Thus it is all the more extraordinary that potential funders ignore us. Possibly this is due to increasing ignorance about classical music as reflected in the lack of under 70 year olds attending classical concerts.

CMR's great strength since 2016 has been its support by volunteers. Setting up a CMR on the basis of paid staff would cost £20K pa, a fact entirely unrecognised by doubtful funders. We really do tread a lonely path.

PETER BARKER

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of last meeting
3. Matters Arising

- 4. Elections/Confirmation of Trustees and Officers – PB will continue to chair the meeting.**
- 5. Chair’s Report**
- 6. Financial Report by Adrian Cosker**
- 7. Report by Project Manager, Julie Atkins**
- 8. News from schools – Fiona McGovern**
- 9. Safeguarding – comments by JA. Sharing of any concerns.**
- 10. Local government changes – insights from Jo Rust**
- 11. Observations about the media (Andy Tyler)**
- 12. Suggested dates for meeting in 2026. : 24/02, 12/05, 08/09, 10/11 AGM - TBC.**

CMR Accounts Summary prepared for 24/25 AGM and for submission to Charities Commission
 (1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025). Classical Music Rocks charity no 1185672
 2 Pages

Filename: accounts to sign 24 25 updated 19 11 25			
	General	Restricted	TOTALS
CASH RECEIPTS actual			
private donors- monthly	£ 654.00		£ 654.00
grant Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub	£ 9,000.00		£ 9,000.00
HMRC gift aid tax relief	£ 530.93		£ 530.93
other donations/grants:	£ 750.00		£ 750.00
sundry income	-		-
7 and 9 24 guildhall shows+25/26 yr			
Norfolk Comm'y Foundation restricted funds 15000 received for 25/6 year		£ 15,000.00	£ 15,000.00
3992.98 rec and spent in 24/25 for guildhall PLUS 5830 c/f from 23/24 (see below bal c/f)	-	£ 3,992.98	£ 3,992.98
TOTAL RECEIPTS (a) actual	£ 10,934.93	£ 18,992.98	£ 29,927.91
CASH PAYMENTS actual			
artistic director honorarium	£ 810.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,810.00
Admin and mkting director honorarium	£ -		£ -
School events:	£ -		£ -
payment to artistes fees/travel/expenses	£ 16,258.68	£ 626.83	£ 16,885.51
artiste's subsistence (if provided by CMR)	£ 729.29	£ 278.15	£ 1,007.44
mileage and subsistence for Chair/CMR helpers	£ -		£ -
IT website leaflets publicity	£ 514.63		£ 514.63
insurance	£ 397.37		£ 397.37
accommodation paid directly by cmr	£ -		£ -
concerts: inc guildhall	£ -		£ -
artiste's fees		£ 3,340.00	£ 3,340.00
coach hire		£ 3810.00	£ 3,810.00
venue hire and expenses		£ 768.00	£ 768.00
sundry expenses	£ 65.00		£ 65.00
KLF sponsorship	£ 527.00		£ 527.00
travel; for chair	£ -		£ -
TOTAL ACTUAL PAYMENTS(b) (vertically)	£19,301.97	£ 9,822.98	£ 29,124.95
	GENERAL	RESTRICTED	TOTAL
OPENING BANK BAL 01/04/24 b/f	£ 23,479.76	£ 5,830.00	£ 29,309.76
PLUS RECEIPTS(actual)	£ 10,934.93	£ 18,992.98	£ 29,927.91
LESS PAYMENTS (b)	£ (19,301.97)	£ (9,822.98)	£ (29,124.95)
BALANCE to c/f into 2025/6 fin yr ie closing bank balance 31/3/25 of which 15,000 is restricted (to be spent 25/6)	£ 15,112.72	£ 15,000.00	£ 30,112.72
NET (DEFICIT) /SURPLUS FOR YEAR	£ (8,367.04)	£ 9,170.00	£ 802.96

Signed:

Peter Barker Chair CMR DATE:

21/11/25

Signed:

Adrian Cosker Treasurer CMR DATE:

21/11/25

These accounts are certified to be a true and fair account and were presented to trustees on 16 Sept and have been prepared for approval at the Classical Music Rocks (CMR) AGM to be held on 18 November 2025, then to be submitted to the External Examiner in preparation for submission to the Charities Commission. CMR holds no assets, fixed or otherwise, other than at the bank as shown above, and has no liabilities carrying over. All funds carried forward, other than as indicated above, are for the charity's aims of bringing live music to young people and, apart from timing of usage, and are unrestricted beyond that.

The accounts were approved by Trustees at the AGM 18/11/25 and this was minuted.

Signed:

Signed:

Peter Barker Chair CMR

DATE: 21/11/25

Adrian Cosker Treasurer CMR

DATE: 21/11/25

Countersigned by external examiner:

KM Hubbard C.F.F.A.

KENNETH MALCOLM HUBBARD

22/11/25

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Peter Barker Chair CMR DATE:

[Signature] 21/11/25

Signed:

Adrian Cosker Treasurer CMR DATE:

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Signed:



Peter Barker Chair CMR

DATE: 21/11/25

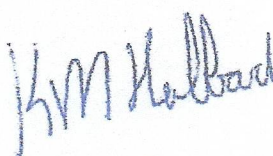
Signed:



Adrian Cosker Treasurer CMR

DATE: 21/11/25

Countersigned by external examiner:

 C.P.F.A.

KENNETH MALCOLM HUBBAS

22/11/25

EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT:

I can confirm, as the external examiner, that on the information provided to me and by best checking sample entries to the accounts - that the accounts for 2024/25 are compliant

During the examination, I recommended to the Treasurer and Chair, that financial procedures needed to be expanded, to help with consistency and to ensure that Office Bearers are aware of their responsibilities.

 C.P.F.A.

11, EASTFIELD CLOSE

GAYWOOD

KINGS LYNN

NORFOLK, PE30 4HQ

22/11/25

CLASSICAL MUSIC ROCKS

England & Wales - Charity number 1185672

Accounts

CHAIR'S REPORT FOR THE 8TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, reviewing our 2023/24 period, OF CLASSICAL MUSIC ROCKS ON 19/11/24 at 4pm (for circulation to Trustees, donors, supporters, sponsors, schools, community organisations and musicians)

The Trustees

2023/24 has been a period of tumult within the charity, marked by resignations of several Trustees. We have just begun to recover but recognise that the age of our managing group leaves us highly vulnerable to closure. We need to replace our Chair as a priority and must look ahead to changing our long serving Treasurer within a year or two, whilst enlarging and widening our group to include more women and locally based members, reflective of the community we serve. It is concerning that that our committee has no representatives from the school sector. *Readers of this report may have suggestions to make.*

The growing burdens of running CMR means that it is no longer possible for the Chair to carry out the bulk of the administration and organisational detail without assistance. To this end the Trustees recently appointed Julie Atkins as our Project Manager. Her prior involvement with CMR over several years suits her well for her role. Julie's training has already commenced and she will take up her freelance role in the near future

The Achievements of CMR

After 8 years it is important to reflect on our achievements since 2016. This is our case for continuing!

From the small number of children reached at our inception, our brilliant team of 12 musicians now perform approximately 30 days of visits per annum. Our Introductions to Classical Music have been enjoyed by 30,000 children mainly in West Norfolk. We expect to achieve 9 - 10,000 child contacts each year, subject to funding. All without cost to schools

Repeat visits to schools have been highly successful in enabling children to enjoy classical music which, by and large, they have not heard before. Our experience is that children tune into classical music with ease and anticipate our visits with a sense of excitement.

Teachers appreciate our visits too. Many years of downgraded music education has led to a serious neglect of 500 years of classical music, leaving most people with little experience of this very important genre.

Alongside our school visits, we have also managed to create a programme of concerts in the community with the aim of reaching those who would not normally attend. These have occurred twice per year from 2017 until 2023 when we endeavoured to continue the outstanding work of the Kings Lynn Music Society with more concerts in the Town Hall, St Nicholas' Chapel and Snettisham Parish church. However, in the post covid era attendance was low and we had decreasing success in reaching children and young people. The Trustees closed the series.

An important benefit of this decision was a refocussing on one of our objectives – to provide free concerts for children. This was achieved this year with two splendid "shows" in which our musicians performed 6 concerts for an audience of 280 children on each occasion, nearly 1,700 in all! The fabulous St George's Guildhall in Kings Lynn was the venue, perfect for the many children who had never experienced a real concert before.

Zooming

During the devastating period of lockdown, CMR musicians adapted to zooming into individual schools and more recently have had several successful on line performances for 1,500 children or more. But there is strong growing evidence of weariness with screens. We are now likely to concentrate more on our in person visits to schools.

Our partnership with the Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub

Norfolk Music Hub has been a key funder of CMR from the outset. In recent years we have appreciated the advantages of being partners with the Hub, which has recently expanded to combine in one Regional Hub for the whole of Norfolk and Suffolk. Very recently, CMR has just made its first bookings with a school in Haverhill, Suffolk.

Safeguarding

The safeguarding of children is a key policy for CMR. We reconsider our procedures each year. All our musicians are DBS checked, have an enhanced check and receive training provided and required by the schools they are attached to. I am pleased to report that in our 8 years of existence there have been no safeguarding incidents of any kind. Musicians perform for audiences of 80 – 150 children and have no individual contact with children. Pictures on our website are of musicians and not children.

We are in contact with Gemma Hampton of the Safer Norfolk Programme to overhaul our policy for the New Year.

Funding

Raising money for CMR has been a stressful and anxiety provoking task from the outset. Our success has depended on being able to book our busy musicians a long way in advance, so we are compelled to gamble that we will raise the money to pay them. Planning programmes has been problematic. To date CMR has been successful through applications to external national charities, though the awareness that usually it is necessary to make 4 applications to achieve one success is burdensome.

Apart from funding by the Music Hub, CMR has been largely unsupported by organisations and public bodies in West Norfolk, though in recent days we have been informed of success with the charity, West Norfolk Lives. We have raised over £100,000 over our 8 years. The Music Hub initially funded us with commissions for £5,000pa and more recently for £8,500. Our audience of children has quadrupled. Regrettably the hot house atmosphere over funding has necessitated the withdrawal of the Chair from this demanding activity.

It is now necessary for public bodies to decide whether CMR should be supported in the long term. Our programme of 30 days of visits, giving 90 Introductions to Classical Music costs £45,000, or approximately £5 per child contact.

The CMR constitution and a need to reconsider our structure

The CMR constitution was given to us by the Charity Commission in October 2019 when we gained charitable status. (no. 1185672). It included our objects: to enable the children of Norfolk to experience classical music and to attend free or low cost concerts in the community.

However, it is not entirely suited to our needs. It was a convenient template. We must revisit this document to make it more relevant to our purposes, including consideration of membership issues. This will be reviewed in the coming months.

The Trustees will also need to consider whether being a charity is still the most appropriate vehicle for supporting our activities. The anxiety caused by fundraising from Charities leads to questions about the viability of continuing with this modus operandi. It is an activity which no one volunteers for and is now almost beyond me. We started life in 2016 as a not-for-profit organisation and there is no reason for not returning to this model though we would rely solely on public bodies to ensure that we have sound finances.

The Future of CMR

Overall, it is clear that, due to the hard work of Trustees and the wonderfully creative contribution from our committed musicians, a great deal has been achieved, providing a platform for further growth in Norfolk and Suffolk. What has been developed since 2016 is ripe for extending elsewhere. CMR has demonstrated conclusively that if children are given the chance to hear classical music, they love it! Let us ensure that as many children as possible can benefit.

After a very successful but challenging first 8 years, the Chair will be choosing to step down from this increasingly stressful role during 2025, planning to remain a Trustee in a purely advisory role, but passing on all administration to our new Project Manager, who will take on much detailed work, liaising with schools and musicians. 2025 will be a crucial year with our new paid freelance staff member helping CMR to become a more cohesive organisation and without dependency on an ultimately unviable volunteer model.

Please do circulate this AGM report which may be of interest to many people and organisations. *And do bear in mind that we need support from new Trustees, someone with financial expertise to sign off our accounts and a new Chair.*

Many thanks to our inspirational team of musicians, to schools whose participation has been crucial and to many others who have shown an interest,

PETER BARKER


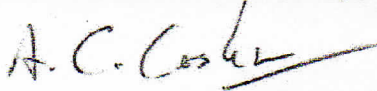
Chair

Classical Music Rocks (2016-2024)

7/10/24

Accounts for CMR 01 04 23 to 31 03 24 CASH receipts	General	Restricted	TOTALS
	Fund £	Fund £	£
private donors- monthly	1,938.00		1,938.00
grant Norfolk Music Hub	9,085.00		9,085.00
from Foyle Foundation	6,000.00		6,000.00
HMRC gift aid tax relief	520.99		520.99
grants from arts organisations	2343.36		2,343.36
from Norfolk Community Foundation Restricted Funds for performance in St George's Guildhall, 2024		5,830.00	5,830.00
grants from charities			-
post code places lottery	25,000.00		25,000.00
Revenue from concerts			
Ticket sales	997.86		997.86
sundry income	89.44		89.44
TOTAL receipts	45,974.65	5,830.00	51,804.65
CASH payments			
artistic director honorarium	2,480.00		2,480.00
Admin and mkting director honorarium	500.00		500.00
School events:			
payment to artistes fees/travel/expenses	17,260.20		17,260.20
artiste's subsistence (if provided by CMR)	1,382.75		1,382.75
mileage and subsistence for Chair/CMR helpers	285.87		285.87
IT website leaflets publicity	1,189.64		1,189.64
insurance	248.04		248.04
concerts: venue hire and expenses	2,412.61		2,412.61
concerts: sundry expenses	194.13		194.13
office hire	52.68		52.68
travel; for chair	38.85		£ 38.85
TOTAL payments	26,044.77	0	26,044.77
(Deficit)/surplus for year	19,929.88	5,830.00	25,759.88
OPENING BALANCES 01/04/ 23 b/f	3,549.88	0	3,549.88
Surplus for 23/24	19,929.88	5,830.00	25,759.88
CLOSING BALANCE 31/3/24 c/f	23,479.76	5,830.00	29,309.76

These accounts are certified to be a true and fair account and were presented to trustees and approved at the Classical Music Rocks (CMR) AGM held on 19/11/2024. CMR holds no assets, fixed or otherwise, other than at the bank as shown above, and has no liabilities carrying over. All funds, other than as indicated above, are for the charity's aims of bringing live music to young people and are unrestricted beyond that.

Signed:  Signed: 
Peter Barker Chair CMR DATE: 16/12/24 Adrian Cosker Treasurer CMR DATE: 16/12/2024

SIGNED: Kenneth M. Hubbard C.P.F.A
KENNETH MALCOLM HUBBARD
External Examiner CMR
Date: 24/12/2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity name: CLASSICAL MUSIC ROCKS

On accounts for the year ended

31/3/2024 Charity no (if any)

Set out on pages

(Remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

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

Signed:

Handwritten signature: K M Hubbard

Date:

24/12/2024

Name:

KENNETH MALCOLM HUBBARD

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

(if any):

Address:

Section B

Disclosure

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

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

N/A

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insurance	248.04		248.04
concerts: venue hire and expenses	2,412.61		2,412.61
concerts: sundry expenses	194.13		194.13
office hire	52.68		52.68
travel; for chair	38.85		£ 38.85
TOTAL payments	26,044.77	0	26,044.77
(Deficit)/surplus for year	19,929.88	5,830.00	25,759.88
OPENING BALANCES 01/04/ 23 b/f	3,549.88	0	3,549.88
Surplus for 23/24	19,929.88	5,830.00	25,759.88
CLOSING BALANCE 31/3/24 c/f	23,479.76	5,830.00	29,309.76

These accounts are certified to be a true and fair account and were presented to trustees and approved at the Classical Music Rocks (CMR) AGM held on 19/11/2024. CMR holds no assets, fixed or otherwise, other than at the bank as shown above, and has no liabilities carrying over. All funds, other than as indicated above, are for the charity's aims of bringing live music to young people and are unrestricted beyond that.

Signed:

Peter Barker

Signed:

A. C. Cosker

Peter Barker Chair CMR

DATE: 16/12/24

Adrian Cosker Treasurer CMR

DATE: 16/12/2024

SIGNED: Kenneth M. Hubbard C.P.F.A
KENNETH MALCOLM HUBBARD
External Examiner CMR
Date: 24/12/2024