



Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts

of the

Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra

for the financial period

1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022

The Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra

The WSO has been performing in Leamington since 1940, and as the Leamington Orchestral Society before that. Its players are drawn from all over the county and beyond. The Royal Spa Centre was the orchestra's regular venue following its opening in 1972 with a concert given by the WSO. More recently the orchestra has played in Warwick Hall and in the churches of St. Mary's, Warwick and All Saints, Leamington Spa. Over the years the orchestra has worked with many illustrious soloists such as Janet Baker, Julian Bream, Peter Donohoe, Leon Goossens and Tasmin Little. Guy Woolfenden, permanent conductor from 1972 to 2012, succeeded a line of distinguished past conductors, and enhanced the WSO tradition of achieving the very highest musical standard. Roger Coull is the orchestra's Principal Conductor, and Paul Leddington Wright its Associate Conductor.

The WSO is proud of its association with Coventry Cathedral Chorus of Coventry Cathedral, the Royal Leamington Spa Bach Choir, Collegium Warwick and The Choirs of St. Mary's Church, Warwick, with which it has performed several major works, including Holst's *The Planets*, Berlioz' *Te Deum*, Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony* and Verdi's *Requiem*.

Since July 2002 the orchestra has taken part in the Leamington & Warwick Festivals, performing Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast*, Berlioz' *Messe Solennelle*, Dvorak's *Requiem*, Tippett's *A Child of Our Time* and Respighi's *The Pines of Rome*. In July 2008 the WSO took part in the prestigious International Church Music Festival at Coventry Cathedral, and in March 2009 and May 2012 performed joint concerts in both Warwick & Paris with the Choeur Josquin des Pres of Villebon.

Conductors

Principal Conductor: Roger Coull
Associate Conductor: Paul Leddington Wright

Leaders

George Ewart
Alistair Kennedy

Trustees

Chairman & Secretary	Raymond Joyce	Media Manager	Amanda Laidler
Treasurer	Peter Scott	Ticket Secretary	Diana Billington
Librarian	Shauna Kelham Gardner	Assistant Secretary	Sara Coldicott
Venue Manager	Jenny Maynard	Trustee	Anne Ransford
Assistant Treasurer	Dilys O'Driscoll	Trustee	Patrick Hinks
Programme Planner	Chris Voss		

Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra CIO

Charity no: 1186320

The Chairman's Statement 2021-22

The last season was a success, not least because the orchestra performed all the scheduled concerts without any cancellations or last-minute changes after the dire consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The first concert was in October 2021 when the orchestra performed Tchaikovsky's 4th symphony.

The Family Concert, with a theme of 'Fantasy' was a success under the baton of Paul Leddington Wright. It was heavy on themes from films including Lord of the Rings, Frozen, Superman and Harry Potter. The audience loved it, but such a concert is a real challenge to perform because of the large orchestration, particularly percussion, and for the players in changing from one style to another in short order.

The Spring concert included Dvorak's 7th symphony and Guy Woolfenden's bassoon concerto. On the other hand, the summer concert was a treat for the strings who performed the Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis.

Three brilliant soloists, Zoe Beyers (Glazunov's violin concerto), Rebecca Eldridge (Woolfenden's bassoon concerto) and Gillian Blair (Milhaud's Scaramouche) performed with the orchestra in the season.

The Malcolm Rowson double reed bursary and auditions produced two worthy winners. They were presented with their awards at the March concert, which appropriately featured a concerto for the bassoon!

The audience numbers are undeniably depressed as compared with pre-Covid attendance figures, but this is a phenomenon that is affecting all the performing arts

There have been negotiations for changing the rehearsal venue and playing more often at Warwick Hall. These negotiations are continuing but I am hopeful that the outcome will be positive.

We continue to attract new players and that is important for the future health of the orchestra. I am pleased to confirm that we go into the new busy season in good shape.

Special thanks

As chairman, the job would be completely overwhelming without the support of the Trustees and many of the playing members who contribute to the smooth management of the orchestra. I am privileged and grateful for all their personal support.

Raymond Joyce, Chairman

The Treasurer's Report 2021-22

This report covers the 12 month financial period from 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022 - the third financial period since the orchestra changed over to be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This is because the CIO commenced operation on 1 January 2020, and so the first financial period had to be a short one (January to July 2020), which has now been followed by two full 12-month financial periods, bringing us back into alignment with the normal WSO concert seasons.

This financial period has marked the orchestra's return to normal after the disruptions of the Lockdown period. So we have been able to maintain the four traditional concerts that we have always been used to, and are starting to recover our audiences back to previous levels. The Spa Centre concert usually generates a surplus, and it managed to do so again, greatly helped by the Spa Centre's excellent marketing. We have also been very fortunate to receive some significant sponsorship which has provided a most valuable addition to our funding.

As a result of all this endeavour, we have been fortunate to see an overall surplus of £2,514, resulting in total funds carried forward of £49,760. This includes the Malcolm Rowson Fund which now stands at £3,265 after making the two awards to promising young players this year totalling £450. So the Orchestra Fund now stands at £46,495 (i.e. £49,760 less the £3,265 for the Malcolm Rowson Fund). And that figure of £46,495 includes the current notional value of the WSO timps standing at £1,546, after their annual £350 depreciation.

Having this healthy financial position does enable us to take up opportunities for new types of concerts looking to the future, as well as funding Play Days etc. Another main aim of the WSO is to keep subscriptions (currently £90) at an affordable level so that we can encourage younger players to join us – important for the orchestra's future. It has no doubt helped us in reaching the strong position in our orchestra numbers that we have today.

Thanks as always are due to all those who have helped with financial matters. This includes a number of Trustees who take on responsibilities in the area of WSO tickets sales, web ticket sales and production of brochures and concert programmes, and collection of players' subscriptions. We are also grateful to the friends of the orchestra who so ably assist in making the actual concerts run smoothly, particularly in ticket and programme sales, and provision of refreshments.

Peter Scott, Treasurer

Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra

Statement of Financial Activities for the Period Ending 31 July 2022 **(12 month financial period 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022)**

	Unrestricted	Designated		<i>Last year</i>
	Funds	Funds	TOTALS	<i>(12 month period)</i>
	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Ticket income	10,350	-	10,350	936
Other concert income	1,091	-	1,091	-
Membership subscriptions <i>(including Gift Aid)</i>	7,792	-	7,792	1,490
Sponsorship & donations	1,101	-	1,101	2,195
Rehearsal refreshments	301	-	301	
Bank interest & misc.	98	-	98	40
Total incoming resources	20,733	-	20,733	4,661
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable Activities:				
Direct concert expenditure	9,622	-	9,622	840
Rehearsal costs <i>(inc. Play Days)</i>	5,915	-	5,915	2,561
Printing/general expenses	1,882	-	1,882	761
Malcolm Rowson Fund <i>(awards)</i>	-	450	450	-
Depreciation	350	-	350	350
Total resources expended	17,769	450	18,219	4,512
Net incoming resources	2,964	(450)	2,514	149
Total funds brought forward	43,531	3,715	47,246	47,097
Total funds carried forward	46,495	3,265	49,760	47,246

Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra

Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2022

	This Year	Last year
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	1,546	1,896
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors & prepayments	2,972	1,239
Cash at bank and in hand	45,567	44,767
Total current assets	48,539	46,006
Creditors	(325)	(656)
Net current assets	48,214	45,350
Total assets	49,760	47,246
FUND BALANCES		
Unrestricted Funds	46,495	43,531
Designated funds	3,265	3,715
Total Funds	49,760	47,246

Notes on the Financial Statements for the Period

1. Trustees Expenses

The Charity meets the expenses of Trustees and Committee members properly incurred on behalf of the Orchestra. No Trustees or Committee members, nor anyone connected with them, have received any remuneration from the Charity's funds.

2. Depreciation

A set of timpani drums and trailer were acquired at the end of 2016 for £3,500, and this asset is being depreciated over a period of 10 years, calculated on a monthly basis.

Signed **Geoffrey Griffiths**
Independent Examiner

Signed **Peter Scott**
Hon. Treasurer

Signed **Raymond Joyce**
Chairman

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the Trustees of the Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra on the accounts for the Period Ending 31 July 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed **Geoffrey Griffiths**
Independent Examiner