

BRISTOL EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

England & Wales · Charity number 1187125

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-12-23

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

Contact

Address 23A Old Sneed Park
Bristol
BS9 1RG

Phone 01179681914

Email admin@bristolearlymusicfestival.uk

Website www.bristolearlymusicfestival.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE: TO ADVANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION IN AND APPRECIATION OF THE ARTS IN BRISTOL AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, IN PARTICULAR THE ART OF MUSIC, BY: 3.1) ORGANISING AND PRESENTING A FESTIVAL OF EARLY MUSIC IN BRISTOL ANNUALLY OR BIENNIALLY 3.2) PROMOTING THE PERFORMANCE AND WIDENING THE UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF EARLY MUSIC AMONG PRACTITIONERS AND AUDIENCES IN THE BRISTOL AREA 3.3) BRINGING TOGETHER LOCAL EARLY MUSIC PRACTITIONERS FOR MUTUAL ENCOURAGEMENT, ENJOYMENT, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT 3.4) RAISING AWARENESS OF LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEARING AND PERFORMING EARLY MUSIC IN THE BRISTOL AREA THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

Activities: Organising and presenting a festival of Early Music in Bristol annually or biennially

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Bristol City
- Dorset
- Somerset
- South Gloucestershire
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£2,485	£1,815	-	-
2024-09-30	£10,411	£10,872	-	-
2023-09-30	£1,690	£1,621	-	-
2022-09-30	£6,745	£6,472	-	-
2021-09-30	£746	£378	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Bruce Alexander Saunders	Chair	2019-12-23
Clare Griffel		2019-12-23
Ellen O'Gorman		2023-09-25
Gustavo de Brito Aranha Sanches Infante		2023-05-09
Huw LLewelyn Morgan		2024-07-16
Ian Thomas Nabney		2024-07-16
John Davenport		2019-12-23
Margaret Claire Williams		2023-05-09
Martin John Robinson		2023-05-09
Melanie Louise Nicole Reed		2024-07-16

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England & Wales - Charity number 1187125

Accounts

Bristol Early Music Festival

Report of activities 2024-5

In the years between biennial weekend Festivals, the Trustees have promoted a mini-Festival both as a place-holder in Bristol's busy musical life and as a way of staying in touch with our audience base. In May 2025 there was a single event all-day workshop for singers and players on early instruments led by the internationally renowned Robert Hollingworth. The chosen piece was Orazio Benevoli's *Missa Benevola*, for four choirs and a varied band of instrumental. Nearly a hundred singers took part with early wind, brass, strings and keyboard players. The event was both a musical and financial success.

Robert Hollingworth noted the fact that in the UK it is still possible, perhaps uniquely, for a large group of amateur singers to turn up and sight-read an unfamiliar piece, thanks largely to early musical education, which he now sees as seriously under threat from reduced budgets.

The Trustees have continued to adopt a range of policy documents in accordance with Charity Commission requirements.

No changes have been made to the Trustee body, or to the aims or purposes of the charity.

Bristol Early Music Festival Profit and Loss (P&L) Statement
Financial Year 1/10/24 - 30/9/25

			Notes
Opening bank balance 1/10/24		£ 3585.53	
Income			
Ticket sales	£2289.53		
Sponsorship	£100.00		
Donations	£95.00		
Refreshments	£0		
Total income	£2484.53		
Expenditure			
Performance fees and related expenses	£930.00		
Score printing	£624.00		
Workshop and exhibition fees	£0		
Travel and transport	£0		
Venue costs	£0		
Administration and miscellaneous	£261.12		Wix paid for three years
Website hosting	£0		
Total expenditure	£1815.12		
Closing bank balance 30/09/23		£4575.33	

BRISTOL EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1187125

Accounts

BRISTOL EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Our sole activity in the current year was the provision in early May of a Festival of Early Music, fulfilling our charitable aims of bringing early music to a wider audience in and around Bristol and encouraging and networking practitioners.

The weekend Festival, in All Saints Church, Clifton, was an artistic success and we came close to balancing the budget. An ambitious combination of professional and amateur musicians, singers and players, provided several memorable concerts, lectures and demonstrations. The workshops for singers and for recorder players attracted a greatly increased number of participants, young and old.

Our revenue slightly exceeded £10,000 which triggers the requirement for a wider range of policies, which we are now working towards.

During the year there have been several changes to the members of the body of Trustees, but no changes to the aims or purposes of the charity.

**Bristol Early Music Festival Profit and Loss (P&L)
Statement
Financial Year 1/10/23 - 30/9/24**

			Notes
Opening bank balance 1/10/22		£ 4,115.52	
Income			
Ticket sales	£9,367.0 0		
Sponsorship	£783.00		
Donations	£50.00		
Refreshments	£210.87		
Total income	£10,410. 87		
Expenditure			
Performance fees and related expenses	£7,150.0 0		
Score printing	£71.85		
Workshop and exhibition fees (inc. travel)	£1119.70		
Venue costs	£887.84		
Administration and miscellaneous	£1,104.0 6		
Website hosting and promotion	£247.08		
Payment handling	£428.87		
Total expenditure	£10,872. 32		
Closing bank balance 30/09/23		£3,846.8 2	

Overall deficit for the year was £304.22.

There was a change of treasurer late in the financial year, which caused some minor difficulties in record keeping of the net refreshment income.

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Bristol Early Music Festival

Report of activities 2022-2023

In the years between biennial weekend Festivals, the Trustees have promoted a mini-Festival both as a place-holder in Bristol's busy musical life and as a way of staying in touch with our audience base. In May 2023 there was a single event all-day workshop for singers and players on early instruments led by the internationally renowned Robert Hollingworth. The chosen piece was Charpentier's rarely-performed Mass for Four Choirs, each with its own instrumental ensemble. Sixty singers and seventeen instrumentalists took part. An exciting exploration of a work that was new to almost everyone, and a musical and financial success.

Meanwhile, the Trustees increased their own membership and appointed three new trustees in order to renew the Trustee body and to allow more scope for succession planning. No changes have been made to the aims or purposes of the charity.

Work has continued through the year to plan an exciting programme for the next weekend Festival in May 2024. That has also involved us in completely renewing our website and recruiting three young adult volunteers to help us with social media publicity and marketing.

Bristol Early Music Festival Profit and Loss (P&L) Statement
Financial Year 1/10/22 - 30/9/23

			Notes
Opening bank balance 1/10/22		£ 4,045.66	
Income			
Tickets sales	£1,690.00		
Total income	£1,690.00		
Expenditure			
Performance related expenses	£750.00		
Use of vocal score	£70.00		
Associated travel costs	£151.41		
Leaflets	£125.00		
Publicity related expenses	£43.99		Facebook promotion
Score printing	£108.40		
Payment handling costs	£38.20		
Gift card	£25.00		
Website hosting cost	£244.55		
Website development	£50		Initial payment
Admin costs	£13.99		Lanyards
Total expenditure			
Closing bank balance 30/09/23	£1620.54	£4115.12	

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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The weekend Festival, in All Saints Church, Clifton, was both artistically and financially successful. A combination of professional and amateur musicians, singers and players, provided several memorable concerts, lectures and demonstrations, with workshops for young people and adults.

During the year there have been no changes to the body of Trustees or to the aims or purposes of the charity.

BEMF 2022 Festival Final Financial Summary

Summary

Total Revenue: £6,745

Total Costs: £6,472

Profit/Loss: +£273

BREAKDOWN OF REVENUE

	Advance Tickets sold	Value	On the door sales	Value	Total
Festival pass	55	£1,925	4	£160	
Friday Concert	23	£345	7	£105	
Saturday Concert	70	£1,050	48	£720	
Sunday Concert	13	£130	19	£190	
Dance Workshop	6	£30	1	£5	
Singers' Workshop	14	£70	7	£35	
Thomas the Rhymer	4	£20	6	£30	
Brass, Wind & String Workshop	10	£50	2	£10	
Recorder 1 Workshop	10	£50	3	£15	
Recorder 2 Workshop	8	£40	1	£5	
Cabaret	12	£60	13	£65	
Total Tickets sales		£3,770		£1,340	£5,110
Sponsors					£1,438
Recorder music donations					£70
Drinks					£127
Total Revenue					£6,745

BREAKDOWN OF COSTS

	Details	Budget		Actual	Notes	Difference
Performance related expenses:						
Friday evening concert		£1,300		£ 1,300		£0
Saturday evening concert		£2,250		£ 2,321		£71
	HMSC		2250	£ 2,250		
	NOVA		0	£ 71		
Sunday evening concert		£500		£ -		(£500)
Workshops & Exhibitions		£800		£ 700		(£100)
	Meet the maker		150	£ 150		
	Catches					
	HMSC		300	£ 300		
	Dance		100	£ 100		
	Recorder		150	£ 150		
Associated travel costs						
		£450		£ 825		£375
	Glos Waites		50	£ 50		
	Poppy Holden		100	£ 270		
	Elizabeth Dodds		100	£ 88		
	HMSC		0	£ 393		
	Favonius Collective		0	£ 24		
Venue costs						
		400		£ 400		£0
Publicity related expenses:						
Leaflet design and printing		£400		£ 147		(£253)
Fliers and posters		£100		£ -		(£100)
Print & online advertising		£200		£ -		(£200)
Facebook promotions		£100		£ 67		(£33)
Miscellaneous expenses:						
Programme costs		£150		£ 87		(£63)
Payment handling costs		£100		£ 101		£1
Hire of portable toilets		£250		£ 204		(£46)
Hire of tables		£70		£ 65		(£5)
Ex gratia payments						
Admin costs		£50		£ 173		£123
	Domain name			£ 14		
	Website hosting			£ 138		
	Alcohol license			£ 21		
Refreshment costs		£0		£ 82		£82
Total budgeted expenditure						
		£7,120				(£648)
Total expenditure						
				£ 6,472		

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Our hopes to consolidate the Bristol Early Music Festival 2019 with a further Festival in 2020 had already been dashed by the Covid pandemic. It became clear to the Trustees that the pandemic crisis would not be resolved in time for a 'live' Festival in May 2021 either. So in a series of online Trustees meetings, we fashioned a 'virtual' Festival of recorded recitals and interactive talks which would be accessible online and on social media. The Trustees were aware of the happy irony of presenting ancient music and old instruments by means of the latest technology.

The virtual Festival was well-received and clearly reached our target audience, fulfilling our charitable aims of bringing early music to a wider audience and encouraging and networking practitioners.

Meanwhile, the Trustees worked on the arrangements for a live Festival in May 2022 and have been encouraged and delighted that all the artists and performers due to take part in the 2020 and 2021 Festivals have agreed to be part of the Festival in 2022.

During the year there have been no changes to the body of Trustees or to the aims or purposes of the charity.

**Bristol Early Music Festival Profit and Loss (P&L) Statement
Financial Year 1/10/20 - 30/9/21**

Opening bank balance 1/10/20		£ 3,412.88
Income		
Donations	£ 746.01	
		£ 746.01
Expenditure		
Paypal handling fee	£ 15.65	
Domain name renewal	£ 14.39	
Zoom hosting	£ 48.00	
Performer's fee	£ 300.00	
		£ 378.04
Closing bank balance 30/09/21		£ 3,780.85