



Opening the door to a lifetime of music

Music Matters in Oswestry and the Borderland.

Annual Report 2024-2025

Charity Commission Reg. 1188830

Object

The object of the "Music MOB" is

To advance education for the public benefit among children and young people up to the age of 18 living in Oswestry and the surrounding areas who are in full time state-funded education or being home educated by providing funding for instrumental, singing and music theory teaching, and enabling access to musical instruments and performance opportunities with the aim of enhancing the knowledge, experience, enjoyment understanding and performance of music.

Introduction

During the 2024-25 academic year we taught 115 children in seven schools. We were delighted to be welcomed into St Martins where several of our students from Weston Rhyn had moved to. We also started teaching in St Martins Primary. In the spring term our eight existing teachers were joined by Caroline Morris who began teaching woodwind in St Martins. At the end of the year we said good-bye and a big thank you to Sian Davies who had been teaching violin and viola at Ellesmere Primary.

We have been joined by Amy McCullough as trustee. Amy is a music teacher and organiser in the area.

We had fewer students entering the Oswestry Youth Music Festival but all did well. We had 11 competitors in seven categories, and had two second places and two third places. Two competitors achieved a grade of Outstanding; one achieved Honours. A clarinet ensemble achieved Merit and two string players achieved Commended.

Fundraising is increasingly competitive and we had fewer grants this year totalling £10,401. We are hugely appreciative of grants received from the Oswestry Town Council, Borderlands Arts Association, the Oswestry and Cambrian rotary Club (via the Mary Hignett Bequest Fund), Ellesmere Town Council, the Hilton-Jones Charitable Trust, the Albert and Eugenie Frost Trust and the Charlotte Hartey Foundation. We did see an increase in individual donations from £4,913 in 23-24 to £5,921 in 24-25.

We have maintained a Reserve Account to ensure we can provide a full half year of teaching should we fail in year to get funding from trusts and corporate organisations. However, at the end of this year academic year we have monetary assets of £27,668, which ensures that MusicMOB will be a going concern for 25-26. Further we plan to raise £15,000 by the end of December in order to protect our Reserves. Funds raised from January will support our work in the 26 - 27 academic year starting in September 2026.

We aim to teach 125 students during 25-26 and will be welcoming Jane Holmes to our teaching team. Some of our Ellesmere Primary students will be moving to Lakelands and we will be continuing their lessons there.

Facts and Figures

Trustees

We now have five trustees.

- Mike Coppick (chairman)
- Sian Tasker (secretary/publicity)
- Paul Myres (Fundraising/school liaison)
- Phill Springett (Treasurer)

Claire Stocker resigned in August.

But we were joined in August by a new trustee Amy McCulloch . Amy is a musician, and has taught music peripatetically, and now works in schools so is bringing a new perspective to us.

Schools Involved

Seven local schools are involved, Mostly primary schools, but we have students who are continuing after leaving primary school so we are starting to be teaching some in secondary schools.

Number of Students

Last year we were teaching about 115 pupils. This year we expect to increase that to about 125.

31 from last year decided not to carry on (27%), but we expect to take on 32

Number of Teachers

We currently have nine teachers.

Number of lessons provided

We have given 1286 lessons across the school year, each lesson usually teaches two or three pupils.

Instruments

We teach the following thirteen instruments: Cello, clarinet, cornet, drum, flute, guitar, saxophone, singing, tenor horn, trombone, trumpet, viola and violin.

Number of Instruments Owned by Music MOB

We own 174 instruments. The majority are used instruments that have all been donated to us. We did purchase a new cello this year, but also had six guitars and one more violin donated to us.

Grants received during the year

This year we received grants from the following organisations

- Oswestry Town Council
- The Arts Society
- Mary Hignett Bequest, Rotary Club of Oswestry and Cambrian
- Ellesmere Town Council
- The Hilton Jones Charitable Trust
- The Frost Foundation
- The Charlotte Hartey Foundation

Financial Procedures

Our finances are held in

- a current bank account with Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) which requires dual authorisation for all payments.
- an interest bearing saving account with CAF
- a higher interest account with the Charity Bank (this holds our reserves).

We aim to hold a reserve of two terms of teaching costs to provide assurance to the teachers and the students that we will not need to end teaching at short notice if income fails.

We can cover the full years teaching for 2025-2026.

Receipts and Payments

		Total This Year	Total Last Year
		2025	2024
		£	£
A1. RECEIPTS			
	Grants etc	10,401	23,071
	Donations	5,921	4,913
	Other	573	578
	TOTAL	16,895	28,562
A2 Asset and Investment Sales			
	Transfer from Savings	4,000	-
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	20,895	28,562
A3. PAYMENTS			
	Tuition	23,715	18,730
	Instruments	730	0
	Other	1,378	1,790
	TOTAL	25,824	20,521
A4. Asset and Investment Purchases			
	Transfer to Savings	13,200	12,000
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	39,024	32,521
	Net of Receipts/Payments	-18,129	-3,969
A5. TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-
A6. CASH FUNDS PREVIOUS YEAR		23,857	27,816
CASH FUNDS THIS YEAR END		5,728	23,847

Assets

	Total This Year	Total Last Year
	2025	2024
	£	£
B1. Cash Funds		
CAF Bank Account	5,728	23,857
Cash in Hand	40	40
B2. Other Monetary Assets		
CAF reserve Account	9,296	
B3. Investments Assets		
The Charity Bank 1 yr Ethical Fund	12,604	12,000
B4. Assets Retained for the charity own use		
Instruments (166, 10% depreciation)	9,720	10,800
New Instruments (6 extra guitars donated, one donated violin, one new Cello)	490	
Music Stands (80, 10% depreciation)	432	480
Various Music Accessories (10% depreciation)	360	400
B5. Liabilities	-	-
ASSETS THIS YEAR END	38,670	47,577

Approved by the trustee Board on 13/4/26

Chair  Hon Treasurer: 



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Music MOB

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 25

Charity no
(if any)

1195548

Set out on pages

1-10 pages of accounts, 11-12 pages of notes

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st August 2025.

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 did not exceed £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

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:

Adrian Bryan

Date:

22/12/2025

Name:

Adrian Bryan

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

ACMA MIP – Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
Chartered Institute of Management Accountants – member in Practice

Address:

AB Accountancy
26 Chester Street

Wrexham

LL13 8BG

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.