

# RUTLAND SINFONIA

England & Wales · Charity number 1191301

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2020-09-15

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

## Contact

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**Address** 32 Alsthorpe Road  
Oakham  
LE15 6FD

**Phone** 07790114418

**Email** [rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk](http://www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** 1. TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF ORCHESTRAL MUSIC BY ANY MEANS THE COMMITTEE SEES FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS AND RECITALS. 2. TO ENCOURAGE, EDUCATE AND INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, IN THESE ACTIVITIES. 3. TO FURTHER SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSE OR PURPOSES AS THE COMMITTEE MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DECIDE INCLUDING THROUGH THE MAKING OF GRANTS AND DONATIONS.

**Activities:** Production of orchestral concerts to members of the public, music education and activities for the community

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Rutland

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£13,816	£10,566	-	-
2023-08-31	£10,799	£10,060	-	-
2022-08-31	£10,484	£9,469	-	-
2021-08-31	£3,070	£1,123	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rachel Elizabeth Rayner	Chair	2014-10-03
KRISTI ERICA-EVE NEWTON		2006-06-16
Katherine Ruth Hammond		2013-10-04
Nicholas Brown		2021-11-12
SARAH EMILY LOUISE AYRE		2017-09-22

**RUTLAND SINFONIA**

England & Wales - Charity number 1191301

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# Accounts

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
by  
**the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia for the year  
ended 31st August 2024 (2023-2024)**

**Presented to the Members of the Rutland Sinfonia at the AGM  
on**

**2nd May 2025**

**Rutland Sinfonia is a Registered Charity in England and Wales no. 11970959, and is a member of Making Music, itself a Registered Charity, which supports and champions voluntary and amateur music groups.**

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR FROM 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 TO 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2024

### 1. This is the Report of the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia (the “Managing Committee”) for the Financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

More information about the Rutland Sinfonia, (the “Sinfonia”), and details of the Programme for our 2025/2026 Season, how to become a member of the Sinfonia, and/or become a “Friend” or sponsor can be found on our website [www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk](http://www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk)

Our orchestra email address for correspondence is [rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com)

### 2. Constitutional Matters and how Rutland Sinfonia is run.

The trustees who were elected at the last Annual General Meeting on 3rd May 2024 were as follows

<b>Rachel Rayner</b>	Chair	<b>Kristi Newton</b>	PR
<b>Sarah Ayre</b>	Secretary	<b>Nick Brown</b>	Librarian
<b>Katherine Hammond</b>	Treasurer	<b>Vacant</b>	Orchestral Manager
<b>Vacant</b>	Budget/Oundle Concert Manager	<b>Vacant</b>	Oakham Concert Manager

These trustees were appointed as the Trustees of the Sinfonia and are required to retire / stand down by rotation - although are permitted to put themselves forward for re-election. The Sinfonia operates in accordance with its Constitution, as approved by the Charity Commission. The Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting as described above.

The Sinfonia has continued to use a production company, Rutland Sinfonia Productions (RSP) Limited, to produce its concerts, and the Directors of that company are Sarah Ayre and Katherine Hammond. This is to enable Rutland Sinfonia to claim Orchestral Tax Relief. For our financial year ended August 2024, we received £2592.12 in tax relief (less accountancy fees).

The committee continued throughout the 2023-2024 season with only 5 representatives and, as we head towards our 50th Anniversary season (2025-2026) we really need more committee members. We need help with the following responsibilities:

- Someone to help with general ‘orchestral management’ ... keeping players informed with information & making sure we have the right people in the right seats at the right time!
- Someone to help organise and run front of house on concert days, and to help coordinate with our venues and other related duties (a non player is best!)
- Someone to help keep our friends up to date, and to grow our friends numbers

Please get in touch with us at [rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com) if you or someone you know can help - there is plenty of flexibility in terms of what we call the positions.

Paul Hilliam, Music Director and Principal Conductor, and David Calow Associate Conductor, attend the Committee meetings by invitation and as always we wish to record our sincerest thanks to them both for the work that they do.

In early 2025, we have co-opted Colin Pulley onto the committee, who can often be seen helping with front of house on concert days. Colin has been brought in primarily to help us manage advertising and promotion, and has some experience in events management, as well as a wide network of contacts.

### **3. Objects, activities, achievements and the public benefit**

The Sinfonia's objects are:-

1. To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in appreciation of the art and science of orchestral music by any means the Committee sees fit, including the presentation of public orchestral concerts, and recitals
2. To encourage, educate and involve young people, wherever possible, in these activities
3. To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the Committee may from time to time decide, including through the making of grants and donations

The Sinfonia's charitable objects and the way they are carried out are for the public benefit. Public benefit is achieved through the 4 public concerts given by the Sinfonia in the year covered by this Report.

Audience numbers in the 2023-2024 season have continued to be variable, and we continue to be some way off capacity at our venues, which in turn has an impact on our finances.

I cannot reiterate how important it is that every one of us takes some responsibility for promoting what we do - not just the small committee.

### **4. Finances and Accounts.**

Our finances remain stable, supported by donations from our small group of Friends, and from the recovery of Gift Aid. This, along with clever planning of programmes and resource, in order to minimise outlay where we can, helps us to maintain a positive position. We will be using some of our reserves over the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 seasons to promote ourselves in an effort to grow our audience base, and, we are looking to introduce a flat rate for ticket prices by removing the concession rate (whilst retaining the student / U18 rate).

The financial statement from the Treasurer circulated separately shows the position at the end of the financial year (31<sup>st</sup> August 2024, and shows a surplus of £3,544.03. As expected, costs continued to rise during the season, but we have been able to maintain both our ticket prices and our current subscription rate for this, and the 2024-2025 season. Our member subscription rate continues to be one of the lowest in the region.

We are very grateful to Sarah Ayre our Secretary and Katherine Hammond our Treasurer for all their work for the Sinfonia. As is good practice, the Charity accounts have been independently audited, and the Treasurer reports to the AGM.

The accounts for RSP Limited are also attached, and, as reported earlier, we received £2592.12 in tax relief this year.

### **In Conclusion.**

The 2023-2024 season has again been a challenge from an audience point of view, but collectively with the hard work of our players and our conductors, we continue to perform at a high level. At the end of the season, we had once more, attracted interest from new players, but, with this, we are now facing challenges with both rehearsal and performance space (Oakham in particular).

These challenges are not only in the physical space, but also in the supplementary issues that arise, the most prominent of which is in terms of sound and noise levels. When it comes to managing this, there are only a limited number of things that we can physically do: changing programming (to reduce orchestra size or provide more 'quiet' sections); borrowing / using staging to raise the brass; using acoustic screens etc.

I need to ask you all to understand that we are doing the absolute best that we can in planning, and in providing what are classed as 'collective protection measures', however, as musicians, every individual needs to also understand their own abilities to help. It is not just the brass and percussion who need to 'play down' and appreciate the balance required (that is often where the blame is placed), but also, our large sections also need to think the same way. 12 players in a section don't all need to play *ff* to achieve the overall sound required. Some of you will also have seen the appearance of personal ear plugs becoming more common, even in professional orchestras where space is plentiful,

so please, if you feel you need (and can), take some time to make that personal investment.

In the season we are now in (2024-2025) we have again spent time looking for alternative rehearsal spaces, and, whilst this can be frustrating in terms of change, we must continue to be on the lookout. From a performance perspective, within Rutland there are no larger / cost effective performance spaces.

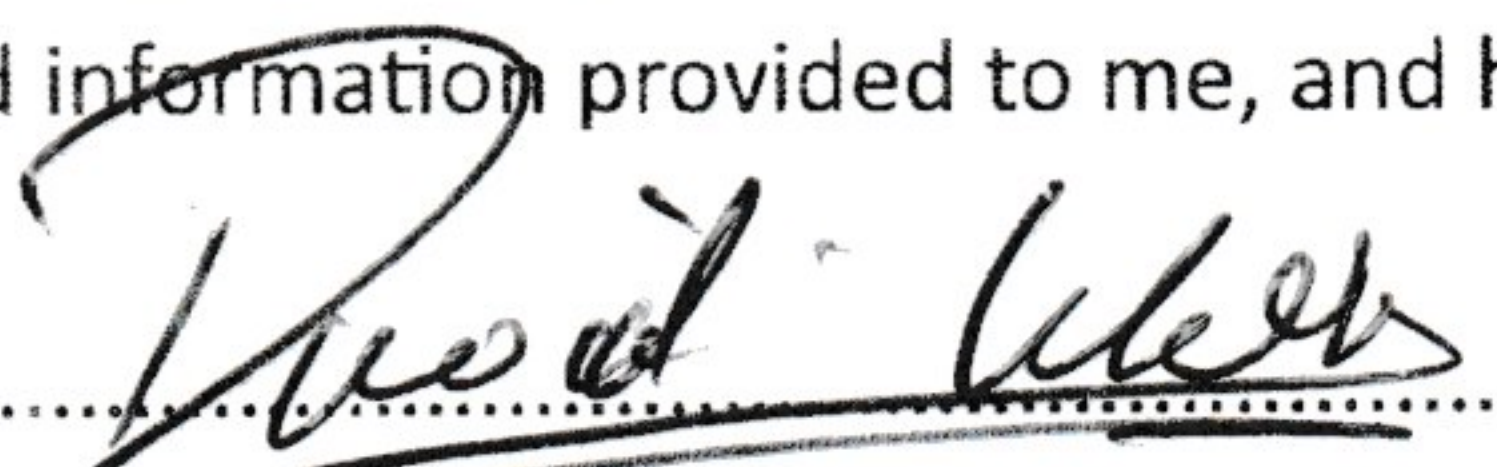
Thank you once again to everyone involved in making the Sinfonia a success and my personal thanks go once more to the Committee, and also to Paul Hilliam, David Calow and Katherine Collison for their continued dedication and enthusiasm.

Signed: Rachel Rayner  
Chair on behalf of the Managing Committee  
Dated: April 2025

**Rutland Sinfonia****Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2024**

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Concert Receipts</b>				
Oakham Oct	1,957.92		902.67	
Oundle Nov	2,079.95		1,574.46	
Oakham Mar	2,891.26		2,138.95	
Oundle May	<u>2,659.31</u>		<u>2,038.29</u>	
		9,588.44		6,654.37
<b>Less Concert Commissioning Fees</b>		9,882.90		9,988.95
<b>Deficit on Concerts</b>		<u>-(294.46)</u>		<u>-(3334.58)</u>
<b>Subscriptions Received</b>		2,365.00		2,110.00
<b>Friends Donations</b>		1,455.00		1,205.00
<b>Refreshments income</b>		110.00		106.80
<b>Sundry Receipts</b>				
Easy Fundraising	0.00		23.09	
HMRC Gift Aid	0.00		571.25	
Donations	92.63		0.00	
Oundle Town Grant	<u>500.00</u>		<u>130.00</u>	
		592.63		724.34
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>4,228.17</u>		<u>811.56</u>
<b>Less Expenditure</b>				
Bank Charges	72.00		72.00	
Audition fee	50.00		0.00	
Donation machine charges	<u>562.14</u>		<u>0.00</u>	
		684.14		72.00
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>		<u>3,544.03</u>		<u>739.56</u>
<b>Opening Balance</b>		18,792.47		18,052.91
<b>Closing Balance</b>		<u>£ 22,336.50</u>		<u>£ 18,792.47</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>				
Unity Trust Current Account		17,709.09		14,272.16
Unity Trust Savings Account		0.04		0.04
Rutland Sinfonia Productions Ltd Loan		4,957.37		4,840.27
Cash in Hand to be banked		0.00		0.00
Received in Advance for next Year		-(330.00)		-(320.00)
		<u>£ 22,336.50</u>		<u>£ 18,792.47</u>

I have checked these accounts, without carrying out an audit, to the books, records and information provided to me, and have found them to be in agreement thereto.

.....  
  
 David Webb  
 Chartered Accountant (Retired)

.....  
 30/4/2025  
 Date

**RUTLAND SINFONIA**

England & Wales - Charity number 1191301

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# Accounts

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
by  
**the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia for the year  
ended 31st August 2023 (2022-2023)**

**Presented to the Members of the Rutland Sinfonia at the AGM  
on**

**3rd May 2024**

**Rutland Sinfonia is a Registered Charity in England and Wales no. 11970959, and is a member of Making Music, itself a Registered Charity, which supports and champions voluntary and amateur music groups.**

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR FROM 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 TO 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2023

### 1. This is the Report of the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia (the “Managing Committee”) for the Financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

More information about the Rutland Sinfonia, (the “Sinfonia”), and details of the Programme for our 2022/2023 Season, how to become a member of the Sinfonia, and/or become a “Friend” or sponsor can be found on our website [www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk](http://www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk)

Our orchestra email address for correspondence is [rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com)

### 2. Constitutional Matters and how Rutland Sinfonia is run.

The trustees who were elected at the last Annual General Meeting on 3rd March 2023 were as follows

<b>Rachel Rayner</b>	Chair	<b>Kristi Newton</b>	PR
<b>Sarah Ayre</b>	Secretary	<b>Nick Brown</b>	Librarian
<b>Katherine Hammond</b>	Treasurer	<b>Anne McCrae</b>	Orchestral Manager
<b>Vacant</b>	Budget/Oundle Concert Manager	<b>Vacant</b>	Oakham Concert Manager

These trustees were appointed as the Trustees of the Sinfonia and are required to retire / stand down by rotation - although are permitted to put themselves forward for re-election. The Sinfonia operates in accordance with its Constitution, as approved by the Charity Commission. Under the Constitution the Sinfonia is managed by a Committee of Trustees (the “Managing Committee”). The Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting as described above.

The Sinfonia has continued to use a production company, Rutland Sinfonia Productions (RSP) Limited, to produce its concerts, and the Directors of that company are Sarah Ayre and Katherine Hammond. This is to enable Rutland Sinfonia to claim Orchestral Tax Relief. For our financial year ended August 2023, we stand to receive £2764.29 in tax relief (less accountancy fees).

Since the end of the 2022-2023 season Anne McCrae has stepped down from the committee, and we thank her for her long standing commitment to both playing and in the running of the orchestra. The committee is now made up of only 5 representatives and we are actively seeking more committee members as this report is written and published. We ideally need help with the following responsibilities:

- Someone to help with general ‘orchestral management’ ... keeping players informed with information & making sure we have the right people in the right seats at the right time!
- Someone to help organise and run front of house on concert days, and to help coordinate with our venues and other related duties (a non player is best!)
- Someone to help keep our friends up to date, and to grow our friends numbers

Committee meetings are usually held (virtually) every couple of months with a face to face meeting a couple of times a year - please get in touch with us at [rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com) if you or someone you know can help - there is plenty of flexibility in terms of what we call the positions.

Paul Hilliam, Music Director and Principal Conductor, and David Calow Associate Conductor, attend the Committee meetings by invitation and as always we wish to record our sincerest thanks to them both for the work that they do.

### **3. Objects, activities, achievements and the public benefit**

The Sinfonia's objects as set out in the Constitution are:-

1. To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in appreciation of the art and science of orchestral music by any means the Committee sees fit, including the presentation of public orchestral concerts, and recitals
2. To encourage, educate and involve young people, wherever possible, in these activities
3. To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the Committee may from time to time decide, including through the making of grants and donations

The Sinfonia's charitable objects and the way they are carried out are for the public benefit. Public benefit is achieved through the 4 public concerts given by the Sinfonia in the year covered by this Report.

Audience numbers in 2022-2023 eventually began to return to pre-covid levels in the latter half of the season, but, with a very small audience of <100 (for the first time in a number of years) at the first concert of the season, there is still much work to be done. The responsibility for promoting what we do is one for us all - not just the small committee - and I therefore ask each and every one of you to do 'just a little bit more', especially as we are soon to head into our 50th season.

### **4. Finances and Accounts.**

Our finances remain stable, supported by donations from our small group of Friends, and from the recovery of Gift Aid. This, along with clever planning of programmes and resource, in order to minimise outlay where we can, helps us to maintain a positive position. We expect some additional cost over the next couple of seasons, as we promote our impending anniversary, and also consider investment into sundry items such as new acoustic screens and / or staging. The request for donations towards our programmes, rather than selling for a fixed price, continues to help us to balance costs.

The financial statement from the Treasurer circulated separately shows the position at the end of the financial year (31<sup>st</sup> August 2023), and shows a surplus of £739.56. We expect costs to continue to creep as our rehearsal and performance venues raise their fees, however, our strong reserves allow us to continue without an immediate need to raise subscriptions or other fees for a period of time.

We are very grateful to Sarah Ayre our Secretary and Katherine Hammond our Treasurer for all their work for the Sinfonia. As is good practice, the Charity accounts have been independently audited, and the Treasurer reports to the AGM.

The accounts for RSP Limited are also attached. Due to an increase in the rate for OTR we stand to receive £2764.29 in tax relief this year, less accountancy fees.

### **In Conclusion.**

The 2022-2023 season has continued to be a challenge from an audience point of view, but the heart and soul of the orchestra, the strength and depth of our players, and the hard work of our conductors mean that we continue to perform at a high level. At the end of the season, we had gained some new players, but sadly, we have said goodbye to some long standing individuals as well - Anne McCrae (bassoon), John Lindars (bassoon) and Victoria Worthington (oboe) - who have all stepped down from playing - we thank them wholeheartedly and wish them all well.

I have now been chair of the orchestra for nine consecutive seasons, and (still) find the hard work ultimately enjoyable. My personal thanks must of course go once more to the Committee, and also to Paul Hilliam, David Calow and Katherine Collison for their continued dedication and enthusiasm.

I am often asked if we can find a bigger rehearsal venue, and, also, a bigger performance venue, to allow more people to hear us - the 'hunt' never stops, but within Rutland there are no larger / cost effective rehearsal spaces, and sadly, the largest performance venue in Rutland has proven difficult to engage with over recent years. However, we

continue to make enquiries whilst being mindful of the cost and catchment area of you all. Were we to find a larger performance venue, the previously mentioned issue of audience numbers would be even more critical than it is now.

We must all now look forward to the remainder of the 2023-2024 season and beyond, and to our continued high standard of performance. As we try to replace those long standing players, and continue to build our audiences, I am delighted that we will shortly announce the programming for 2024-2025 and look even further forward to celebrating our 50th season!

Thank you once again to everyone involved in making the Sinfonia a success

Signed: Rachel Rayner  
Chair on behalf of the Managing Committee  
Dated: April 2024

**Rutland Sinfonia****Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2023**

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Concert Receipts</b>				
Oakham Sept	902.67		1,408.55	
Oundle Nov	1,574.46		1,687.91	
Oakham Mar	2,138.95		1,327.71	
Oundle May	<u>2,038.29</u>		<u>1,881.58</u>	
		6,654.37		6,305.75
<b>Less Concert Commissioning Fees</b>		9,988.95		9,469.65
<b>Deficit on Concerts</b>		<u>-(3334.58)</u>		<u>-(3163.90)</u>
<b>Subscriptions Received</b>		2,110.00		2,240.00
<b>Friends Donations</b>		1,205.00		1,665.00
<b>Refreshments income</b>		106.80		
<b>Sundry Receipts</b>				
Easy Fundraising	23.09		0.00	
HMRC Gift Aid	571.25		0.00	
Interest Received	0.00		0.04	
Other Receipts	<u>130.00</u>		<u>273.29</u>	
		724.34		273.33
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>811.56</u>		<u>1,014.43</u>
<b>Less Expenditure</b>				
Bank Charges	72.00		72.00	
		72.00		72.00
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>		<u>739.56</u>		<u>942.43</u>
<b>Opening Balance</b>		18,052.91		17,110.48
<b>Closing Balance</b>		<u>£ 18,792.47</u>		<u>£ 18,052.91</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>				
Unity Trust Current Account		14,272.16		13,718.65
Unity Trust Savings Account		0.04		0.04
Rutland Sinfonia Productions Ltd Loan		4,840.27		4,829.22
Cash in Hand to be banked		0.00		0.00
Received in Advance for next Year		-(320.00)		-(495.00)
		<u>£ 18,792.47</u>		<u>£ 18,052.91</u>

I have checked these accounts, without carrying out an audit, to the books, records and information provided to me, and have found them to be in agreement thereto.

  
.....  
David Webb

Chartered Accountant (Retired)

15th April 2024  
.....

Date

**RUTLAND SINFONIA**

England & Wales - Charity number 1191301

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# Accounts

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
by  
**the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia for the year  
ended 31st August 2022 (2021-2022)**

**Presented to the Members of the Rutland Sinfonia at the AGM  
on**

**3rd March 2023**

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## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR FROM 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 TO 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2022

### **1. This is the Report of the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia (the “Managing Committee”) for the Financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022.**

More information about the Rutland Sinfonia, (the “Sinfonia”), and details of the Programme for our 44th Season 2021/2022, how to become a member of the Sinfonia, and/or become a “Friend” or sponsor can be found on our website [www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk](http://www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk)

Our orchestra email address for correspondence is [rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com)

*NB This season is reported as our 44th season due to a gap caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic, although the orchestra was in fact 46 years old during 2022.*

### **2. Constitutional Matters and how Rutland Sinfonia is run.**

The trustees who were elected at the last Annual General Meeting on 12th November 2021 were as follows

<b>Rachel Rayner</b>	Chair	<b>Kristi Newton</b>	PR
<b>Sarah Ayre</b>	Secretary	<b>Nick Brown</b>	Librarian
<b>Katherine Hammond</b>	Treasurer	<b>Anne McCrae</b>	Orchestral Manager
<b>Vacant</b>	Budget/Oundle Concert Manager	<b>Vacant</b>	Oakham Concert Manager

These trustees were appointed as the Trustees of the Sinfonia and are required to retire / stand down by rotation - although are permitted to put themselves forward for re-election.

The Sinfonia operates in accordance with its Constitution, as approved by the Charity Commission. Under the Constitution the Sinfonia is managed by a Committee of Trustees (the “Managing Committee”). The Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting as described above. The Committee thanks John Round for his long standing contribution to the orchestra. John stood down but continues to support us with liaison with Oundle St Peter’s Church. There remain vacancies on the Committee which we would be delighted if someone would consider to support the work that the committee already do. These roles would be most suited to non-playing friends or family members and primarily involve arranging Front of House and dealing with our audience needs on concert day, with some tasks requiring action in advance.

The Sinfonia continues to use a production company, Rutland Sinfonia Productions (RSP) Limited, to produce its concerts, and the Directors of that company are Sarah Ayre and Katherine Hammond. This is to enable Rutland Sinfonia to claim Orchestral Tax Relief. For our financial year ended August 2022, we stand to receive £2136.59 in tax relief (less accountancy fees). This money contributes to the charity’s healthy financial position.

Paul Hilliam, Music Director and Principal Conductor, and David Calow Associate Conductor, attend the Committee meetings by invitation and as always we wish to record our sincerest thanks to them both for the work that they do. This report also acknowledges our thanks to Katherine Collison as our appointed leader.

### **3. Objects, activities, achievements and the public benefit**

The Sinfonia’s objects as set out in the Constitution are:-

1. To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in appreciation of the art and science of orchestral music by any means the Committee sees fit, including the presentation of public orchestral concerts, and recitals

2. To encourage, educate and involve young people, wherever possible, in these activities

3. To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the Committee may from time to time decide, including through the making of grants and donations

The Sinfonia's charitable objects and the way they are carried out are for the public benefit. Public benefit is achieved through the 4 public concerts given by the Sinfonia in the year covered by this Report.

Following the Covid-19 pandemic which affected so many live performances, we have returned to being able to perform 4 public concerts in our usual venues - we thank those venues for their continuing support.

We have seen in the 2021-2022 season a decline in overall audience numbers of around 20% on pre Covid figures, with an average audience attendance of 150 at each concert. This has had an impact on our finances, which can be seen in the financial statements, however, we continue to work hard to bring our audience back, but need the help of all our members to do this. The decline in audience numbers appears to have continued as we have begun our 2022-2023 season, which we need to collectively address, both through advertising and through programming, however, we are optimistic of a return to better numbers over the forthcoming 12-18 months.

#### **4. Finances and Accounts.**

Our finances heading out of the pandemic were in a solid position, as always supported by our Friends, and from the recovery of Gift Aid on our subs. If any of our members are able to assist in building our Friends numbers, that support would be greatly appreciated. We changed the style of our programmes in our 2021-2022 season, which have been received well, and ask for a voluntary contribution to their cost from our audience, which has worked well and we will continue to do. We will also from time to time offer a small amount of advertising space to boost the income and recover some of the printing costs.

The financial statement from the Treasurer circulated separately shows the position at the end of the financial year (31<sup>st</sup> August 2022), and shows a surplus of £942.43. We expect costs to continue to rise as our rehearsal and performance venues raise their fees, however, our strong reserves allow us to 'ride this storm' for a period of time.

We are very grateful to Sarah Ayre our Secretary and Katherine Hammond our Treasurer for all their work for the Sinfonia. As is good practice, the Charity accounts have been independently audited, and the Treasurer reports to the AGM.

The accounts for RSP Limited are also attached. Due to an increase in the rate for OTR we stand to receive £2136 in tax relief this year, less accountancy fees.

#### **In Conclusion.**

This last season has been a challenge to us from an audience point of view, but the heart and soul of the orchestra, the strength and depth of our players, and the hard work of our conductors mean that we have returned to a very high standard of performance, and I am confident that this will continue.

I have now been chair of the orchestra for eight consecutive seasons, and despite some hard times and difficult conversations, those seasons have mostly been fun, inspiring and ultimately rewarding.

My personal thanks must of course go once more to the Committee, and also to Paul Hilliam, our Music Director and Principal Conductor and David Calow our Associate Conductor, for their enthusiasm and variety with programming and without whom, often we would not have all the players we need to perform some of the works we take on. Our success means that we receive requests to join on a regular basis, and we try to give those who contact us an opportunity to come and play, space in our venues makes this tricky and there is ultimately a limit on how many players we can fit, but I am delighted that our reputation precedes us.

As we try to rebuild our audiences, our focus goes into planning our 2023-2024, and trying to find the right balance of music which challenges our players but also are real audience favourites.

Thank you once again to everyone involved in making the Sinfonia a success

Signed: Rachel Rayner  
Chair on behalf of the Managing Committee  
Dated: February 2023

## Rutland Sinfonia

### Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2022

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Concert Receipts</b>						
Oakham Sept	1,408.55		0.00		1,081.75	
Oundle Nov	1,687.91		0.00		2,754.28	
Oakham Mar	1,327.71		0.00		2,607.75	
Oundle May	<u>1,881.58</u>		<u>0.00</u>		<u>176.25</u>	
		6,305.75		0.00		6,620.03
<b>Less Concert Commissioning Fees</b>		9,469.65		1,574.11		8,482.49
		<u>-(3163.90)</u>		<u>-(1574.11)</u>		<u>-(1862.46)</u>
<b>Subscriptions Received</b>		2,240.00		0.00		2,170.00
<b>Friends Donations</b>		1,665.00		675.00		2,125.00
<b>Play Day Donations</b>		0.00		290.00		0.00
<b>Sundry Receipts</b>						
Waitrose Collection	0.00		0.00		220.00	
Easy Fundraising	0.00		15.81		77.12	
HMRC Gift Aid	0.00		688.41		0.00	
Interest Received	0.04		0.13		9.60	
Other Receipts	<u>273.29</u>		<u>135.00</u>		<u>101.47</u>	
		273.33		839.35		408.19
		<u>1,014.43</u>		<u>230.24</u>		<u>2,840.73</u>
<b>Total Income</b>						
<b>Less Expenditure</b>						
Website Costs	0.00		0.00		476.59	
Making Music Subscription	0.00		301.94		231.00	
Bank Charges	72.00		54.00		0.00	
Sundry Expenses	<u>0.00</u>		<u>17.48</u>		<u>42.17</u>	
		72.00		373.42		749.76
		<u>942.43</u>		<u>-(143.18)</u>		<u>2,090.97</u>
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>						
<b>Opening Balance</b>		17,110.48		17,253.66		15,162.69
		<u>£ 18,052.91</u>		<u>£ 17,110.48</u>		<u>£ 17,253.66</u>
<b>Closing Balance</b>						
		<u>£ 18,052.91</u>		<u>£ 17,110.48</u>		<u>£ 17,253.66</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>						
HSBC Current Account		0.00		0.00		9,956.09
HSBC Savings Account		0.00		0.00		6,190.59
Unity Trust Current Account		13,718.65		15,967.58		0.00
Unity Trust Savings Account		0.04		0.00		0.00
Rutland Sinfonia Productions Ltd Loan		4,829.22		1,032.87		1,106.98
Cash in Hand to be banked		0.00		110.03		0.00
Received in Advance for next Year		-(495.00)		0.00		0.00
		<u>£ 18,052.91</u>		<u>£ 17,110.48</u>		<u>£ 17,253.66</u>

I have checked these accounts, without carrying out an audit, to the books, records and information provided to me, and have found them to be in agreement thereto.

David Webb  
Chartered Accountant

Date 14th February 2023

**RUTLAND SINFONIA**

England & Wales - Charity number 1191301

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# Accounts

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
by  
**the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia for the year  
ended 31st August 2021 (2020-2021)**

**Presented to the Members of the Rutland Sinfonia at the AGM  
on**

**12th November 2021**

**Rutland Sinfonia is a Registered Charity in England and Wales no. 11970959, and is a member of Making Music, itself a Registered Charity, which supports and champions voluntary and amateur music groups.**

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR FROM 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 TO 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2021

### 1. This is the Report of the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia (the “Managing Committee”) for the Financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

More information about the Rutland Sinfonia, (the “Sinfonia”), and details of the Programme for our 45th Season 2020/2021, how to become a member of the Sinfonia, and/or become a “Friend” or sponsor can be found on our website [www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk](http://www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk)

Our orchestra email address for correspondence is [rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandsinfonia@gmail.com)

### 2. Constitutional Matters and how Rutland Sinfonia is run.

The Sinfonia underwent significant constitutional changes during 2020. In order to provide additional protection to the trustees from liability, and to place the Sinfonia on a more professional footing, the Trustees of Rutland Sinfonia charity number 1140582 decided to apply to register the charity as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a CIO). This application was successful and the new charity was registered on 15 September 2020. The Trustees therefore applied to wind up the old charity and this was completed on 9th February 2021. The trustees who were elected at the last Annual General Meeting of the old charity on 15th November 2019 were as follows

<b>Rachel Rayner</b>	Chair	<b>Kristi Newton</b>	PR
<b>Sarah Ayre</b>	Secretary	<b>Douglas Butler</b>	Librarian
<b>Katherine Hammond</b>	Treasurer	<b>Anne McCrae</b>	Orchestral Manager
<b>John Round</b>	Budget/Oundle Concert Manager	<b>Vacant</b>	Oakham Concert Manager

These trustees were appointed as the ‘first Trustees’ of the Sinfonia. There was therefore no AGM of the Sinfonia in 2020 but under the new Constitution all the Trustees of the Sinfonia shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election. At subsequent AGMs the trustees shall retire by rotation ie. one third shall retire with the other remaining in office. The first three to retire shall be those who have been longest in office. Douglas Butler has resigned during the year for personal reasons and the Committee have appointed Nick Brown as Librarian - he will obviously stand down at the AGM but may put himself forward for re-election with the others.

The Sinfonia operates in accordance with its Constitution, as approved by the Charity Commission. Under the Constitution the Sinfonia is managed by a Committee of Trustees (the “Managing Committee”). The Trustees are elected at each Annual General Meeting as described above. The Committee thanks Douglas Butler for his service as Librarian to the orchestra during a particularly challenging year, and also thanks Nick Brown for agreeing to take on the role.

The Sinfonia also continues to use a production company, Rutland Sinfonia Productions (RSP) Limited, to produce its concerts, and the Directors of that company are Sarah Ayre and Katherine Hammond. This is to enable Rutland Sinfonia to claim Orchestral Tax Relief. For our financial year ended August 2020, we received £1034 in tax relief (as detailed in the accounts for RSP Limited which were circulated last year). As detailed below we will not receive any relief this year because we have not produced any qualifying concerts (the Piano recital and Play Day do not qualify). However next year we should receive a similar amount of tax relief and this money contributes to the charity’s strong financial position.

Paul Hilliam, Music Director and Principal Conductor, and David Calow Associate Conductor, attend the Committee meetings by invitation and it is right as always to record our gratitude to both Paul and David for their continuing significant contributions to the Sinfonia in many ways, both seen and unseen. This report also acknowledges our thanks to Katherine Collison as our appointed leader.

### **3. Objects, activities, achievements and the public benefit**

The Sinfonia's objects as set out in the Constitution are:-

1. To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in appreciation of the art and science of orchestral music by any means the Committee sees fit, including the presentation of public orchestral concerts, and recitals
2. To encourage, educate and involve young people, wherever possible, in these activities
3. To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the Committee may from time to time decide, including through the making of grants and donations

The Sinfonia's charitable objects and the way they are carried out are for the public benefit. Public benefit is achieved through the 4 public concerts given by the Sinfonia in the year covered by this Report. Unfortunately however this Season has been continually affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the Orchestra has been unable to put on any orchestral performances during this time. Instead, the committee hosted a virtual programme of 'In Conversation With' interviews with a number of past soloists, our Honorary President and Music Director for the enjoyment of our members and friends. Robert Markham also performed a piano recital / closed concert for members and friends towards the end of 2020 during a break in the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and we were able to hold a play day (behind closed doors) in July 2021 for our members to come together.

### **4. Finances and Accounts.**

Our finances heading into the pandemic were, and remain at this time, in a solid position and as always, the support of our Friends, and those who advertise in our programmes is vital and contributes significantly to the Sinfonia's financial survival, along with the recovery of "Gift Aid".

The financial statement from the Treasurer circulated separately shows the position at the end of the financial year (31<sup>st</sup> August 2021), and shows a small loss of £309.18. Aside from the usual incidental expenses associated with running the orchestra, even when unable to play, this primarily represents expenses for our recital for members in October 2020 and the Play Day in July 2021, although much of this was kindly offset by such Friends subscriptions as were received and donations from members to attend the Play Day.

We are very grateful to Katherine Hammond our Treasurer for all her work for the Sinfonia. In accordance with the Constitution, the accounts have been independently audited, and the Treasurer reports to the AGM.

The accounts for RSP Limited are also attached. These show that we will not receive any Orchestral Tax Relief this year as we have not produced any qualifying concerts, however next year we should receive a similar amount of tax relief and this money contributes to the charity's strong financial position.

### **In Conclusion.**

This past season has been a challenge to us all for many different reasons.

I must first recognise the sad passing of founder of the Sinfonia Barry Collett, without whom there would be no orchestra. It is from those foundations that we find our strength and will continue to grow, and members past and present owe him much.

In the same season, and for the first time in the orchestra's history, we have not been able to perform together as an orchestra for an audience, but once again I must give my personal thanks, as I conclude my seventh season as chair, to every member of the committee for their support, dedication and hard work. There have been difficult times over the last 12 months, but the camaraderie shared by the committee, Paul and David, has seen me, and us, through and we now look forward to whatever comes next. Our resilience will always be part of what makes us Rutland Sinfonia, and,

even through the last year we have continued to attract (and welcome) new players.

Thank you to each and every member of the orchestra for 'sticking with us' and I look forward to the new 2021/2022 season along with the return to performing for an audience.


Signed: Rachel Rayner  
Chair on behalf of the Managing Committee  
Dated: November 2020

## Rutland Sinfonia

### Receipts & payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Concert Receipts</b>				
Oakham Sept	0.00		1,081.75	
Oundle Nov	0.00		2,754.28	
Oakham Mar	0.00		2,607.75	
Oundle May	0.00		176.25	
		0.00		6,620.03
<b>Less Concert Commissioning Fees</b>		1,574.11		8,482.49
<b>Deficit on Concerts</b>		<u>-(1574.11)</u>		<u>-(1862.46)</u>
<b>Subscriptions Received</b>		0.00		2,170.00
<b>Friends Donations</b>		675.00		2,125.00
<b>Play Day Donations</b>		290.00		0.00
<b>Sundry Receipts</b>				
Waitrose collection	0.00		220.00	
Easy Fundraising	15.81		77.12	
HMRC Gift Aid	688.41		0.00	
Interest Received	0.13		9.60	
Others	135.00		101.47	
		839.35		408.19
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>230.24</u>		<u>2,840.73</u>
<b>Less Expenditure</b>				
Website Costs	0.00		476.59	
Making Music Subscription	301.94		231.00	
Bank Charges	54.00			
Sundry Expenses	17.48		42.17	
		373.42		749.76
<b>Surplus (Deficit) for the Year</b>		<u>-(143.18)</u>		<u>2,090.97</u>
<b>Opening Balance</b>		17,253.66		15,162.69
<b>Closing Balance</b>		<u>£ 17,110.48</u>		<u>£ 17,253.66</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>				
HSBC Current Account		0.00		9,956.09
HSBC Savings Account		0.00		6,190.59
Unity Trust Current Account		15,967.58		0.00
Rutland Sinfonia Productions Ltd Loan		1,032.87		1,106.98
Cash in Hand to be banked		110.03		0.00
		<u>£ 17,110.48</u>		<u>£ 17,253.66</u>

I have checked these accounts, without carrying out an audit, to the books, records and information provided to me, and have found them to be in agreement thereto.

  
David Webb  
Chartered Accountant

Date 14th February 2022