

Registered number
CE001171
Charity Number: 1156432

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Report and Accounts
31 May 2024

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Financial Statements
for the period ended 31 May 2024

Contents

	Page
Charity Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Annual Report	2 to 5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Accountants' report	7
Profit and Loss account	8
Notes to the accounts	9

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Charity Reference and Administrative Details
for the period ended 31 May 2024

Trustees

Lucy Elizabeth Moss (Chair)
Christine Margaret Halliday
Sandra May Hearson

Accountants

Protax Consultants Ltd
Lombard Business Park
8 Lombard House
Wimbledon
SW19 3TZ

Registered office

Crotchety Cottage
Martin Moss Lane
Smallwood
Cheshire
CW11 2UW

Registered number

CE029017

**The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Trustees' Annual Report
for the period ended 31 May 2024**

The trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 May 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards. The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on October 2019 (second edition).

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable incorporated organisation are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are named on page 1.

Name, registered office and registration number of the charity

The full name of the Charity is The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra

The legal registration details are :-

The Registered Office is	Crotchety Cottage Martin Moss Lane Cheshire CW11 2UW
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Charity Registration Number	1199023
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Objectives and activities

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra (SVO) is active in and around Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire and Cheshire. The Orchestra delivers regular public concerts, and outreach events such as relaxed performance and hospital visits.

The SVO is dedicated to engaging and educating as wide and diverse an audience as possible and has a strong focus on making classical music accessible and desirable as possible for everybody. We believe passionately that experiencing live music improves health, wellbeing and can also positively impact academic achievements and are therefore committed to enabling people from all backgrounds to have such experiences.

The Charity is governed by its Constitution. Its objects are:

- to promote, advance, improve and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of Music in all its aspects through the presentation of public concerts, the provision of educational and other community engagement programmes and other projects, and by such other ways as the CIO through its trustees shall determine from time to time.
- to advance the education of the public in the subject of Music.

**The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Trustees' Annual Report
for the period ended 31 May 2024**

Achievements and performance

Throughout the past year, the orchestra has continued to nurture and strengthen its community links within Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire and Cheshire. Driving forward with its aim of providing opportunities to experience high quality events - including concerts and outreach projects.

The SVO started the 2024/25 season with a concert titled 'A Walk in the Country', a concert inspired by our natural world. It included works by Mendelssohn, Butterworth, Delius with Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony no.6 ending the concert. The concert was well received by the audience and an extremely positive review written up for the Sentinel Newspaper. The concert was also an opportunity to encourage children to be part of the performance. They were encouraged to draw pictures depicting the countryside, which were displayed at the venue for all the audience to see. A local charity, Portland Inn became involved with this activity, we were delighted to have been able to collaborate within the local community in this way. Also during the Autumn The SVO delivered a school workshop to Ormiston Meridian Academy. This was part funded by a grant with the outstanding balance paid by the school. The workshops consisted of a reduced orchestra visiting the school along with Joe Hearson the Artistic Director and Sophie Hearson the Orchestra Manager, introducing the children to the various instruments of the orchestra, what they sound like and how each one makes a sound. Joe Hearson, artistic director then conducted the orchestra encouraging the children to listen out for the different instruments playing their melodies.

Following this the children worked with orchestra members in groups of up to 10 to compose and perform their own compositions using graphic scores and percussion instruments. They composed on the theme of the countryside to align with the recent concert The SVO had given. It proved to be a highly enjoyable afternoon with excellent results and positive feedback from the teaching staff.

On February 10th 2024 a brass trio provided by The SVO provided some background music for The Portland Inn who had created a public art trail around part of the city.

In March The SVO took the opportunity to use some funds to make a recording for marketing purposes, Joe Hearson conducted a smaller orchestra for this. Swan Bank Methodist Church in Burslem very kindly provided the premises to us and just asked for a donation to cover costs for the heating and electrics. A company called Prickly Peach came to do the filming and editing and Andy Blythe very kindly came to do the sound recording and James Gillett produced it. This turned out to be a very positive day, with excellent footage for us to use. We are very appreciative of everyone's time and effort for this.

On May 18th 2024, Joe Hearson our artistic director gave a talk to the Rotary Club in Newcastle Under Lyme which generated interest and appreciation for what the orchestra is trying to achieve.

June 21st was The SVO's final performance for the 2023/24 season. Thanks to a very generous donation from Lord Bamford and JCB we were able to put on a relaxed performance concert free of charge. The aim of the concert was to enable people who may not ordinarily find our concerts accessible. We sent out invitations to care homes, day centres, and special schools. There was encouragement for audience members to join in. the lights were kept on, you could walk around, dance if you wanted to and sing. As well as this colours streamers and scarves were provided to wave to the music. A chill out zone and art area was also provided. The concert was a huge success with incredibly positive feedback. This has been a concert we are all very proud of and look forward to doing something similar in our next season.

**The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Trustees' Annual Report
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As well as the generous donation from Lord Bamford at JCB we have continued to be supported by Steve Bamford, Lucy Moss, Christine Halliday and Sandra Hearson. Confirmation of ongoing support is appreciated and helps us to plan for the future. We have also had a very kind donation from an audience member who travelled from Lytham St Anne to watch us.

JCB have also confirmed a second donation following the success of our relaxed performance concert.

We have a grant application with the Foyle Foundation for a but we are currently still waiting to hear whether we've been successful.

Financial Review

The statement of financial activities for the year ended is set out on the receipts and payments account. The trustees are optimistic that the following years will generate more net incoming resources.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation and was registered on the 19th of May 2023.

The trustees who served during the period are detailed on page 1. The current trustees decide on the appointment of new trustees. New trustees are proposed by the existing trustees and are appointed at Annual General Meeting. The Chair is Lucy Elizabeth Moss.

Future developments

Our 2024/25 season opens in October with a concert titled 'Around the British Isles', celebrating the rich musical heritage of the British Isles.

We are advertising for up to 3 additional trustees to try and broaden our skill set and support.

In June 2025 we are looking forward to being part of Stoke on Trent's 'Stoke 100' festivities where we are aiming to put on a Proms style concert.

Reserve policy

The policy of the trustees is to continue to maintain unrestricted reserves at a reasonable level to fulfil the objects of the Charity and allow it to make support in the following year. The trustees have decided that the Charity should have minimum reserves of £2,000.

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra Trustees'
Annual Report for the period ended 31 May
2024

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees of The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with Charities Act 2011.

Law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
 - make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
 - state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board on 20/09/2024 and signed on its behalf.



Lucy Elizabeth Moss

Trustee

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra

Independent examiners' report

Report to the trustees on the preparation of the unaudited statutory accounts of The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra for the period ended 31 May 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is needed. The charity gross income exceeded £25,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ACCA. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act and to State, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act 2011; and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

As a practising member firm of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://rulebook.accaglobal.com/>

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra

Independent examiners' report

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Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters.

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
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have 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.

Protax Consultants Ltd

Protax Consultants Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants & Registered Auditors
Lombard Business Park
G18, 8 Lombard Road
Wimbledon
SW19 3TZ

20../09/2024

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Profit and Loss Account
For the period year ended 31 May 2024
This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Income			
Total Income from charitable activities	1	<u>35,800</u>	<u>10,782</u>
Charitable expenditure			
Charitable expenses	2	<u>19,208</u>	<u>6,884</u>
Legal and professional costs:			
Accountancy fees		1,175	750
Administrative expenses		6,877	2,154
Profit		<u><u>8,540</u></u>	<u><u>994</u></u>

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 May 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	10,734	1,744
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(1,200)	(750)
Net current assets	9,534	994
Net assets	9,534	994
Charity funds		
Unrestricted funds	9,534	994
Total charity funds	9,534	994

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees.

Lucy Moss

Lucy Elizabeth Moss
Trustee (Chair)
20/09/2024

CIO registration number: CE029017

The Symphonia Verbum Orchestra
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the period from 19 May 2023 to 31 May 2024

1 Income	2024	2023
	£	£
Corporate sponsorship	5,000	300
Donations for concerts and other donations	23,640	5,006
Fees generated from concert (tickets sale)	5,570	4,526
Fees generated from workshop	500	950
Grants income	1,090	-
	<u>35,800</u>	<u>10,782</u>

2 Charitable Expenditure		2023
	£	£
Concert fees	17,640	5,604
Workshop fees	1,568	1,280
	<u>19,208</u>	<u>6,884</u>