

# HENLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

England & Wales · Charity number 271849

## Details

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**Other names** H S O

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1976-08-23

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

## Contact

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**Website** [www.henleysymphonyorchestra.co.uk](http://www.henleysymphonyorchestra.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES AND IN PARTICULAR THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC BY THE PRESENTATION OF CONCERTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

**Activities:** The objectives of the Henley Symphony Orchestra are to educate the public in the art and science of music in all its aspects by the presentation of concerts and other activities. The orchestra currently gives at least 4 public concerts per academic year and rehearses weekly during term time.

## Classification

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

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** HENLEY ON THAMES
- Bracknell Forest
- Buckinghamshire
- Oxfordshire
- Reading
- Slough
- West Berkshire
- Windsor And Maidenhead
- Wokingham

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£54,289	£34,379	-	-
2024-08-31	£48,247	£44,009	-	-
2023-04-30	£38,815	£35,900	-	-
2022-04-30	£24,041	£29,941	-	-
2021-04-30	£11,994	£6,281	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Clive Sieling		2021-11-18
Dr ALICE ELEANOR CARTER		2016-11-17
Dr Alison Wagland		2023-11-16
Dr David Edward Sadler		2022-05-01
Dr Katie Wilkinson		2026-01-22
FRANCES WINIFRED YEOWART		
Joanna Jane-Marie Woolliscroft		2026-01-22
Julia Woodroffe		2021-11-18
MAUREEN IDOWU MA GRSAM		
Rosalind Farrell		2023-11-16
Sandy Godfrey		2025-01-23

**HENLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

England & Wales - Charity number 271849

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# Accounts

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**Henley Symphony Orchestra**  
**Annual Report and Accounts**

**2024 / 2025**



- b) buying, taking on lease or in exchange any property necessary for the achievement of the objectives, and maintaining it and equipping it for use
- c) borrowing money and charging all or part of the property of the Society with repayment of the money so borrowed, subject to any consents required by law
- d) hiring and paying professional musicians and employing such staff (who are not members of the Society) as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objectives
- e) co-operating with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the objectives or of similar charitable purposes, and exchanging information and advice with them
- f) establishing or supporting any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the objectives
- g) appointing and constituting such advisory committees as the Committee shall think fit
- h) cooperating with and supporting Henley Symphony Orchestra Productions Limited (company number 11957773) (the "Production Company") in furtherance of all or any of the objectives and in particular but without limiting the generality of the foregoing to enter into agreements with the Production Company for it to produce a concert or series of concerts and to pay the production costs in return for a commission fee payable by the Society
- i) provide loans or other financial assistance to the Production Company (whether interest-free or otherwise and whether by instalments or otherwise) if and when required to enable the Production Company to pay production and other expenses under such agreements
- j) doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objectives.

## Main activities undertaken

The orchestra aims to bring live music to the local community and to provide musical education to its members. The orchestra rehearses weekly at Henley College with a professional Musical Director and leader. Concert venues include Christ Church in Henley-on-Thames and the Hexagon in Reading. At least four concerts are given annually. The orchestra gives concerts, by invitation, in Henley's twin towns of Leichlingen (Germany), Falaise (France) and Bled (Slovenia).

## Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

*In HSO's 55<sup>th</sup> season, the years 2024 –25, the orchestra gave:*

- Five public concerts in the UK, and
- One Open Evening for HSO Friends.

*The orchestra played the following works:*

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 5pm**

**St Mary's Church, Henley**

*Blumine from Symphony 1  
Rhapsody*

*Mahler  
Coates*

**Huw Wiggin Saxophone**

*Adagietto' from Symphony 5  
Concerto for Oboe (transcribed for Sax) and strings  
Symphony no.8*

*Mahler  
Marcello  
Dvorak*

**Margarita Mikhailova Conductor**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm**

**Christchurch, Henley**

*Hansel and Gretel  
Sleeping Beauty: Rose Adagio  
Tsar Sultan Suite op 57  
Ma Mère l'Oye (Mother Goose)  
Sleigh Ride  
Carols*

*Humperdinck  
Tchaikovsky  
Rimsky-Korsakov  
Ravel  
Leroy Anderson*

**Alexander Walker Conductor**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 at 7.00 pm**

**Hexagon, Reading**

*Fantasy Overture Romeo and Juliet*  
*Piano Concerto in A minor*

*Tchaikovsky*  
*Grieg*

**Leon McCawley Piano**

*Scheherezade*

*Rimsky-Korsakov*

**David Burton Violin**

**Alexander Walker Conductor**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 at 7.30 pm**

**St Mary's Church, Henley**

*Helios Overture*  
*Symphony No 7 op. 105*  
*Violin Concerto in B minor op 61*

*Nielsen*  
*Sibelius*  
*Elgar*

**Alda Dizdari Violin**

**Alexander Walker Conductor**

By the beginning of the **2024-25** season, the orchestra had appointed **Alexander Walker** as **HSO Principal Conductor and Music Director**, but prior commitments meant that he could not join HSO until the December concert. So, for the November concert, HSO asked one of the other applicants for the position, **Margarita Mikhailova**, to choose, rehearse and conduct the concert.

The orchestra continues to be able to attract soloists of a high calibre. In November 2024 HSO welcomed back **Saxophonist Huw Wiggin** to play Coates' Rhapsody and Marcello's Concerto for Oboe (transcribed for Sax) in St Mary's Church in Henley. In March, 2024, **Leon McCawley** joined the orchestra in the Hexagon in Reading to play Grieg's Piano Concerto in A minor. In June 2024, **Alda Dizdari** delighted an audience in St Mary's Church in Henley with her performance of Elgar's Violin Concerto in B minor op 61.

With the changes in conductor, the orchestra has continued to develop and to expand its repertoire and tackle more demanding works. The standard of the playing of the orchestra continues at a high level. The orchestra has travelled several times to Henley's twin towns in France, Germany and Slovenia, and is planning a visit to Falaise in May 2026.

After being **elected Chairman of Henley Symphony Orchestra in November, 2003, Judy Whittaker** will be standing down from this role after almost **23 years** at the AGM on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2026. Henley Symphony Orchestra has experienced a number of changes over recent years, especially the restrictions and cancellations caused by COVID, followed by **Ian Brown's** departure in **June 2022 after 27 years** of his musical direction. It is therefore very gratifying that this change in Chairmanship can take place when the **HSO Principal Conductor and Music Director, Alexander Walker**, is well established and has already conducted 5 successful concerts, when the management of the Society is in the hands of competent and experienced Trustees, and the financial position of the orchestra at the end of its **55<sup>th</sup> season, on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2025, shows an overall surplus of £19,909.**

## **Financial Review**

*Reserves policy:* To maintain reserves equivalent to one year's running costs.

*Further financial details:* The accounts of the society for the financial year 2024 / 2025 are appended to this report.

## Treasurer's Report

This is the first financial year where the orchestra's financial year, concert season and membership year align, all starting on 1st September. The previous financial year ran from 1 May 2023 to 31 August 2024, a period of 16 months, and this should be borne in mind when comparing income and expenditure with the current financial year, as the previous 'year' is 4 months longer and includes an extra concert.

2024-25 was a very good year financially for the orchestra, with an overall surplus of £19,909. This is due to a number of one-off factors but also better ticket and advertising sales, particularly relating to the Hexagon concert and buoyant sales of advertising in concert programmes, which has replaced the previous Business Friends scheme. Orchestra Tax Relief is hugely significant in this result.

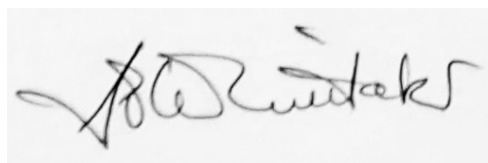
The significant one off factors were a much higher than usual gift aid claim, due to a thorough review of donations and collection of new gift aid declarations and some generous individual donations. Last year we also had to include a depreciation cost in the accounts as we had a historic and inaccurate figure for the orchestra fixed assets which needed to be addressed, and we had significant recruitment costs. We should not therefore expect to make such a large surplus every year, but it is very welcome especially with an overseas tour coming up and costs rising every year with inflation.

The bulk of the charity's expenditure is the HSO Productions Ltd (HSOP) Commissioning Fee. HSOP is a company set up by the orchestra with two committee members as directors to take advantage of the Orchestra Tax Relief (OTR) scheme. This allows the orchestra to claim a tax credit on eligible expenditure – anything involved in rehearsing / preparing for a concert but not the concert itself. The tax credit was temporarily increased from 25% to 50% during the pandemic and this has been hugely beneficial for the orchestra. Lobbying from organisations including Making Music has succeeded in increasing the permanent rate to 45% from April 2025 which will have a significant and lasting impact on the orchestra's finances. The total cost paid by HSOP for putting on our 2024-25 concert season was £43,772.47, but orchestra tax relief means the orchestra only paid HSOP a commissioning fee of £31,920.35, and the remaining £11,852.12 was paid by HMRC in the form of tax relief. (These figures are still estimated at this point, because Making Music who prepare the HSOP accounts and submit the OTR claim have not yet completed this work.)

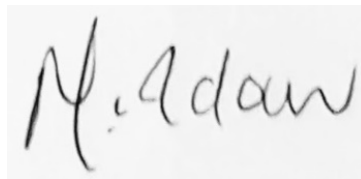
A breakdown of income and expenditure, including OTR, for each of the 2024-25 season concerts and the corresponding figures for the previous year's concert follows the accounts. These do not form part of the charity's formal accounts, but are included to provide additional detail on the charity's activities.

As ever, the orchestra is grateful to its many supporters and Friends who attend our concerts as well as providing financial support.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



Judy Whittaker, Chairman



Maureen Idowu, Secretary

Date: 17 January 2026

# Statement of Financial Activities - Henley Symphony Orchestra

For the 12 months ended 31/8/25 (16 months ended 31/8/24)

Statement of Financial Activities	12 months to 31/8/25	See Note	16 months to 31/8/24	See Note
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Member Subscriptions	8,730.00		10,895.00	
Coffee Sales	223.69		145.94	
Friends Subscription	1,066.66		1,053.35	
Friends Donations	3,830.00		4,300.00	
Donations - Other	5,797.17		3,391.76	
Donations - Former Friends	0.00		570.00	
Ticket Sales	23,831.90		22,659.70	
Programme Sales	753.70		854.50	
Refreshment Sales/Donations	777.30		1,174.00	
Advertising Sales	1,420.00		840.00	
Other Sales	300.00	1	355.00	1
Interest Income	750.07		846.14	
Gift Aid	6,808.64	2	1,161.91	
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>54,289.13</b>		<b>48,247.30</b>	
<b>Resources expended</b>				
HSOP Commissioning Fee	31,920.35	3	38,647.55	3
Depreciation Expense	0.00	4	1,772.00	4
General Expenses	92.07	5	96.02	5
Advertising & Marketing	2,036.66	6	3,181.38	6
Card Payment Fees	300.15		292.00	
Subscriptions	30.00		20.00	
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<b>34,379.23</b>		<b>44,008.95</b>	
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>19,909.90</b>		<b>4,238.35</b>	

## Notes to the accounts

The charity amended its financial year in 2024, so that the financial year would align with the orchestra's concert season and membership year which starts on 1st September. The comparison period for these accounts is therefore 16 months long as this was the transitional year 2023-24. This difference in length should be borne in mind when comparing with the previous year's figures.

### 1. Other sales

Media sales on behalf of performing artists and payment for audience transport to concerts outside Henley.

### 2. Gift Aid

A review of all gift aid declarations and donations was carried out in 2025, and additional declarations were obtained from eligible donors. As a result a larger claim was possible covering the previous 4 tax years. The 2025 figure includes interest paid by HMRC.

### 3. HSOP Commissioning Fee

This includes the costs of producing the year's concerts including rehearsal costs, less the orchestral tax relief claimed. Costs of production 2024-25: £43,772.47, broken down as commissioning fee £31,920.35, OTR £11,852.12. (2023-24 figures: £53,324.15, broken down as commissioning fee £38,647.55, OTR £14,676.60.) The 2025 commissioning fee includes a charge from Making Music which has not been finalised at the date that these accounts are presented. The total charge is not expected to be materially different, and will be reflected in the HSO loan to HSOP.

### 4. Depreciation

The orchestra's fixed assets had not been revalued for a number of years. This depreciation expense represents the difference in value between the historic figure and the estimated value of the assets at 31st August 2024. The value of the fixed assets at 31 August 2025 is not believed to be materially different to the value at 31 August 2024.

### 5. General expenditure / restricted fund

The small surplus collected from members relating to the orchestra party in 2022 is held as a restricted fund for the benefit of HSO members. £12.14 of the General Expenditure in the current financial year was spent from this restricted fund, leaving a balance of £133.18 in the restricted fund at 31 August 2025.

### 6. Marketing Costs

Marketing costs including concert advertising and website are paid by the parent charity HSO rather than the production company, so that they can be zero-rated for VAT, as this VAT relief is not available to the production company. Open Evening costs are also included here.

# Balance Sheet - Henley Symphony Orchestra

As at 31 August 2025

Account	31 Aug 2025	See Note	31 Aug 2024	See Note
<b>Current Assets</b>				
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>				
Barclays Business Deposit	31,703.19		15,465.70	
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	11,690.11		11,177.53	
HSO Barclays Business Current	4,864.65	1	3,161.95	1
Petty Cash	126.51		142.00	
<b>Total Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>48,384.46</b>		<b>29,947.18</b>	
HSO Loan to HSOP	12,322.46		11,050.50	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>60,706.92</b>		<b>40,997.68</b>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>				
Accounts Payable	10.00		0.00	
Income in Advance	1,015.99	2	1,226.65	2
<b>Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>1,025.99</b>		<b>1,226.65</b>	
<b>Net Current Assets (Liabilities)</b>	<b>59,680.93</b>		<b>39,771.03</b>	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Tangible Assets	1,390.00	3	1,390.00	3
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>1,390.00</b>		<b>1,390.00</b>	
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>61,070.93</b>		<b>41,161.03</b>	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>61,070.93</b>		<b>41,161.03</b>	
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>				
Brought forward at start of year	41,161.03		36,922.68	
Current Year Earnings	19,909.90		4,238.35	
<b>Total Capital and Reserves</b>	<b>61,070.93</b>		<b>41,161.03</b>	

## 1. Restricted Fund

Current account balance at 31 August 2025 includes £133.18 held as a restricted fund for the benefit of HSO members (figure at 31 August 2024 was £145.32).

## 2. Income in Advance

The 2025 figure represents the remaining £476 from a grant from Henley Town Council towards subsidised concert tickets, carried over to the 2025-26 season, and £539.99 of Friends Subscriptions received in the present year relating to the following year. The 2024 figure represents the original £800 grant from Henley Town Council, and £426.65 of Friends Subscriptions received in that year relating to the following year.

## 3. Fixed Assets

The orchestra owns various fixed assets, including a set of timpani, sound screens, sheet music and a rostrum. The value of the fixed assets at 31 August 2025 is not believed to be materially different to the value at 31 August 2024.

**November Concert - 16 November 2024**

St Mary's Henley. Mikhailova, Wiggan. Coates, Mahler, Dvorak

<b>Costs Paid by Production Company</b>		<b>Previous Year</b>	<b>Total costs of production (including rehearsals)</b>	
			<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,194.00	£1,228.00		
Music Hire/purchase	£554.10	£583.65	£9,630.67	£8,835.03
Musician fees	£1,987.95	£1,291.30		
	Soloist	£847.10		
	Others	£1,140.85		
Rehearsal costs	£4,805.56	£4,409.30	£498.81	£396.37
	Venue	£826.00		
	Pro Fees	£3,872.00		
	Other	£107.56		
Concert Venue	£510.00	£505.00		
	Venue hire	£325.00		
	Lighting	£120.00		
	Other	£65.00		
Marketing	£349.10	£333.80		
	Banner Printing/Display	£90.62		
	Flyer Printing	£41.51		
	Poster Printing	£24.45		
	Programmes	£97.00		
	Ticket Printing	£24.45		
	Bar	£71.07		
PRS	£199.96	£226.01		
Other	£30.00	£257.97		
	<b>£9,630.67</b>	<b>£8,835.03</b>		
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>				
Marketing	£428.89	£326.24		
	Design Work	£155.00		
	Press Advertising	£238.00		
	Social Media	£35.89		
	Card payment fees	£70.13		
	<b>£498.81</b>	<b>£396.37</b>		
			<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>	
			<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	£10,129.48 £9,231.40
			<b>Concert Income</b>	
			Ticket sales	£5,396.90 £5,795.00
			Bar sales/donations	£261.40 £398.50
			Programme sales	£234.00 £222.00
			Other sales	£0.00 £220.00
			<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£5,892.30 £6,635.50
			Number of tickets sold	300 313
			<b>Concert Costs Excl Rehearsal Costs</b>	
				£5,323.92 £4,822.10
			<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals costs</b>	
				£568.38 £1,813.40
			<b>OTR (subject to confirmation by Making Music)</b>	
			<b>Commissioning Fee</b>	£6,686.59 £6,160.00
			<b>OTR</b>	£2,944.08 £2,675.03
			<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals costs including OTR</b>	
				£3,512.46 £4,488.43

**Christmas Concerts - 14th December 2024**

Christ Church, Henley. Walker.

<b>Costs Paid by Production Company</b>		<b>Previous Year</b>	<b>Total costs of production (including rehearsals)</b>	
			<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,244.00	£1,228.00		
Music Hire/purchase	£229.35	£620.73	£6,724.08	£6,423.19
Musician fees	£1,826.03	£1,484.40		
	Soloist	£0.00		
	Others	£1,826.03		
Rehearsal costs	£2,185.09	£2,058.00	£434.45	£411.27
	Venue	£366.00		
	Pro Fees	£1,750.00		
	Other	£69.09		
Concert Venue	£783.70	£694.50		
	Venue costs	£625.00		
	Lighting	£158.70		
	Other			
Marketing	£305.47	£317.56		
	Banner Printing/Display	£36.55		
	Flyer Printing	£82.30		
	Poster Printing	£20.40		
	Ticket Printing	£41.64		
	Bar	£124.58		
PRS	£127.45	£0.00		
Other	£22.99	£20.00		
	<b>£6,724.08</b>	<b>£6,423.19</b>		
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>				
Marketing	£375.66	£367.50		
	Design Work / Posters	£77.50		
	Press Advertising	£238.00		
	Carol Sheets etc	£60.16		
	Card payment fees	£43.77		
	<b>£434.45</b>	<b>£411.27</b>		
			<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>	
			<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	£7,158.53 £6,834.46
			<b>Concert Income</b>	
			Ticket sales	£3,440.00 £3,151.00
			Bar sales/donations	£279.90 £303.50
			Programme sales	£0.00 £0.00
			Other sales	£0.00 £0.00
			<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£3,719.90 £3,454.50
			No of tickets sold (main)	205 186
			No of tickets sold (ch)	161 139
			<b>Concert costs excl rehearsals</b>	
				£4,973.44 £4,776.46
			<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals</b>	
				-£1,253.54 -£1,321.96
			<b>OTR (subject to confirmation by Making Music)</b>	
			<b>Commissioning Fee</b>	£5,020.27 £4,665.40
			<b>OTR</b>	£1,703.82 £1,757.79
			<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals including OTR</b>	
				£450.27 £435.83

## Hexagon Concert - 16th March 2025

Walker, McCawley. Tchaikovsky, Grieg, Rimsky-Korsakov.

Costs Paid by Production Company			Previous Year	Total costs of production (including rehearsals)		
				2025	2024	
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,244.00		£1,290.50			
Music Hire/purchase	£262.73		£182.16	£15,464.28	£13,731.41	
Musician fees	£3,449.85		£2,564.60			
				<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>		
				£576.50	£396.28	
Soloist		£2,000.00				
Others		£1,449.85				
Rehearsal costs	£4,672.18		£4,355.35			
				<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>		
Venue		£826.00		£16,040.78	£14,127.69	
Pro Fees		£3,770.00				
Other		£76.18				
Concert Venue	£4,980.00		£4,737.60			
Venue costs				<b>Concert Income</b>		
				Ticket sales	£10,943.30	£5,565.20
Marketing	£525.52		£479.60	Programme sales	£323.70	£219.00
Banner Printing/Display		£0.00		Other sales	£300.00	£135.00
Flyer Printing		£55.77		TOTAL INCOME	£11,567.00	£5,919.20
Programmes		£181.00				
Ticket Commission		£167.90		No of tickets sold	563	333
Bar		£120.85				
PRs	£0.00		£0.00	<b>Concert costs excl rehearsals</b>		
Other	£330.00		£121.60	£11,368.60	£9,772.34	
	<b>£15,464.28</b>		<b>£13,731.41</b>			
				<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals</b>		
				£198.40	£-3,853.14	
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>				<b>OTR (subject to confirmation by Making Music)</b>		
Marketing	£485.86		£350.60	<b>Commissioning Fee</b>	£11,272.16	£9,911.47
Design Work & Posters		£199.94				
Press Advertising		£238.00		<b>OTR</b>	£4,192.12	£3,819.94
Social Media		£47.92				
Card payment fees	£90.64		£45.68	<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals including OTR</b>		
	<b>£576.50</b>		<b>£396.28</b>	£4,390.52	£-33.20	

## Summer Concert - 29 June 2025

Walker, Dizdari. Nielsen, Elgar, Sibelius

Costs Paid by Production Company			Previous Year	Total costs of production (including rehearsals)		
				2025	2024	
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,244.00		£1,241.00			
Music Hire/purchase	£885.21		£216.55	£11,953.44	£14,900.87	
Musician fees	£1,300.00		£1,995.15			
				<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>		
				£432.50	£574.14	
Soloist		£990.00				
Others		£310.00				
Rehearsal costs	£5,394.02		£6,618.41			
				<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>		
Venue		£1,010.00		£12,385.94	£15,475.01	
Pro Fees		£4,368.00				
Other		£16.02				
Concert Venue	£690.00		£465.00	<b>Concert Income</b>		
Venue costs		£530.00		Ticket sales	£4,051.70	£4,170.50
Lighting		£120.00		Bar sales/donations	£236.00	£262.00
Other		£40.00		Programme sales	£196.00	£209.50
Marketing	£420.58		£591.49	Other sales	£0.00	£0.00
Banner Printing/Display		£41.62		TOTAL INCOME	£4,483.70	£4,642.00
Flyer Printing		£45.57				
Poster Printing		£36.00		No of tickets sold	214	230
Ticket Printing		£23.04				
Bar		£119.35		<b>Concert costs excl rehearsals and overheads</b>		
Programmes		£105.00		£5,133.52	£5,282.72	
PRs	£161.23		£173.90			
Other	£0.00		£25.49	<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals</b>		
Overheads for the year	£1,858.40		£3,573.88	-£649.82	£-640.72	
	<b>£11,953.44</b>		<b>£14,900.87</b>			
				<b>OTR (subject to confirmation by Making Music)</b>		
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>				<b>Comm Fee excl overheads</b>	£7,082.94	£7,746.16
Marketing	£372.10		£486.16	<b>Comm Fee incl overheads</b>	£8,941.34	£11,320.04
Design Work/Posters		£100.18				
Press Advertising		£238.00		<b>OTR</b>	£3,012.10	£3,580.83
Social Media		£33.92				
Card payment fees	£60.40		£87.98	<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals including OTR</b>		
	<b>£432.50</b>		<b>£574.14</b>	£2,362.28	£2,940.11	



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Henley Symphony Orchestra		
On accounts for the year ended	31 August 2025	Charity no (if any)	271849
	Set out on pages 6-7		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2025

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.

Signed: [Signature] Date: 17 January 2016

Name: DERMOT FRANCIS WOOLLISCROFT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): CHARTERED TAX ADVISOR - RETIRED  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT - RETIRED

Address: WATERS EDGE, TITHE BARN DRIVE  
BRAY, MILDENHEAD  
BERKSHIRE SL6 2DF

**HENLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

England & Wales - Charity number 271849

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# Accounts

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**Henley Symphony Orchestra**  
**Annual Report and Accounts**

**2023 / 2024**



- a) raising funds, selling tickets for concerts and inviting contributions, provided that in raising funds the Committee shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant requirements of the law
- b) buying, taking on lease or in exchange any property necessary for the achievement of the objectives, and maintaining it and equipping it for use
- c) borrowing money and charging all or part of the property of the Society with repayment of the money so borrowed, subject to any consents required by law
- d) hiring and paying professional musicians and employing such staff (who are not members of the Society) as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objectives
- e) co-operating with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the objectives or of similar charitable purposes, and exchanging information and advice with them
- f) establishing or supporting any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the objectives
- g) appointing and constituting such advisory committees as the Committee shall think fit
- h) cooperating with and supporting Henley Symphony Orchestra Productions Limited (company number 11957773) (the "Production Company") in furtherance of all or any of the objectives and in particular but without limiting the generality of the foregoing to enter into agreements with the Production Company for it to produce a concert or series of concerts and to pay the production costs in return for a commission fee payable by the Society
- i) provide loans or other financial assistance to the Production Company (whether interest-free or otherwise and whether by instalments or otherwise) if and when required to enable the Production Company to pay production and other expenses under such agreements
- j) doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objectives.

## Main activities undertaken

The orchestra aims to bring live music to the local community and to provide musical education to its members. The orchestra rehearses weekly at Henley College with a professional Musical Director and leader. Concert venues include Christ Church in Henley-on-Thames and the Hexagon in Reading. At least four concerts are given annually. The orchestra gives concerts, by invitation, in Henley's twin towns of Leichlingen (Germany), Falaise (France) and Bled (Slovenia).

## Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This section of the report covers the 2023-24 concert season, from September 2023 to July 2024. The end of the 2023-24 financial year was moved, with the permission of the charity commission, from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024, so that our financial years will in future coincide with our concert season and membership year, with the year end for all 3 now being 31<sup>st</sup> August.

In the 2023 –24 season the orchestra gave:

- Five public concerts in the UK, and
- One Open Evening for HSO Friends and Business Friends.

The orchestra played the following works:

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 5pm**

**St Mary's Church, Henley**

**Conducted by Jacques Cohen**

*Overture: The Fair Melusine*

Mendelssohn

*Concerto de Aranjuez*

Rodrigo

**Craig Ogden Guitar**

*Shadow Dances*

Westlake

*Symphony No 4 'Italian'*

Mendelssohn

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30 pm** **Christchurch, Henley**

**Conducted by Stephen Ellery**

A short concert for young children – particularly suitable for children aged 2-6.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm** **Christchurch, Henley**

**Conducted by Stephen Ellery**

<i>Arrival of the Queen of Sheba</i>	Handel
<i>Christmas Overture extracts</i>	Coleridge Taylor
<i>Adoration</i>	Florence Price
<i>Fiddle Faddle</i>	Leroy Anderson
<i>Adagio in E for violin</i>	Mozart
<i>William Tell Overture</i>	Rossini
<i>Huapango</i>	Moncayo
<i>Sleigh Ride</i>	Leroy Anderson
Christmas carols	

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 at 7.00 pm** **Hexagon, Reading**

**Conducted by Alexander Walker**

<i>Academic Festival Overture</i>	Brahms
<i>Sea Pictures</i>	Elgar
	<b>Rebecca Afonwy Mezzo Soprano</b>
<i>Symphony No 2 in D major</i>	Brahms

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.30pm Henley College**

**Open Evening - Conducted by Jacques Cohen**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 at 7.30 pm** **St Mary's Church, Henley**

**Conducted by Jacques Cohen**

<i>Peer Gynt Suite No. 2</i>	Grieg
<i>Concerto No 2</i>	Weber
	<b>Emma Johnson Clarinet</b>
<i>Symphony No 9</i>	Shostakovich

In **2023-24** the orchestra once again had three different conductors, Jacques Cohen, Stephen Ellery and Alexander Walker, while the orchestra went through the process of recruitment and selection.

**Leon Bosch** resigned in October 2023, citing the pressure of his other musical commitments. The orchestra advertised for a Principal Conductor and Music Director in January 2024, for which it received 86 complete applications. A selection panel of the Committee interviewed 12 candidates in March 2024, selecting 6 of them to audition in April 2024. Members of the HSO had 2 preferred candidates with just a couple of votes between them, so it was decided to invite both back for a further audition. The preferred candidate was **Alexander Walker**, who has been appointed **HSO Principal Conductor and Music Director**. The lateness of the decision in the concert season meant that the notice Alexander Walker could give to his previous orchestra was inadequate, so it was decided that **Margarita Mikhailova** would be invited to rehearse and conduct the HSO's concert in November 2024, and **Alexander Walker** would start rehearsing in November for the HSO's December concerts.

The orchestra continues to be able to attract soloists of a high calibre. In November 2023 we welcomed **Craig Ogden** to play Rodrigo's *Concierto d'Aranguez* and *Zarabanda Lejana* in St Mary's Church in Henley. In March 2024, **Rebecca Afonwy-Jones** joined us in the Hexagon in Reading to sing Elgar's *Sea Pictures*. In June 2024, **Emma Johnson** delighted an audience in St Mary's Church in Henley with her performance of Weber's *Clarinet Concerto No. 2*.

Despite the changes in conductor, the orchestra has continued to develop and to expand its repertoire and tackle more demanding works. The standard of the playing of the orchestra continues at a high level. The orchestra has travelled several times to Henley's twin towns in France, Germany and Slovenia.

## Financial Review

*Reserves policy:* To maintain reserves equivalent to one year's running costs.

*Further financial details:* The accounts of the society for the financial year 2023 / 2024 are appended to this report.

The fixed assets owned by the society include a full set of timpani, staging, lighting, music stands, and a collection of sheet music. There are no plans for significant expenditure to replace these in the near future. A revaluation of the fixed assets was undertaken in 2024 as it was recognised that the figure for fixed assets stated in the last few years' accounts was unlikely to represent the present value.

## Treasurer's Report

The change in financial year end meant that the present financial year is 16 months long, running from 1 May 2023 to 31 August 2024. Subsequent financial years will be 12 months ending on 31 August. This should be borne in mind when comparing income and expenditure with the previous financial 'year', as the current 'year' is 4 months longer and includes an extra concert.

Although the orchestra's income is higher than the previous year, ticket sales are lower, mostly due to disappointing sales at the Hexagon concert in 2024. The orchestra had some generous donations from supporters including an anonymous donation of £3000 from one of the HSO Friends. Member subscriptions received are higher both due to an increase in the subscription cost, but also due to the way subs were recorded in the previous financial year

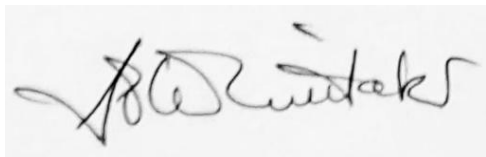
Expenditure of note includes a depreciation expense representing the difference in value between the historic value given for the orchestra's fixed assets and the more realistic value agreed in 2024. Card payment fees are now an increased expense as many more transactions are paid by card now with associated costs. The HSO expenditure also includes advertising costs as the charity is allowed to claim VAT relief on these costs meaning they are paid by HSO rather than HSOP.

The bulk of the charity's expenditure is the HSO Productions Ltd (HSOP) Commissioning Fee. HSOP is a company set up by the orchestra with two committee members as directors to take advantage of the Orchestra Tax Relief (OTR) scheme. This allows the orchestra to claim a tax credit on eligible expenditure – anything involved in rehearsing / preparing for a concert but not the concert itself. The tax credit was temporarily increased to 50% during the pandemic and this has been hugely beneficial for the orchestra. The rate drops after 31 March 2025 but only to 45% which is the new permanent rate. OTR claims can't be for a period of more than 12 months, so two claims have been made this financial year, the first for the 4 months May–August 2023 and the second for the 12 months Sept 2023–Aug 2024. The total cost paid by HSOP for putting on the 5 concerts between May 2023 and August 2024 was £53,324 but orchestra tax relief means the orchestra only paid HSOP a commissioning fee of £38,647 and the remaining £14,676 was paid by HMRC in the form of tax relief.

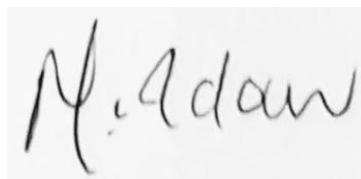
The Summer 2023 and November 2023 concerts made a surplus before OTR, and November 2023 was the best concert this season financially. Christmas 2023, summer 2024 and Hexagon 2024 made losses before OTR, and the Hexagon concert made a loss of approx. £3850. However, once OTR is added back in, these concerts broke even or made a surplus overall. The benefit of OTR cannot be overstated as it has allowed the orchestra to make a small surplus even with lower than expected ticket sales. A breakdown of income and expenditure, including OTR, for each of the 2023-24 season concerts and the corresponding figures for the previous year's concert follows the accounts. These do not form part of the charity's formal accounts, but are included to provide additional detail on the charity's activities.

As ever, the orchestra is grateful to its many supporters and Friends who attend our concerts as well as providing financial support.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



Judy Whittaker, Chairman



Maureen Idowu, Secretary

Date: January 2025

# Statement of Financial Activities - Henley Symphony Orchestra

For the 16 months ended 31/8/24 (12 months ended 30/4/23)

Statement of Financial Activities	16 months to 31/8/24	See Note	12 months to 30/4/23	See Note
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Member Subscriptions	10,895.00	1	5,635.00	1
Coffee Sales	145.94		144.94	
Friends Subscription	1,053.35	2	0.00	2
Friends Donations	4,300.00	2	3,945.00	2
Business Friends Donations	0.00		100.00	
Donations - Former Friends	570.00		440.00	
Donations - Other	3,391.76		704.28	
Ticket Sales	22,659.70		23,565.25	
Programme Sales	854.50		679.80	
Refreshment Sales/Donations	1,174.00		1,039.22	
Advertising Sales	840.00		260.00	
Other Sales	355.00	3	201.40	3
Interest Income	846.14		225.91	
Gift Aid	1,161.91		1,802.80	
Other Revenue	0.00		71.09	4
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>48,247.30</b>		<b>38,814.69</b>	
<b>Resources expended</b>				
HSOP Commissioning Fee	38,647.55	5	35,244.26	5
Depreciation Expense	1,772.00	6	0.00	
General Expenses	96.02	4	320.03	
Advertising & Marketing	3,181.38	7	50.00	7
Transport Costs	0.00		203.00	
Card Payment Fees	292.00		62.27	
Subscriptions	20.00		20.00	
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<b>44,008.95</b>		<b>35,899.56</b>	
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>4,238.35</b>		<b>2,915.13</b>	

## Notes to the accounts

The charity amended its financial year in 2024, so that the financial year would align with the orchestra's concert season and membership year which starts on 1st September. These accounts are for the transitional year 2023-24 which is 16 months long. This difference in length should be borne in mind when comparing with the previous year's figures.

### 1. Membership Subscriptions

Historically the accounts have reported Member Subscriptions as being the amounts received in the financial year. HSO membership year runs from 1 September to 31 August and so some subscriptions received in previous financial years overlap two membership years. In order to correct the position, the accounts at 30 April 2023 reflected the fact that £2,255 of Member Subscriptions received in the year to 30 April 2023 related to a future period (ie after 1 May 2023). As the financial year has now been aligned with the membership year, this will not be an issue from the present financial year onwards.

### 2. Friends Subscriptions and Donations

From the present financial year onwards, subscriptions / donations from Friends have been separated into Subscriptions of £40 per annum from Footlights Friends, and Donations of at least £100 per annum from Spotlight and Limelight Friends.

### 3. Other sales

Includes CD sales on behalf of performing artists and payment for audience transport at Hexagon concerts.

### 4. Other revenue / restricted fund

Other revenue relates to orchestra party in 2022, surplus held as a restricted fund for the benefit of HSO members. £47 of the General Expenditure in the current financial year was spent from this restricted fund, leaving a balance of £145.32 in the restricted fund at 31 August 2024.

### 5. HSOP Commissioning Fee

This includes the costs of producing the year's concerts including rehearsal costs, less the orchestral tax relief claimed. Two OTR claims were made in the present financial year, one to cover 1 May 2023 - 31 August 2023, and one to cover 1 Sep 2023 - 31 Aug 2024. Costs of production May-Aug 2023: £9433.65, broken down as commissioning fee £6590.64, OTR £2843.01. Costs of production Sep 23-Aug 2024: £43,890.50, broken down as commissioning fee £32,056.91, OTR £11,833.59. Total costs of production for both periods: £53,324.15, broken down as commissioning fee £38,647.55, OTR £14,676.60. (2023 figures: total costs £48,071, broken down as: commissioning fee £35,244, OTR £12,827.)

### 6. Depreciation

The orchestra's fixed assets had not been revalued for a number of years. This depreciation expense represents the difference in value between the historic figure and the estimated value of the assets at 31st August 2024.

### 7. Marketing Costs

From March 2023, following advice from Making Music, marketing costs including concert advertising and website are paid by the parent charity HSO rather than the production company, so that they can be zero-rated for VAT, as this VAT relief is not available to the production company. Open Evening costs for 2024 are also included here.

# Balance Sheet - Henley Symphony Orchestra

As at 31 August 2024

Account	31 Aug 2024	See Note	30 Apr 2023	See Note
<b>Current Assets</b>				
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>				
Barclays Business Deposit	15,465.70		3,327.41	
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	11,177.53		10,469.68	
HSO Barclays Business Current	3,161.95	1	10,017.94	1
Petty Cash	142.00		77.60	
<b>Total Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>29,947.18</b>		<b>23,892.63</b>	
Accounts Receivable	0.00		20.00	
HSO Loan to HSOP	11,050.50		12,198.05	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>40,997.68</b>		<b>36,110.68</b>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>				
Accounts Payable	0.00		50.00	
Income in Advance	1,226.65	2	2,300.00	2
<b>Total Creditors: amounts falling due within</b>	<b>1,226.65</b>		<b>2,350.00</b>	
<b>Net Current Assets (Liabilities)</b>	<b>39,771.03</b>		<b>33,760.68</b>	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Tangible Assets	1,390.00	3	3,162.00	3
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>1,390.00</b>		<b>3,162.00</b>	
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>41,161.03</b>		<b>36,922.68</b>	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>41,161.03</b>		<b>36,922.68</b>	
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>				
Brought forward at start of year	36,922.68		34,007.55	
Surplus (Deficit)	4,238.35		2,915.13	
<b>Carried forward at end of year</b>	<b>41,161.03</b>		<b>36,922.68</b>	

## Notes

### 1. Restricted Fund

Current account balance at 31 August 2024 includes £145.32 held as a restricted fund for the benefit of HSO members (figure at 30 April 2023 was £192.32).

### 2. Income in Advance

The 2024 figure represents an £800 grant from Henley Town Council towards subsidised tickets for a concert in the 2024-25 season, and £426.65 of Friends Subscriptions received in the present year relating to the following year. The 2023 figure represents £2,255 of Member Subscriptions received in the year to 30 April 2023 relating to the following year, and credits of £45 held by audience members relating to a cancelled concert in 2021.

### 3. Fixed Assets

The orchestra owns various fixed assets, including a set of timpani, sheet music and a rostrum. The 2023 figure was historic and the trustees agreed that a more realistic value at 31 August 2024 for the fixed assets was £1390.

**November Concert - 11 November 2023**

St Mary's Henley. Cohen / Ogden. Mendelssohn & Rodrigo.

<b>Costs Paid by Production Company</b>			<b>Previous Year</b>				
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,228.00		£1,212.00	<b>Total costs of production (including rehearsals)</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	
Music Hire/purchase	£583.65		£882.92		£8,835.03	£8,368.00	
Musician fees	£1,291.30		£1,400.60	<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>			
		Soloist	£1,000.00		£396.37	£21.09	
		Others	£291.30				
Rehearsal costs	£4,409.30		£3,960.70	<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	£9,231.40	£8,389.09	
		Venue	£936.00				
		Pro Fees	£3,440.00				
		Other	£33.30				
Concert Venue	£505.00		£430.00	<b>Concert Income</b>			
		Venue hire	£375.00		Ticket sales	£5,795.00	£4,819.00
		Lighting	£100.00		Bar sales/donations	£398.50	£234.32
		Other	£30.00		Programme sales	£222.00	£192.00
Marketing	£333.80		£414.82		Other sales	£220.00	£10.00
		Banner Printing/Display	£73.59		<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£6,635.50	£5,255.32
		Flyer Printing	£46.05		Number of tickets sold	313	270 (?)
		Programmes	£91.00				
		Ticket Printing	£18.00		<b>Concert Costs Excl Rehearsal Costs</b>	£4,822.10	£4,428.39
		Bar	£105.16				
PRS	£226.01			<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals costs</b>			
Other	£257.97		£66.96		<b>£1,813.40</b>	<b>£826.93</b>	
	<b>£8,835.03</b>		<b>£8,368.00</b>	<b>Orchestra Tax Relief</b>			
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>				<b>Commissioning Fee</b>	£6,160.00	£5,825.47	
Marketing	£326.24		£0.00	<b>OTR</b>	£2,675.03	£2,542.53	
		Design Work	£32.00				
		Press Advertising	£250.00		<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals costs including OTR</b>		
		Social Media	£44.24			<b>£4,488.43</b>	<b>£3,369.46</b>
		Card payment fees	£70.13				
	<b>£396.37</b>		<b>£21.09</b>				

**Christmas Concerts - 9th December 2023**

Christ Church, Henley. Stephen Ellery

<b>Costs Paid by Production Company</b>			<b>Previous Year</b>				
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,228.00		£1,212.00	<b>Total costs of production (including rehearsals)</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	
Music Hire/purchase	£620.73		£135.00		£6,423.19	£6,023.33	
Musician fees	£1,484.40		£1,295.35	<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>	£411.27	£14.12	
		Soloist	£0.00				
		Others	£1,484.40				
Rehearsal costs	£2,058.00		£2,378.00	<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	£6,834.46	£6,037.45	
		Venue	£368.00				
		Pro Fees	£1,680.00				
		Other	£10.00				
Concert Venue	£694.50		£571.00	<b>Concert Income</b>			
		Venue hire	£590.00		Ticket sales	£3,151.00	£3,450.40
		Lighting	£64.50		Bar sales/donations	£303.50	£277.20
		Other	£40.00		Programme sales	£0.00	£0.00
Marketing	£317.56		£431.98		Other sales	£0.00	£0.00
		Banner Printing/Display	£66.80		<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£3,454.50	£3,727.60
		Flyer Printing	£62.63		No of tickets sold (main)	205	186
		Poster /Ticket Printing	£0.00		No of tickets sold (ch)	161	139
		Box Office	£37.40		<b>Concert costs excl rehearsals</b>	£4,776.46	£3,659.45
		Bar	£150.73				
PRS	£0.00		£0.00	<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals</b>			
Other	£20.00				<b>-£1,321.96</b>	<b>£68.15</b>	
	<b>£6,423.19</b>		<b>£6,023.33</b>	<b>Orchestra Tax Relief</b>			
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>				<b>Commissioning Fee</b>	£4,665.40	£4,416.89	
Marketing	£367.50		£0.00	<b>OTR</b>	£1,757.79	£1,606.44	
		Design Work	£90.00				
		Press Advertising	£277.50		<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals including OTR</b>		
		Social Media	£0.00			<b>£435.83</b>	<b>£1,674.59</b>
		Card payment fees	£43.77				
	<b>£411.27</b>		<b>£14.12</b>				

## Hexagon Concert - 17th March 2024

Walker / Afonwy Jones. Brahms &amp; Elgar.

Costs Paid by Production Company			Previous Year	Total costs of production (including rehearsals)		
				2024	2023	
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,290.50		£1,112.00			
Music Hire/purchase	£182.16		£67.00	£13,731.41	£16,205.80	
Musician fees	£2,564.60		£3,931.28			
		Soloist	£1,120.00			
		Others	£1,444.60			
Rehearsal costs	£4,355.35		£5,250.00			
		Venue	£874.00			
		Pro Fees	£3,460.00			
		Other	£21.35			
Concert Venue	£4,737.60		£4,772.40			
Marketing	£479.60		£954.07			
		Banner Printing/Display	£38.67			
		Flyer Printing	£69.07			
		Social Media	£35.83			
		Programmes	£126.00			
		Reception	£210.03			
PRS	£0.00		£0.00			
Other	£121.60		£119.05			
	<b>£13,731.41</b>		<b>£16,205.80</b>			
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>						
Marketing	£350.60		£50.00			
		Design Work	£71.35			
		Press Advertising	£279.25			
		Social Media	£0.00			
		Card payment fees	£45.68			
	<b>£396.28</b>		<b>£66.57</b>			
				<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>	£396.28	£66.57
				<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	£14,127.69	£16,272.37
				<b>Concert Income</b>		
				Ticket sales	£5,565.20	£9,448.70
				Programme sales	£219.00	£354.00
				Other sales	£135.00	£260.00
				<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£5,919.20	£10,062.70
				No of tickets sold	333	540
				<b>Concert costs excl rehearsals</b>	£9,772.34	£11,022.37
				<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals</b>	<b>-£3,853.14</b>	<b>-£959.67</b>
				<b>Orchestra Tax Relief</b>		
				<b>Commissioning Fee</b>	£9,911.47	£11,699.71
				<b>OTR</b>	£3,819.94	£4,506.09
				<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals including OTR</b>	<b>-£33.20</b>	<b>£3,546.42</b>

## Summer Concert - 29th June 2024

St Mary's Henley. Cohen / Johnson. Grieg, Weber, Shostakovich.

(2023 concert: Bosch / Balanas. Beethoven and Stravinsky.)

Costs Paid by Production Company			Previous Year	Total costs of production (including rehearsals)		
				2024	2023	
Music Director/Leader fee	£1,241.00		£1,144.00			
Music Hire/purchase	£216.55		£399.70	£11,326.99	£8,944.85	
Musician fees	£1,995.15		£1,781.30			
		Soloist	£1,079.20			
		Others	£915.95			
Rehearsal costs	£6,618.41		£4,844.00			
		Venue	£1,010.00			
		Pro Fees	£4,552.00			
		Other	£1,056.41			
Concert Venue	£465.00		£405.00			
		Venue costs	£325.00			
		Lighting	£100.00			
		Other	£40.00			
Marketing	£591.49		£370.85			
		Banner Printing/Display	£88.67			
		Flyer Printing	£42.39			
		Boards	£17.86			
		Ticket Printing	£27.58			
		Programmes	£76.00			
		Box Office	£13.18			
		Bar	£100.00			
		Open Evening	£225.81			
PRS	£173.90		£0.00			
Other	£25.49		£0.00			
	<b>£11,326.99</b>		<b>£8,944.85</b>			
<b>Costs paid by HSO</b>						
Marketing	£486.16		£401.20			
		Design Work	£107.00			
		Press Advertising	£331.00			
		Social Media	£48.16			
		Card payment fees	£87.98			
	<b>£574.14</b>		<b>£445.64</b>			
				<b>Plus costs paid by HSO</b>	£574.14	£445.64
				<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	£11,901.13	£9,390.49
				<b>Concert Income</b>		
				Ticket sales	£4,170.50	£4,252.00
				Bar sales/donations	£262.00	£210.00
				Programme sales	£209.50	£204.00
				Other sales	£0.00	£0.00
				<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£4,642.00	£4,666.00
				No of tickets sold	230	218
				<b>Concert costs excl rehearsals</b>	£5,282.72	£4,546.49
				<b>Net Surplus (Loss) excl rehearsals</b>	<b>-£640.72</b>	<b>£119.51</b>
				<b>Orchestra Tax Relief</b>		
				<b>Commissioning Fee</b>	£7,746.16	£6,101.84
				<b>OTR</b>	£3,580.83	£2,843.01
				<b>Net Surplus/Loss excl rehearsals including OTR</b>	<b>£2,940.11</b>	<b>£2,962.52</b>



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Henley Symphony Orchestra		
On accounts for the year ended	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2024	Charity no (if any)	271849
	Set out on pages 7-8		

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/8/24.

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**

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: D. Wallner Date: 7 May 2025

Name: DERMOT FRANCES WOOLLISCROFT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): CHARTERED TAX ADVISOR - (RETIRED)  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT - (RETIRED)

Address: WATERSEDGE  
TITHE BARN DRIVE, BRAY  
BERKSHIRE SL6 2DF

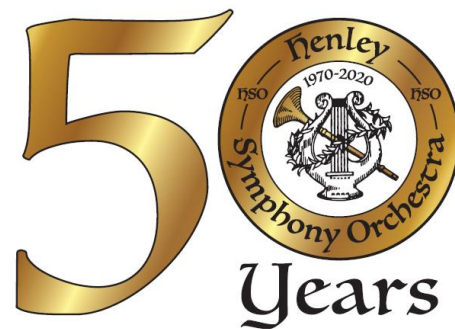
**HENLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

England & Wales - Charity number 271849

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# Accounts

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**Henley Symphony Orchestra**  
**Annual Report and Accounts**

**2022 / 2023**



- b) buying, taking on lease or in exchange any property necessary for the achievement of the objectives, and maintaining it and equipping it for use
- c) borrowing money and charging all or part of the property of the Society with repayment of the money so borrowed, subject to any consents required by law
- d) hiring and paying professional musicians and employing such staff (who are not members of the Society) as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objectives
- e) co-operating with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the objectives or of similar charitable purposes, and exchanging information and advice with them
- f) establishing or supporting any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the objectives
- g) appointing and constituting such advisory committees as the Committee shall think fit
- h) cooperating with and supporting Henley Symphony Orchestra Productions Limited (company number 11957773) (the "Production Company") in furtherance of all or any of the objectives and in particular but without limiting the generality of the foregoing to enter into agreements with the Production Company for it to produce a concert or series of concerts and to pay the production costs in return for a commission fee payable by the Society
- i) provide loans or other financial assistance to the Production Company (whether interest-free or otherwise and whether by instalments or otherwise) if and when required to enable the Production Company to pay production and other expenses under such agreements
- j) doing all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the objectives.

## Main activities undertaken

The orchestra aims to bring live music to the local community and to provide musical education to its members. The orchestra rehearses weekly at Henley College with a professional Musical Director and leader. Concert venues include Christ Church in Henley-on-Thames and the Hexagon in Reading. At least four concerts are given annually. The orchestra gives concerts, by invitation, in Henley's twin towns of Leichlingen (Germany), Falaise (France) and Bled (Slovenia).

## Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This report covers the 2022-23 concert season, from September 2022 to July 2023.

In its 54<sup>th</sup> season 2022 – 23 the orchestra gave:

- Five public concerts in the UK, and
- One Open Evening for HSO Friends and Business Friends.

The orchestra played the following works:

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 5pm**  
**Conducted by Jacques Cohen**

**St Mary's Church, Henley**

*Overture: Coriolan Op. 62*

Beethoven

*Cello Concerto*

Schumann

**Lydia Hillerudh Cello**

*Symphony No 5*

Sibelius

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 4.30pm**  
**Conducted by Stephen Ellery**

**Christ Church, Henley**

A short concert for young children – particularly suitable for children aged 2–6 years (younger siblings welcome).

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 6.30 pm**  
**Conducted by Stephen Ellery**

**Christchurch, Henley**

*Overture: Merry Widow*  
*Blue Danube Waltz*  
Two movements from *Christmas Eve Suite*  
*Harry Potter Waltz*  
*Sleigh Ride*  
Christmas carols

Lehar  
Strauss  
Rimsky Korsakov  
Williams  
Leroy Anderson

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at 7.00 pm**  
**Conducted by Leon Bosch**

**Hexagon, Reading**

*Vltava*  
*Piano Concerto No 5 in Eb Major Op 73*  
**Martin Roscoe**      **Piano**  
*Symphony No 2*

Smetana  
Beethoven  
  
Rachmaninov

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm**  
**Open Evening - Conducted by Leon Bosch**

**Henley College**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 at 7.30 pm**  
**Conducted by Leon Bosch**

**St Mary's Church, Henley**

*Pulcinella Suite*  
*Violin Concerto*  
**Kristine Balanas**      **Violin**  
*Symphony No 1 in C*

Stravinsky  
Beethoven  
  
Beethoven

**2022-23** was the first year for HSO since the twenty-seven years under the musical direction of **Ian Brown**. The orchestra was conducted by three different conductors, Jacques Cohen, Stephen Ellery and Leon Bosch, which represented a major change for the orchestra.

We continued to be able to attract soloists of a high calibre. In November 2022 we welcomed **Lydia Hillerudh** to play Schumann's **Cello Concerto** in St Mary's Church in Henley. In March 2023, **Martin Roscoe** joined us in the Hexagon in Reading to play Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No 5 in Eb Major Op 73*. In June 2023, **Kristine Balanas** delighted an audience in St Mary's Church in Henley with her performance of Beethoven's *Violin Concerto*.

The orchestra advertised for a Principal Conductor and Music Director in May 2022, for which it received 21 complete applications. A selection panel of the Committee interviewed 9 candidates in July, selecting 6 of them to audition when it returned to rehearsing in September 2022. **Leon Bosch** was overwhelmingly selected by members of HSO as their preferred candidate, and took up his role with HSO in January 2023. After two very successful concerts in addition to the Open Evening, however, **Leon** resigned in October 2023, citing the pressure of his other musical commitments. The HSO is therefore working with several conductors during 2023-24, while seeking to appoint a Principal Conductor and Music Director.

Despite the changes in conductor, the orchestra has continued to develop and to expand its repertoire and tackle more demanding works. The standard of the playing of the orchestra continues

at a high level. The orchestra has travelled several times to Henley's twin towns in France, Germany and Slovenia.

## Financial Review

*Reserves policy:* To maintain reserves equivalent to one year's running costs.

*Further financial details:* The accounts of the society for the financial year 2022 / 2023 are appended to this report.

The fixed assets owned by the society include a full set of timpani, staging, lighting, music stands, and a collection of sheet music. While there are no plans for significant expenditure to replace these in the near future, it is recognised that these assets have not recently been revalued, and the figure for fixed assets stated in the accounts is unlikely to represent the current value. This will be addressed by the trustees during the next financial year.

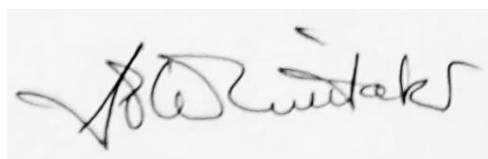
## Treasurer's Report

The gradual return to pre-pandemic audience levels, along with the extension of the enhanced rate of Orchestra Tax Relief, has meant that the 2022-23 financial year has been a great improvement on the previous year.

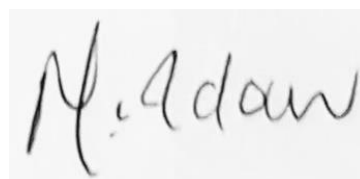
Henley Symphony Orchestra Productions Ltd (HSOP), registered company number 11957773, was set up in 2019 with two members of the orchestra committee (trustees) as directors of the company, to take advantage of HMRC's Orchestra Tax Relief scheme. The orchestra pays an annual commissioning fee to this subsidiary company covering the costs of putting on concerts, while concert income is retained by the orchestra. This allows the company to claim a rebate of corporation tax on the loss it makes, which is then returned to the orchestra. The rate of tax relief on eligible costs was temporarily increased from 25% to 50% during the covid pandemic, and the 50% rate has now been extended to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025, with a 35% level for 2025-26 and returning to 25% from spring 2026. We were able to reclaim over £12000 in tax relief for the 2022-23 financial year and overall the orchestra has made a surplus of £2915.

The orchestra remains very grateful to members and friends for their generous support. The orchestra now has the ability to take card payments both in person and online, and it is noted that increasingly people are preferring to pay by card. This has an associated cost in terms of card payment fees, but has a number of administrative advantages as it is easier to keep track of income. As the charity's income returned to pre-pandemic levels, the accounts have been independently examined and a number of positive changes have been made to the presentation of the accounts as a result.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



Judy Whittaker, Chairman



Maureen Idowu, Secretary

Date: November 2023

# Statement of Financial Activities

## Henley Symphony Orchestra For the year ended 30 April 2023

2023

2022

### Statement of Financial Activities

#### Incoming Resources

Member Subscriptions	5,635.00 <sup>1</sup>	6,925.00
Coffee Sales	144.94	14.00
Friends Donations	3,945.00	3,690.00
Business Friends Donations	100.00	500.00
Donations - Other	704.28	2,630.58
Donations - Former Friends	440.00	585.00
Ticket Sales	23,565.25	8,975.00 <sup>2</sup>
Programme Sales	679.80	448.30
Refreshment Sales/Donations	1,039.22	-
Advertising Sales	260.00	-
Other Sales	201.40 <sup>3</sup>	139.00 <sup>3</sup>
Interest Income	225.91	12.39
Gift Aid	1,802.80	-
Other Revenue	71.09 <sup>4</sup>	121.23 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>38,814.69</b>	<b>24,040.50</b>

#### Resources expended

HSOP Commissioning Fee	35,244.26 <sup>5</sup>	29,753.87 <sup>5</sup>
General Expenses	320.03	153.88
Advertising & Marketing	50.00 <sup>6</sup>	-
Transport Costs	203.00	-
Card Payment Fees	62.27	13.39
Subscriptions	20.00	20.00
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<b>35,899.56</b>	<b>29,941.14</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>2,915.13</b>	<b>(5,900.64)</b>

### Notes to the accounts

#### 1. Membership Subscriptions

Historically the accounts have reported Member Subscriptions as being the amounts received in the financial year. HSO Membership year runs from 1 September to 31 August and so some subscriptions received in the financial year overlap two membership years. In order to correct the position, the accounts at 30 April 2023 reflect the fact that £2,255 of Member Subscriptions received in the year to 30 April 2023 relate to a future period (ie after 1 May 2023).

#### 2. Ticket sales

2022 figure does not include ticket sales of £2688.53 paid to HSOP in respect of the Hexagon concert in March 2022. Total ticket sales including this amount were £11,663.53.

#### 3. Other sales

Includes greetings card sales, payment for vocal score hire (Hexagon concert 2022) and payment for audience transport (Hexagon concert 2023).

#### **4. Other revenue**

Relating to orchestra party in 2022, surplus held as a restricted fund for the benefit of HSO members.

#### **5. HSOP Commissioning Fee**

This includes the costs of producing the year's concerts including rehearsal costs, less the orchestral tax relief claimed, and for 2022, less the income from ticket sales of £2688.53 paid to HSOP as in note 2. Total costs of production for 2023: £48,071, broken down as: commissioning fee £35,244, OTR £12,827. (2022 figures: £41,479, broken down as commissioning fee £29,754, other income £2689, OTR £9036.)

#### **6. Marketing Costs**

From March 2023, following advice from Making Music, marketing costs including concert advertising and website are paid by the parent charity HSO rather than the production company, so that they can be zero-rated for VAT, as this VAT relief is not available to the production company.

# Balance Sheet

## Henley Symphony Orchestra For the year ended 30 April 2023

2023

2022

### Balance Sheet

#### Current Assets

##### Cash at bank and at hand

HSO Barclays Business Current	10,017.94 <sup>1</sup>	2,426.96
Barclays Business Deposit	3,327.41	5,819.93
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	10,469.68	15,251.25
Petty Cash	77.60	271.00
<b>Total Cash at bank and at hand</b>	<b>23,892.63</b>	<b>23,769.14</b>

HSO Loan to HSOP	12,198.05	8,442.31
Accounts Receivable	20.00	184.10 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>36,110.68</b>	<b>32,395.55</b>

#### Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets	3,162.00 <sup>3</sup>	3,162.00 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>3,162.00</b>	<b>3,162.00</b>

Total Assets	39,272.68	35,557.55
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#### Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Accounts Payable	50.00	-
Income in Advance	2,300.00 <sup>4</sup>	1,550.00 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2,350.00</b>	<b>1,550.00</b>

Total Net Assets or Liabilities	36,922.68	34,007.55
---------------------------------	-----------	-----------

#### Reconciliation of Funds

Total funds brought forward at 1st May	34,007.55
Net movement in funds	2,915.13

**Total funds carried forward at 30th April** 36,922.68

#### Notes

##### 1. Restricted Fund

Current account balance at 30.4.23 includes £192.32 held as a restricted fund for the benefit of HSO members.

##### 2. Accounts Receivable

The 2022 accounts receivable figure is broken down as Accounts Receivable £392.50, less credit notes of £208.40 held by audience members relating to a cancelled concert in 2021. Any remaining credit notes at 30.4.23 are now shown under income in advance.

##### 3. Fixed Assets

The orchestra owns various fixed assets, including a set of timpani, sheet music and a rostrum. The figure shown here is historical and the trustees are aware that a more recent valuation is required; this will be addressed in the coming year.

##### 4. Income in Advance

The 2022 figure represents grants from Henley Town Council, including £750 carried forward from 2020 and a further £800 paid in 2022, for subsidised children's tickets at a summer concert.

The 2023 figure represents £2,255 of Member Subscriptions received in the year to 30 April 2023 relating to the following year, and credits of £45 held by audience members relating to a cancelled concert in 2021.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name: HENLEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

On accounts for the year ended

30 APRIL 2023

Charity no (if any)

271849

Set out on pages

6-8

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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 exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.~~

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: [Signature]

Date: 5 NOVEMBER 2023

Name: DERMOT FRANCIS WOOLLISCROFT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT - RETIRED

(if any): CHARLERS TAX ADVISOR - RETIRED

Address: WATERIDGE, TITHE BARN DRIVE  
BRAY, BERKSHIRE SL6 2DF

**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.

*[This area is mostly blank with a large diagonal line drawn across it.]*

Date: 2 November 2018

Signed: *[Signature]*

Name: DENNIS FRANK WOODS

Chartered Accountant - Retired

Signed:

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body: