

CHELTENHAM MUSIC SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 30 APRIL 2025

The Cheltenham Music Society is a registered charity number 279209. It is governed by a written constitution which was last amended at the Annual General Meeting on 30 May 2013. The purpose of the Society is to promote public education in the art and science of music by the presentation of public concerts and in other ways. The Society's correspondence address is Moat Corner, South View Way, Prestbury, Cheltenham GL52 5BH.

Governance

The Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting for renewable three-year terms. The officers are elected at the AGM from among the Trustees. Those entitled to vote at the AGM are members by virtue of having purchased a subscription for the current season. The Trustees during the past year were:

Sir David Pepper	Chairman	Mr Michael O'Connell	Membership Secretary
Ms Lynne Elouard	Treasurer	Mr John Beard	
Mrs Lindsay Tyndall		Ms Penny Steer	
Mr John Wright			

In accordance with section 17 of the Charities Act 2011, the Trustees have satisfied themselves that the Society's purpose and activities provide a public benefit.

Activities

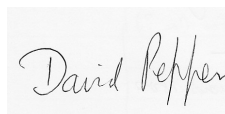
As in recent years the Society promoted a programme of seven concerts between October and April. Three of the concerts were by string quartets, and the remainder were by a variety of soloists and small ensembles. Because no volunteer had come forward to take up the role of Programme Secretary, the Trustees again employed a well-qualified professional to carry out those duties.

The Trustees had previously determined that the 2025-26 season would be the last in the current format because of falling membership and diminishing reserves. However, after a review of the financial prospects as a result of unexpected increases in membership and single ticket sales, an unexpected legacy and donation from members, and the availability of more funding than had been foreseen from the Misses Runge Trust for Cheltenham Music Society, they concluded that the Society could continue in its current form for a few more years. Two new Trustees were identified to increase the resilience of the Committee.

Financial review

The Society had a net operating deficit of £17124; this was an expected consequence of the decisions to splash out on artists, and not to seek donations in addition to subscriptions, in what was expected to be the Society's penultimate year. This figure also reflected a large increase in the cost of hiring the venue, which was offset by increases in subscription income resulting from the membership growth, and in single ticket sales which were the highest ever. The value of the Society's investments fell by £664. During the year the Misses Runge Trust closed and transferred its reserves of £51917 to the Society. At the end of the year the Society's reserves were £91060, which is more than adequate to cover any revenue deficit or other uninsured losses.

(Signed on behalf of the Trustees)



Sir David Pepper
6 October 2025

Cheltenham Music Society

Statement of Financial Activities for the period 1 May 2024 to 30 April 2025

	note	2024-2025	2023-2024
Income			
Subscription tickets		15765	14494
Single Tickets		9755	8572
Donations		1640	9603
Runge Trust	a	51917	
Interest		1226	1856
		80303	34525
Expenditure			
Artists' Fees and Expenses		28611	19476
Venue Hire		7700	7158
Commission	b	1463	1058
Piano hire & tuning		1356	286
Programmes		260	232
PRS levies		1446	461
Publicity		464	390
Administration	c	4210	4783
		45510	33844
Net incoming		34793	680
Increase/decrease in value of investments		-664	352
Balance, brought forward		56931	55898
Balance, carried forward		91060	56931

Balance sheet as at 30 April 2025

Assets			
Current account	d	50808	41616
COIF Deposit account	e	49362	13261
COIF Income units		11006	11544
Debtors	f	552	1302
		111727	67724
Less: creditors & prepayments	g	-20668	-10793
Accumulated Fund		91060	56931

Notes to Accounts

- a Transferred from the Misses Runge Trust for Cheltenham Music Society
- b Commission paid to Cheltenham Trust (CT) plus credit card charges
- c Administration includes PayPal charges
and payments to contractor for Programme Secretary duties
- d Balance end 30 April 2025
- e Includes £35000 of Runge Trust donation transferred from HSBC account
- f Net credit from CT for concert 7
- g CT and admin Invoices arriving late plus Advance payments of 25/26 subs

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Cheltenham Music Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cheltenham Music Society (the Society) for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Society 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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: 

Name: P BROEKMAN

Date: 6 OCTOBER 2025