

# Oxford Symphony Orchestra: Trustees' Annual Report

1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

Charity registration number: 284339

## Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the Oxford Symphony Orchestra (OSO) is to educate the public in the Arts and Sciences and in particular the Art and Science of Music by presentation of concerts and other activities. The concerts are available to all members of the public. The Oxford Symphony Orchestra can confirm its trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on Public benefit and take it into account whenever a decision is taken to which the guidance is relevant.

## Achievements and Performance for the year 2022 – 23

### 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Bernstein	Oxford Town Hall
Bruch	Symphonic Dances from West Side Story
Sibelius	Violin Concerto (Leo Appel)
Tchaikovsky	Swan of Tuonela
	Swan Lake Suite

### 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Berlioz	Oxford Town Hall
Rachmaninov	Corsair Overture
Bartok	Piano Concerto no.2 (Thomas Kelly)
	Concerto for Orchestra

### 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Schoenberg	Oxford Town Hall
Bruckner	5 Orchestral Pieces, op.16
	Symphony no. 8 (1890 version)

### Truck Festival 2023

Rossini	July 2023
Strauss	William Tell Overture (part)
Coates	Express, schnell-polka op.311
Tchaikovsky	Music Everywhere: Rediffusion March
Grieg	Dance of Mirlitons (Nutcracker)
John Williams	Hall of the Mountain King
Queen	Indiana Jones - Raider's March
Guns 'n' Roses	Bohemian Rhapsody
Abba	Sweet Child O' Mine
Eric Clapton	Honey Honey
Clean Bandit	Layla
Clean Bandit	Rather Be
Beegees	Symphony
	How Deep is your Love

Our first two programmes carefully balanced music that was challenging for orchestra and audience alike – contrasting Bernstein with Tchaikovsky and then Rachmaninov with Bartok. Our two soloists helped draw in large audiences on both occasions. November featured the fine young local violinist Leo Appel, who brought calm and poised assurance to Bruch's evergreen G minor violin concerto. He said:

*"Thank you for this and for the wonderful opportunity. It was a real pleasure to play with you and your fantastic orchestra. Wonderful to have such a good audience too. It really did all work out well and I thoroughly enjoyed the performance... I think we made a great team!"*

March marked a return visit for Thomas Kelly, who performed in our final pre-pandemic concert in March 2020 and had since won 5<sup>th</sup> prize in the Leeds International Piano Competition. Tom played Rachmaninov's brooding 2<sup>nd</sup> Piano Concerto and certainly made the best of the wonderful Steinway the orchestra hires from Joseph Taylor Pianos. The orchestra will enjoy watching the careers of these two fine young musicians blossom in their distinctive ways. The music also gave opportunities for some of our principal players to take the spotlight and the Orchestra thanks especially Mariette and Matthias for their significant solos in Tchaikovsky and Sibelius.

Our third concert featured some of the most demanding music we have explored together – Schoenberg's 5 Pieces for Orchestra and Bruckner's gargantuan 8<sup>th</sup> Symphony. Demanding in terms of their complexity, demanding in terms of player's stamina and demanding in terms of the quality of audience listening that both works require. Hats off to OSO for presenting such a deeply musical programme that few orchestras, professional or otherwise, would have the courage to promote. Several people who came to the concert reported afterwards that it was one of our best. Many more people chose not to be challenged and stayed away, which was as we had anticipated. However, it is important that OSO continues to explore a wide range of music, not only pieces that satisfy established tastes.

TRUCK festival seems to have been another roaring success. The Orchestra thanks Grace L, Joel, Sally P and many others for organising all that needed sorting so effectively. The extra rehearsal made a great difference. What a treat to be joined by superstars Clean Bandit.

Last season also featured a new initiative for OSO – a conducting masterclass. This event attracted 8 entrants of whom we accepted 4. Three were studying at University and one was a 6<sup>th</sup> former. Each worked on a movement of music the orchestra had recently played by Dvorak or Brahms and the event proved interesting and useful for participants and orchestra alike. It was fascinating and challenging in equal measure and we are pleased that we plan to repeat the event in December 2024. One participant wrote afterwards:

*"Thank you so much for tonight - it was really insightful and useful, and perhaps most importantly, enjoyable! Thank you so much to the orchestra for organising such an event and giving up time to play for us - please pass on my thanks to all. It really is the best experience we can get as young conductors and I was so grateful of hearing the things that orchestra members are sometimes so afraid of saying."*

We are currently working on a plan to perform Mahler's colossal 8<sup>th</sup> Symphony, the Symphony of a Thousand, in March 2026. We have identified a local venue that can host the event and are trying to agree the participation of the foremost local choral societies.

## Financial Review

The financial report submitted alongside this trustees' report presents a gross income of £40,056 and total expenditure of £27,028 for the 2022-23 reporting year. Funds brought forward were £46,241 and total funds carried forward to the next reporting year were £59,268. The amount of reserves current held is £48,092.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The Oxford Symphony Orchestra is a charitable trust, and its governing document is a trust deed. Trustees are elected annually to the management committee at the annual general meeting. Nominations for all members of the Committee are made in writing to the Chairman by any two members of the Orchestra at least seven days before the Annual General Meeting. In the event of more nominations than required being received, a ballot shall be taken.

## Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

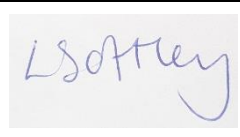
Name	Office and Position	Dates acted	Body entitled to appoint trustee
Sarah Maitlis	Trustee: Chair	16 November 2021 – Present	Oxford Symphony Orchestra
Lorna Softley	Trustee: Secretary	29 November 2022 – Present	Oxford Symphony Orchestra
Matthias Winkel	Trustee: Treasurer	22 November 2016 – Present	Oxford Symphony Orchestra
Sarah Prime	Trustee: Librarian	22 November 2016 – Present	Oxford Symphony Orchestra
Jill Bailey	Trustee: Concert Manager	8 December 2020 – Present	Oxford Symphony Orchestra
Dominic Knight	Trustee: Rehearsal Manager	22 November 2016 – Present	Oxford Symphony Orchestra
Helen Kidd	Trustee: Publicity & Marketing	12 January 2020 – Present	Oxford Symphony Orchestra

All key personnel details have been disclosed

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature	
Full Name	Lorna Softley
Position	Secretary
Date	21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024

**OXORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Registered Charity No 284339**

**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**SECTION A STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

		<b>31-Aug-23</b>	<b>31-Aug-22</b>
		£	£
<b>Incoming resources:</b>		<b>F01=F04</b>	<b>F05</b>
Donations	S01	17,284.81	15,821.44
Charitable activities	S02	22,652.90	15,354.29
Investments	S04	118.21	3.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>S07</b>	<b>40,055.92</b>	<b>31,179.59</b>
<b>Resources expended:</b>			
Raising funds	S08	3,970.66	3,143.39
Charitable activities	S09	23,057.64	19,879.45
Other	S11	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>S12</b>	<b>27,028.30</b>	<b>23,022.84</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>S15</b>	<b>13,027.62</b>	<b>8,156.75</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>S21</b>	<b>46,240.63</b>	<b>38,083.88</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>S22</b>	<b>59,268.25</b>	<b>46,240.63</b>

**SECTION B BALANCE SHEET**

<b>Fixed assets</b>	<b>B05</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	B07	28,000.00	25,000.00
Cash at bank and in hand	B09	48,500.87	36,977.85
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>B10</b>	<b>76,500.87</b>	<b>61,977.85</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>B11</b>	<b>17,232.62</b>	<b>15,737.22</b>
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>	<b>B16</b>	<b>59,268.25</b>	<b>46,240.63</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted funds	B19	59,268.25	46,240.63
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>B21</b>	<b>59,268.25</b>	<b>46,240.63</b>

**SECTION C Notes to the Accounts**

**Note 3 Analysis of income**

<b>Donations and legacies</b>			
Donations and gifts		-	-
Gift Aid		2,845.81	2,136.44
General grants		1,500.00	-
Membership subs and sponsorship		12,939.00	13,685.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>17,284.81</b>	<b>15,821.44</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Ticket sales		14,010.00	9,875.00
Programme sales		622.90	439.29
Music hire		20.00	40.00
Engagement Receipts		8,000.00	5,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>22,652.90</b>	<b>15,354.29</b>
<b>Income from investments</b>			
Interest income		118.21	3.86
<b>Total</b>		<b>118.21</b>	<b>3.86</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>40,055.92</b>	<b>31,179.59</b>

**OXORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Registered Charity No 284339**

**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**SECTION C Notes to the Accounts (cont)**

**Note 6 Analysis of expenditure**

<b>Expenditure on raising funds</b>		
Operating a trading company	-	-
Marketing and publicity	3,193.41	2,605.92
Administration cost	777.25	537.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,970.66</b>	<b>3,143.39</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
OSOP Ltd commission fee (after OTR)	16,824.19	15,534.98
Rehearsal payments	-	-
Concert payments	1,326.21	821.14
Engagement payments	4,701.05	3,321.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,851.45</b>	<b>19,677.21</b>
<b>Other expenditure</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>26,822.11</b>	<b>22,820.60</b>

**Note 19 Debtors and prepayments**

<b>Analysis of debtors</b>		
Trade debtors	28,000.00	25,000.00
Prepayment and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>

<b>Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than one year</b>		
Trade debtors	3,000.00	2,000.00

**Note 20 Creditors and accruals**

<b>Analysis of creditors</b>		
Trade creditors	17,024.19	15,737.22
Other creditors	208.43	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,232.62</b>	<b>15,737.22</b>

**Note 22 Other disclosures for debtors and creditors**

<b>Information about debtors and creditors</b>		
Trade Debtor: Trading subsidiary OSOP Ltd	28,000.00	25,000.00
<b>Total debtors</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>
Trade creditor: Trading subsidiary OSOP Ltd	16,824.19	15,534.98
Trade creditor: outstanding PRS payments	-	202.24
Trade creditor: engagement photographer	200.00	-
Other creditor: music hire reimbursement	208.43	-
<b>Total creditors</b>	<b>17,232.62</b>	<b>15,737.22</b>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name

Oxford Symphony Orchestra

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 August 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

284339

Set out on pages

1 - 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:

Date:

24/6/24

Name:

M H REED

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

ACA (ACREW)

Address:

48 Meadow Lane  
Oxford  
OX4 4ED

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.

None