

AVON VALLEY CONCERTS

(Charity Registration Number: 289919)

Heronbrook, 41 Green Lane, Fordingbridge, SP6 1HU

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES

Mr Barrie Knight
White Barn
Wood End Road
Crow
Ringwood BH24 3DG

BANKERS

NatWest Bank Plc
11 High Street
Ringwood BH24 1BA

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Hilary Williams
2 Emerald Close, Ashley Heath
Ringwood, BH24 2EW

AVON VALLEY CONCERTS
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

Background

Avon Valley Concerts was formed in 1983. Its original constitution was adopted on 23 September in that year and registered with the Charity Commission on 8 August 1984.

Objects of the Charity

To promote, improve, develop and maintain public interest in and appreciation of the art and science of music in all its aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and by such other ways as the Society through its committee shall determine from time to time.

Area of Operation

Within the local area of the New Forest and Avon Valley in Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire.

Trustees

The Trustees who held office during the year ended 30 April 2025 were:

Canon John Turpin	Chairman	Died in office 29 June 2024
Barrie Knight	Chairman	Appointed 22 August 2024
Angela Cox	Secretary	
Eileen Lattimer	Treasurer	Resigned 29 July 2024
Valerie Lee	Treasurer	Appointed 22 August 2024
Robert Maddock	Programme Secretary	
Verity Ruecker	Publicity	
Roger Bettle		
Gill Bettle		
Lynne Pearson		
John Radford		

President

Leon McCawley became President of the Society in July 2013 and has continued in office. We appreciate his interest in the Society and thank him both for his performances and for his suggestions, especially in recommending artists.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

The start of the 2024-2025 season was tinged with sadness. Canon John Turpin had been Chairman for 24 years. He brought knowledge, enthusiasm and love of music for the people of Ringwood, Fordingbridge and the wider Avon Valley to share. He was always excited to introduce a variety of good classical music performed by professional and, often internationally acclaimed, musicians. His death in June 2024 meant he missed this 40th Anniversary season of Avon Valley Concerts (AVC). We are so thankful for the enormous contribution he gave to us and he is sorely missed.

To mark the importance of the season, a high-quality anniversary celebration programme publicising each concert was produced. We thank the individuals, companies and authorities who contributed to the publication. The Committee has decided to produce a similar booklet for the 2025-2026 season.

With uncertainty in the National financial situation and likely cutbacks on grants and support for arts in general the Committee were seeking imaginative ways of promoting AVC - particularly to encourage young people, to promote membership and achieve high attendances at all concerts. It was with enormous gratitude that we received a generous legacy from a long-term member who had enjoyed AVC so much. The generosity of the donor will ensure the future for some time to come and allow us to continue to invite the high standard of professional musicians to which we are accustomed. We do of course still require funds to cover expenses and are confident that good attendances will continue at affordable ticket prices.

The season of six concerts began in the United Reform Church in Fordingbridge on Friday 11th October 2024, and Yuzhang Li played music by Mozart, Liszt, Ravel, Brahms and Rachmaninoff. A full house enjoyed a wonderful performance by this young talented Chinese pianist who plays extensively in Europe and Asia. This was the first concert using a piano provided by Venables of Ringwood. We are thankful to know that this could be available in the future.

An unusual trio of Flute, Harp and Viola entertained us in November. Anna Pyne, Eluned Pierce had played for AVC before and they were joined by Miguel Rodriguez – all members of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

Another ensemble – the Gould Piano Trio – made their seventh visit to AVC in early December and did not disappoint in any way. Their exquisite musicianship enthralled an enthusiastic audience and particularly entertained us by introducing two lesser known composers - H Marschner and Helen Grime.

The first concert of 2025 was on Valentine's Day, 14th February. We were privileged to hear The Engegård Quartet who are one of Norway's most sought-after ensembles. Their bold, fresh interpretations of the classical repertoire combined with deep attachment to their Scandinavian roots has attracted international acclaim. The concert was dedicated to remembering Canon John Turpin.


The Kammerphilharmonie Europa chamber Ensemble of nine players had transport problems on the day of their concert on 7th March and arrived over half an hour late. The full house audience was informed of a frantic text message to the Committee, confirming they were on their way, and decided to stay and hear them. Without any warming up time the musicians played a shortened programme with incredible skill and emotion that left everyone feeling astounded and satisfied.

The season will conclude with an exhilarating performance by our President - Pianist Leon McCawley - who is always guaranteed to play beautifully. We are thankful to him for his continued support. There will also be a final celebration with bubbly refreshments for all after the concert.

It is a pleasure to report that all concerts this season have been well supported and attendances are very encouraging. Unfortunately, the United Reformed Church in Fordingbridge closed in February so that all concerts except the first were held at the Trinity Church, Ringwood. The Committee is looking to find a suitable venue to replace the Fordingbridge Church and we are hopeful that somewhere will be found.

To conclude this report, I would like to thank sincerely each and every member of the Committee. I was appointed in August 2024 and it has been a privilege to follow on from Canon Turpin. I would like to acknowledge with thanks the input to AVC of Eileen Lattimer who retired from the committee in August after serving as treasurer for nine years. It would not have been possible without the commitment, skill, experience and effort from every member of the Committee. Secretarial, Publicity, Treasury, Programme planning, Hospitality, Refreshments, Raffles and the rest all take up time – thank you all. We have also been fortunate to recruit two new members who have brought ideas and expertise to help keep us fresh. I suggest that this 40th Anniversary Season has been very successful!

Thanks, too, to sponsors and voluntary helpers and of course particularly to members, patrons and all who have come to any of the concerts.



Barrie Knight

Chairman

AVON VALLEY CONCERTS
(Charity Registration Number: 289919)
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

I report on the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2025 set out on pages 5 to 7

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is desirable.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

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

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention, which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met.

2 Emerald Close, Ashley Heath
Ringwood, BH24 2EW

Hilary Williams
Date:

Hilary Williams
17th June 2025

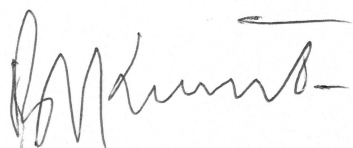
**AVON VALLEY CONCERTS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025**

		Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
RECEIPTS			
Patrons and Members		2,640	2,541
Grants, Donations & Legacies	1	29,285	3,592
Ticket sales		5,886	6,630
Misc concert sales	2	1,189	1,474
Advertising income		245	0
Investment Income		361	99
TOTAL RECEIPTS		39,606	14,336
PAYMENTS			
Fees paid to Artists		6,775	5,850
Artists' travel costs		0	80
Hire of instruments & Venues	3	1,686	2,547
Publicity	4	3,439	1,450
Administration	5	1,442	1,106
TOTAL PAYMENTS		13,342	11,033
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR		26,264	3,303
Cash funds at start of year		10,665	7,362
CASH FUNDS AT END OF YEAR		36,929	10,665

AVON VALLEY CONCERTS
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AT 30 APRIL 2025

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
CASH FUNDS		
COIF Charities Deposit Funds	0	2,000
Nat West bank	36,810	8,546
Petty Cash	119	119
TOTAL CASH	36,929	10,665

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Chairman, Mr Barrie Knight

Date: 16 MAY 2025

AVON VALLEY CONCERTS
SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES – YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

RECEIPTS	NOTES	2025 £	2024 £
Grants and Donations	1		
Hampshire County Councillor		0	2,500
Ringwood Town Council		250	250
Sundry Donations		201	842
Legacy		28,834	0
Total		29,285	3,592
Miscellaneous Concert Sales	2		
Refreshments		631	804
Raffles		292	330
Programmes		266	340
Total		1,189	1,474
COSTS			
Hire of Instruments & Venues	3		
Piano Hire, transport and tuning		1,180	2,169
Venues		506	378
Total		1,686	2,547
Publicity	4		
Brochures & Posters		2,878	1,450
Advertisements		561	0
Total		3,439	1,450
Administration	5		
Making Music membership/PR		549	630
Tickets		91	90
Refreshments		297	181
Miscellaneous		505	205
Total		1,442	1,106