

**Society for Education, Music and Psychology Research  
(SEMPRE)**

**Annual General Meeting, Thursday 10 April 2025**

13.10 – 13.50pm online via Zoom and in person (Carole Nash Recital Room) at the  
'RNCM 2025 Conference'

**MINUTES**

**1. Present:**

Dan Baczkowski, Freya Bailes, Kate Blackstone, Josephine Borradaile, Karen Burland-Clark, Ian Cross, Jane Ginsborg, Dana Greaves, Melissa Kirby, Theo Kozlowski, Alexander Lamont, Geraldine Leighton, Elizabeth MacGregor, Gerardo Acosta Martinez, Nikki Moran, Diana Omigie, Michelle Phillips, Helen Prior, Dawn Rose, Lilian Simones, John Sloboda, Borges SMEAM, Mary Stakelum, Eunice Tang, Graham Welch, Simone Willis, Karen Wise, Xi Zhang

**2. Welcome**

IC (standing in as Chair for GfW who was attending online) welcomed everyone to the AGM and extended particular thanks to Professor Jane Ginsborg and Dr Michelle Phillips (RNCM) and Professor Alexandra Lamont (University of Queensland), for timetabling this meeting to take place during the annual spring conference of SEMPRE, **Intersections between music psychology and education**, 9-10 April 2025 at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. Our congratulations to all involved in the conference.

**3. Apologies**

IC noted that apologies had been received from the following members: Julie Ballantyne, Scott Bannister, Margaret Barrett, Christopher Dalladay, Sue Hallam, Alexis Kallio and Kathy Marsh

**4. Minutes of the previous AGM held on Friday 14 June 2024 during the MET2024 Conference.**

IC asked members present to confirm their agreement that these were a true record: agreed.

**5. Matters arising**

IC confirmed that there were no matters arising from the previous minutes but reported the outcomes of Elections for Committee Members as follows:

*Elections for Committee Members:* To note that the following elections have been made:

*Trustee:*

Dr Helen Prior replacing Professor Alexandra Lamont

*PhD Student Representative:*

Dan Baczkowski

Lisa Thorpe

*Early Career Researcher*

Kate Blackstone

*Lay members*

Margaret Barrett, Raymond MacDonald and Kathy Marsh

**6. Chair's Report (Professor Graham Welch)**

IC presented highlights from GfW's Chair's Report:

**6.1. Special thanks**

- 6.1.1. *Committee* My thanks again as Chair to everyone on the SEMPRES Committee, Officers and Trustees for their positive contributions to the work of the Society over the past twelve months and more. Special thanks to Professor Alexandra Lamont who resigned as Trustee in November 2024 and, in particular, for all her work both as Trustee and Editor in Chief of PoM over a number of years. Despite the continuing fall-out from the pandemic and the need for extensive virtual communication, we continue to have a successful global presence in the worlds of music education and music psychology through our charitable work. This embraces our portfolio of publications (three journals, a significant web presence and book series), support for international conferences and small grants award schemes, as well as funding for special projects to support underserved communities in different parts of the world now badged as 'Making a Difference' (see below).

- 6.1.2. *Administrator* (Josephine Borradaile) Our part-time Administrator, Josephine has continued to be central to our organisational success and we are very grateful for her persistent care, positivity and attention to detail. Her work is invaluable in ensuring that we offer a coherent programme of activities and support.
- 6.1.3. *Editors and Assistants* (Journals): My sincere thanks to the respective teams who take such professional care and pride in leading our three SAGE journals:
- Special thanks to Professor Alexandra Lamont, who stepped down as Editor in Chief at the end of September 2024 and a warm welcome to the two new Joint Editors in Chief, Dr Nikki Moran and Dr Michelle Phillips. Special thanks too to the two Assistant Editors Dr Karen Wise and Dr Katerina Drakoulaki [Psychology of Music];
  - Joint Editors in Chief, Associate Professor Julie Ballantyne and Dr Alexis Kallio, and Assistant Editor Dr Elizabeth MacGregor [Research Studies in Music Education]; and
  - Professor Ian Cross, Editor in Chief, and Assistant Editor Dr Scott Bannister [Music and Science].
- 6.1.4. My thanks also to our other SEMPRES colleagues, supporters and organisations who each make a singular contribution to our success as an international learned society:
- *Book Reviews Editor* (Professor Evangelos Himonides: who stepped down on 30 June 2024; IC noted that he had been in discussions with Sage about the integration of book reviews but this had not progressed further. Currently exploring other avenues and also considering the possibility of having a dedicated section on the website. Also investigating the allocation of DOIs for book reviews across all three journals – this is particularly valuable for early career researchers provides an incentive to take on reviews);
  - *SEMPRE Webmaster* (Professor Evangelos Himonides: who stepped down on 30 June 2024);
  - *SEMPRE Electronic Media Officer*: We welcome Xi Zhang who took up the role in December 2024 and thank her for her instrumental role in the development and management of the new Sempres website (<https://sempres.org.uk>).
  - *Conference organisers* (Dr Helen Prior & Dr Mary Stakelum)
  - *Our Publishers* (Sage [journals] and Routledge [books])

- *All Our Authors*
- *All Our Reviewers* of the article submissions to our journals and book series for their time, professionalism, expertise and commitment to the rigorous advance of knowledge in the various sciences (social, physical, clinical) associated with music.

**6.2. Journals** – IC noted the ongoing success for our two established journals and our newer online journal, each produced by Sage: *Psychology of Music* (now in its 53<sup>rd</sup> year of publication), *Research Studies in Music Education* and *Music and Science* (open access). IC reported that he was working with SAGE to get an impact factor for Music & Science as Clarivate are not as helpful as we would wish institutionally: this is not an issue of quality. Our special thanks to Miriam Hodge and her colleagues at SAGE for their continued support for all our journals and mission: See Annex for the highlights of 2024 from SAGE.

**6.3. SAGE-based Income for SEMPRES over the past decade and more (January to December)**

IC presented the overview of royalties noting how these had remained healthy despite significant changes to publishing in recent years:

*Income 2010 = £61,312.15*

*Income 2011 = £59,673.18*

*Income 2012 = £102,480.50*

*Income 2013 = £111,310.33*

*Income 2014 = £112,944.58*

*Income 2015 = £128,134*

*Income 2016 = £134,482.90*

*Income 2017 = £150,593.98*

*Income 2018 = £146,684.04*

*Income 2019 = £159,460.48*

*Income 2020 = £161,221.50*

*Income 2021 = £133,354.13*

*Income 2022 = £162,479.25*

*Income 2023 = £152,163.68*

*Projected Income for 2024 = £143,278.67*



#### 6.4. Routledge (formerly Ashgate SEMPRES Book Series) 2024

To note the continued growth in the number of volumes – see details below:

<https://www.routledge.com/SEMPRE-Studies-in-The-Psychology-of-Music/book-series/SEMPRE> = N = 55 authors and 46 volumes to date, including new volumes by Tuomas Eerola, Oscar Odena, Georgia Volioti and Daniel Barolsky, Janson Goopy, and an edited collection by Mats Kussner, Liila Taruffi and Georgia Floriou, plus 6 volumes commissioned.

#### 6.5 SEMPRES Awards

IC drew members attention to the number of awards made over the last two decades and to the additions to Sempres award portfolio.

##### 2024

- a. As at December 2024, SEMPRES total awards over the past 20 years since 2004/5 now total £1,134,372.

In November 2024 the Trustees reviewed the current award portfolio and wording. Two new awards have been instigated: One for Rosamund Shuter following her recent legacy for the Society

(<https://sempre.org.uk/awards/award-categories/rosamund-shuter-award/>)

and the other for Fabia Franco (<https://sempre.org.uk/awards/award-categories/fabia-franco-award/>):

##### **Rosamund (text by Desmond Sergeant): New SEMPRES award of £3000 on 'assessment in the psychology of music and/or music education'**

Rosamund Shuter was a psychologist who had a great interest in music and musical abilities. She was a founder-member of the Society for Research in Psychology of Music and Music Education (SRPMME – now SEMPRES) and later a distinguished editor of its journal *Psychology of Music*. Rosamund presented her doctoral research at London University in 1964 on *An Investigation of Hereditary and Environmental Factors in Musical Ability*. This theme became a principal thrust of her subsequent work, which over a period of thirty years brought some thirty papers in professional journals, many of them in the *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education* (CRME). Her first book *The Psychology of Musical Ability* (1968) became a go-to resource for anyone interested in the field and still, after 60 years since its first publication, provides a valuable background to this area of research. Rosamund was a person of great charm, and in her later years

her religion became a great support in her life and lead to several researches on the beliefs and attitudes of church musicians.

**Fabia (text by Ian Cross): New SEMPRES award of £3000 on 'early childhood development and music'**

Fabia Franco's research focused on the development of communicative behaviours, with significant contributions on the roles of gesture, culture and music in the establishment of multimodal communicative capacities. Her work has implications throughout the lifespan but she was particularly concerned with the importance of music in infancy and early childhood.

**b. Latest awards overview comparison for the last 10 years (see below):**

Awards Summary 05/12/2024																						
	2004-2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total	
SEMPRE Awards made	£13,006	£26,494	£8,379	£18,821	£26,931	£55,709	£60,106	£33,849	£64,421	£75,853	£76,305	£71,366	£86,006	£89,177	£74,850	£155,359	£44,466	£42,664	£38,857	£80,423	£1,143,042	
SEMPRE Awards PAID	£13,006	£23,168	£7,657	£18,821	£25,400	£53,816	£56,464	£26,219	£61,833	£70,893	£69,560	£67,730	£83,356	£79,991	£63,366	£136,992	£37,555	£40,802	£22,213	£48,864	£1,007,706	
Awards outstanding	£ 0	£ 3,326	£ 722	£ 0	£ 1,531	£ 1,892	£ 3,643	£ 7,630	£ 2,588	£ 4,960	£ 6,745	£ 3,636	£ 2,650	£ 9,186	£ 1,000	£ 13,728	£ 1,375	£ 2,473	£ 13,387	£ 31,032	£ 135,336	
With adjustments total of awards outstanding																						
Note: All awards made in euros and US \$ are shown above in sterling equivalent value.																						

## 6.6 Miller Investments

### 2024

These stand at £376,093 as at December 2024.

## 6.7 SEMPRES International Projects:

We are celebrating our impact as a Society under the umbrella of our new 'Making a Difference' Awards (<https://sempre.org.uk/awards/success-stories/>)

Our international projects over the past few years have involved initiatives in cultural education in India and Nepal; special needs projects in Pakistan, Haiti and Brazil; music for young children in Afghanistan; new and ongoing support for post-earthquake survivors in container schools in Turkey, several projects on music for inclusion and literacy in Kenya, plus music education in Uganda and family support through music in Gambia. We have also supported a new music education and ecology programme in an underserved community in NE Brazil. We also have been working with ISME in its new regional initiative to enrich and promote music education in under-served communities in various parts of the world, originally launched in 2021. Recipients are from Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico,

South Africa and US (focused on native Americans). See <https://www.isme.org/news/isme-sempre-music-education-research-grant-recipients-announced> Our latest collaboration is with the ISME Research Commission in 2025-2026 to support research-informed music education for underserved communities in Kenya, Uganda, Nepal, Canada and India.

#### **7. Treasurer's Report overview for 2024** (Professor Karen Burland)

(See Annex for the official accounts as reported to the Charity Commissioners for the period ending 31 December 2023 and an overview of our finances as at December 2024.) IC invited KB-C to introduce this item. KB-C said she had little to add to the report below but noted that Sempre was in a really good position, investing wisely and keeping a weekly eye on the performance of the society's Miller Investments.

SEMPRE's finances are extremely healthy for two reasons:

- i. Larger than expected royalties from SAGE in the previous year. On 29 April 2024 we received a total of £152,163.68 for 2023 an increase on the projected figure of: £148,597. The projected royalties figure for 2024 due to paid by 30 April 2025, are £143,278.67.
- ii. A sharp rise in the value of our Miller Investments which now stand at £376,093 against our total investment of £300,000.

In 2024 we have promised around £80,423 of awards with an overall committed total of £1,143,042 (£1,134,372 paid) since 2004/05. Trustees have reviewed the award portfolio taking into account the £15,000 legacy payment received on 1 June 2023 from Rosamund Bourke's estate and these revisions are reflected in the expanded range of awards on the new SEMPRES website (<https://sempre.org.uk/awards/>).

Finances are very healthy across our accounts and with a total of £82,778 of funds committed overall and projected annual running costs for SEMPRES of just over £49,000, I would suggest that our spending is appropriate.

By way of some background to this proposal: our Miller Investments were opened in December 2015 with an initial investment of £50,000, £50,000 in December 2018, £50,000 in March 2019 and most recently £150,000 in August 2024 making a total investment of £300,000. As at 2 December 2024 our Miller Investments portfolio value stands at £376,093 an increase in value of £76,000.

Lastly, just to confirm that our auditors Crouch Chapman reviewed our 2022-2023 accounts and these were submitted as part of our Charity Commission submission on 31 January 2024 for the financial period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. Then in line with the recommendations of Crouch Chapman we moved our reporting period to calendar years which required an additional submission on 31 October 2024 for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 December 2023.

Just to note that our next submission for the Charity Commission will be 31 October 2025 for the financial period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. This move will better reflect the way our income from both royalties and membership is received.

Finally, I would like to thank Josephine once again for her continued efforts in supporting the Society – she is vital to its smooth operation.

**8. Membership Report** (Josephine Borradaile)

See Annex for report. IC invited JfB for comment and she noted that there had been a pleasing increase in memberships in 2024 with a return to pre-pandemic levels in part due to previous members returning and also the impact of the Music & Science author initiative.

**9. Editors' Reports** (see Annex for editors' reports)

IC asked the editors present if they had any additional comments but they all advised members to view the reports contained in the annex.

**9.1. *Psychology of Music*** (Dr Nikki Moran, Dr Michelle Phillips, Dr Karen Wise and Dr Katerina Drakoulaki)

**9.2. *Research Studies in Music Education*** (Associate Professor Julie Ballantyne, Dr Alexis Kallio and Dr Elizabeth MacGregor)

**9.3 *Music & Science*** (Professor Ian Cross and Dr Scott Bannister)

**10. Conference Secretary and Conference Liaison Officer** (report by Dr Helen Prior and Dr Mary Stakelum)

See Annex for report. IC invited comments from HP and MS: they put in a plea to members for future conference hosts particularly internationally as they are keen to extend their reach. In addition, hosts are needed for both the Autumn of 2025 and the Spring of 2026. HP reiterated her thanks to the current conference organisers who have done such a fantastic job.

#### **11. Webmaster's Report (GfW)**

On behalf of GfW, IC reported that following a tendering process and independent advice, Sempre commissioned a specialist web design company OSCH to design a new website for SEMPRES. In December 2024 a new Sempre Electronic Media Officer, Xi Zhang, was appointed who has been instrumental in the populating of the new design with updated text from the original site and also adding new elements, such as testimonials and images related to successful awards. The new website launched on Wednesday 19 February 2025 (<https://sempre.org.uk>).

IC then presented some of the elements of the new website, focusing in particular on the Awards section and how the kinds of research being supported is being evidenced through previous award recipient testimonials and visual material, noting that it is hoped that this will help to broaden Sempre's reach internationally.

#### **12. Any Other Business**

IC noted that Sempre remains committed to supporting diversity and inclusion in all our activities, as illustrated by our range of awards globally in each of the world's regions. Dr Mary Stakelum continues to lead on our policy development related to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, working with music colleagues across the higher education sector in the UK.

#### **13. DONM**

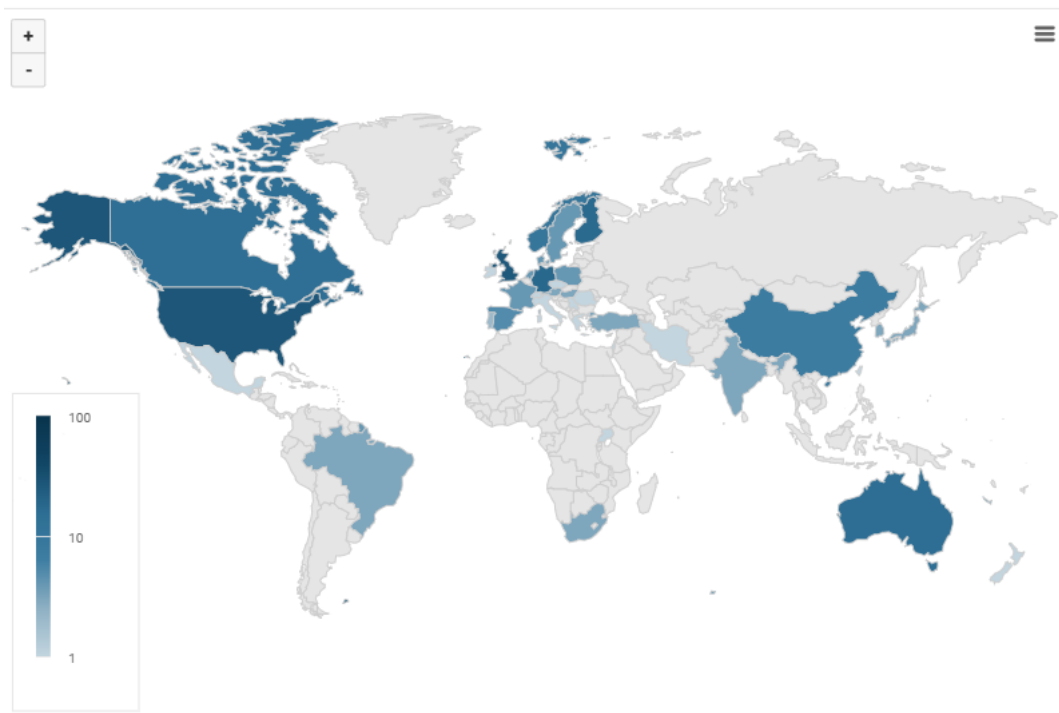
To be confirmed for Spring 2026.

## Annex 1: AGM 2025 Reports

### SAGE Overview for 2024

#### SEMPRE Journals headlines:

- All three SEMPRE journals remain among the highest cited music journals at Sage and continue to receive hundreds of manuscript submissions each year. In 2024 all three journals saw increases in the number of submissions and have a healthy pipeline of accepted papers. Collectively, the journals published authors from 38 countries in 2024 – from Australia through Finland, Mexico and Uganda.



- SEMPRE Journals now attract over 1.1m article downloads per year and can be accessed at thousands of institutions across the world.
- *Psychology of Music* is indexed in four categories in Clarivate Analytics' Social Sciences Citation Index with an Impact Factor of 1.6. It is ranked 3 out of 180 journals in Scopus' Music CiteScore category and has a Google Scholar H5-index of 34. *Research Studies in Music Education* is indexed in Clarivate Analytics' Emerging Sources Citation Index, and achieved its second Impact Factor of 1.3 last year. Impressively, RSME is ranked 1 out of 111 journals in Clarivate's Journal Citation Indicator (JCI) ranking, which is a measure of citation impact that is normalized by subject category. It is calculated using citations from items published in the JCI year and prior three years, to items published in the prior three years. Because of the category normalization, a score of 1 means that articles in a journal received a number of citations equal to the average citation count in that subject category. RSME's JCI score is 3.09. RSME's CiteScore position in the music category is 11 and it's Google Scholar H5-index is 24. *Music & Science* has moved up two places to 13 in the Music CiteScore category and has a Google Scholar H5-index of 19.
- Sage is grateful for the excellent journals' Editors for continuing rigorous peer review, publishing impactful content, and expanding to new communities despite challenges in the publishing industry.

### Sage Publishing 2024 news:

- Sage's [Open Access Agreements](#) continued to grow in 2024, increasing the routes to open access (OA) for our authors. We secured new agreements with consortia and institutions in Hungary, Malta, Spain, Turkey, and the USA, further broadening access and funding options. Over the year we published more than 15,000 Hybrid OA articles and more than 16,000 Gold OA articles, leading to 45% of all articles published OA. By increasing Open Access Agreements and working with key policymakers, Sage ensures journals are competitive while remaining sustainable and compliant with key funder requirements.
- Our Research Integrity Team grew to provide expanded support and resources for journal editors and societies in ensuring the content we publish upholds the highest standard of research integrity and publication ethics. In combination with our [updated ethical policies](#) on [the use of AI in publishing](#), we launched a [course on ChatGPT literacy](#) to collate guidance on ethical ways to use AI as a tool in research. We also adopted the [Dimensions Author Check](#) tool by Digital Science to more readily identify research integrity concerns. Additionally, we hosted a public webinar on [Fact Checking Sources](#). We highlight many of these updated resources and our latest guidance in our newly updated and formatted manuscript submission guidelines, which rolled out to many journals this past year. Sage remains vigilant as new challenges and threats to research integrity arise and we would like to thank our publishing partners for working with us in this important area.
- In 2024, Sage's journals team expanded our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) resources for editors, authors, and readers, including more webinars, events, and microsites highlighting key issues. For a deeper look at our efforts, please read the DEI section of this report or visit our [DEI hub](#).

## ***Psychology of Music***

### **Editorial Report**

As incoming Editors in Chief, we are delighted to have taken on this role for *Psychology of Music* in a joint capacity. We extend our sincere thanks to Prof Alex Lamont for all the guidance and instruction shared during this generous transition period, including several induction meetings and fairly continuous email exchanges since late September. We are grateful to Alex for remaining involved as outgoing editor until the end of the month, and of course for her huge contribution to the continuing health and success of the journal. We have big shoes to fill.

Since picking up the reins at the start of October, we have enjoyed meeting Sage editorial and production teams; establishing working arrangements between ourselves as joint Editors and with Assistant Editors, Karen Wise and Katerina Drakoulaki; and generally familiarising ourselves with the various stages of editorial workflow. We have also found the SEMPRES music journal editors team meetings to be highly supportive.

The start of our stewardship is of course an opportunity to reflect on the journal's strengths and strategy and set the course for the coming few years. We have begun to review and to expand the Associate Editor team in order to keep pace with the increasing submission load to the journal, and we are pleased to report a further four ASEs will shortly join the team. We expect to recruit at least as many again early in the new year. We will be targeting various specialisms which we feel could broaden the scope of the expertise in this group, including VR, music and evolution, and pop music. We intend to maintain and develop Prof Lamont's strategy to move towards stricter triage at each stage (Assistant Editor, Editor in Chief, and Associate Editor), in order to focus ASE, peer-review and editorial efforts on those submissions which can best serve the journal's aims in terms of scope, quality, and impact.

Our plans for the next few months include inductions for new ASEs; review and update of web content to ensure consistency and accuracy across both the journal's SAGE and SEMPRES landing pages, including our review of author guidelines where these have lately been overtaken by the new SAGE generic guidelines. With sister SEMPRES music journal editorial teams, we will continue to explore and implement strategies around Open Research. We're expecting to formalise the journal handover in the new year with an Editorial (likely Issue 2), and a separate communication to all PoM authors, reviewers and associate editors.

Finally, it seems likely that we'll be finessing the way we carry out the role of Editor(s)-in-Chief in a joint capacity for a little while yet, to make sure that the workload and our relationships across all team members are effective and distributed, rather than doubled. (We've got a very swish system of communicating which is a combination of Teams, One Note and Outlook to do lists!)

Thanks again to the SAGE team for excellent support – welcome to Sapphire Wallis and our best wishes to Hollie Evans - and sincere thanks as always to Karen Wise and Katerina Drakoulaki for all their support and valued contributions as we learn the ropes.

We look forward to feeling very at home as part of the PoM family, and to working with and learning from all of you.

**Michelle Phillips and Nikki Moran**  
**Editors in Chief, *Psychology of Music***



Julie Ballantyne, Alexis Kallio and Elizabeth MacGregor

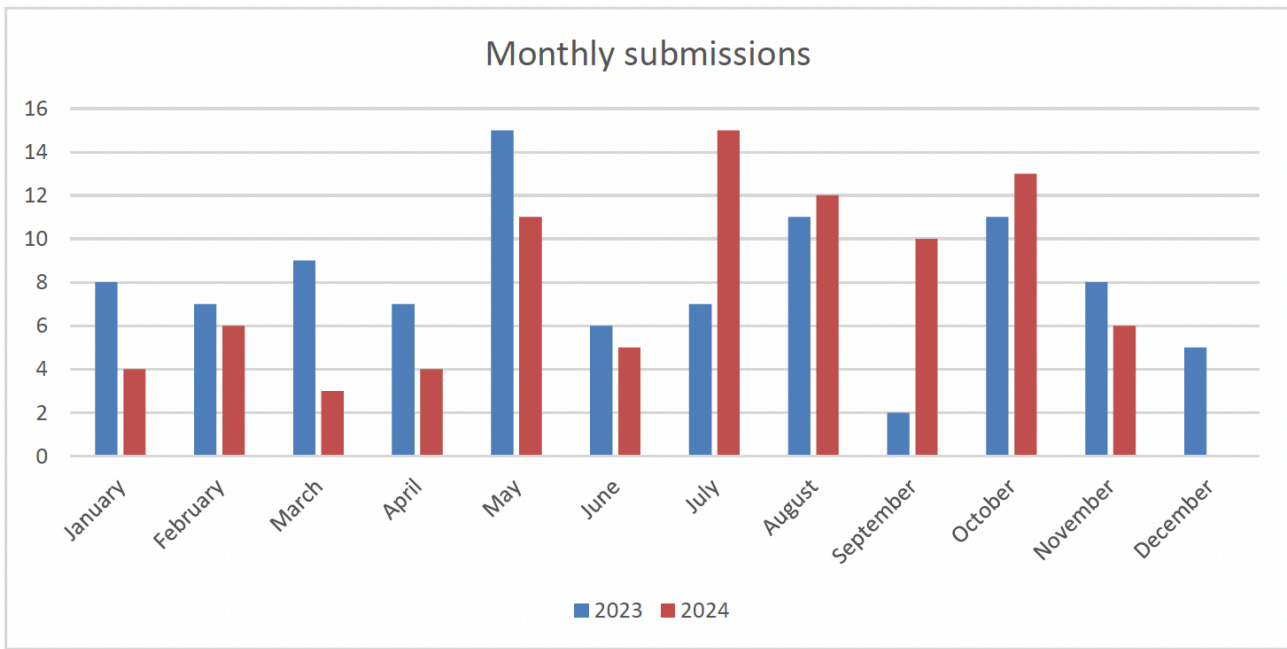
It has been a successful year for *Research Studies in Music Education*, with manuscript submissions equaling those of the previous year. We are grateful to our many peer reviewers who help maintain the rigorous academic standards upheld by the journal. Acknowledging these contributions, the Editorial Team are currently updating the Editorial Board for 2025. Our conviction that the underrepresentation of particular sociocultural groups hampers the development of the field through limiting engagement with diverse scholarly perspectives, lived experiences, and musics is guiding our work in addition to the identification of gaps in expertise. The refreshed Editorial Board will represent scholars across countries, career stages, areas, methodological and disciplinary expertise, and will be in place for the first issue of 2025.

Issues

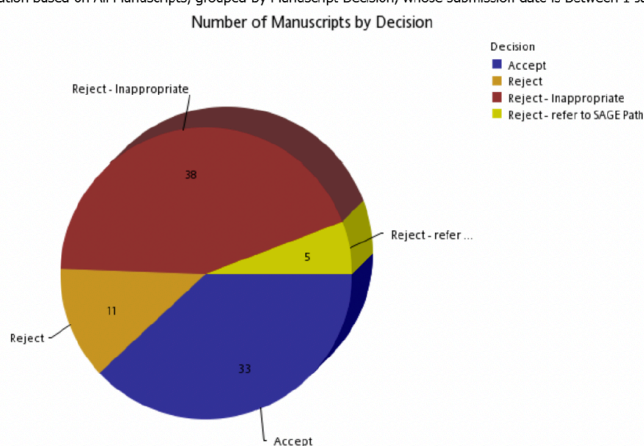
Between July and December 2024, two issues have been published. Volume 46 Issue 2 included one Perspectives article and 10 original research articles; six out of 11 articles were open access. Volume 46 Issue 3 included nine original research articles, five of which were open access. There are currently 17 articles published in OnlineFirst.

Submissions

Although original submissions decreased in the first half of 2024, they have increased significantly since June and have now equalled the submission rate for the same time period in 2023. While in 2023 original submissions peaked in May, in 2024 they did not peak until July. Compared to 2023, acceptance rates for manuscripts in 2024 have decreased by 13.6%.

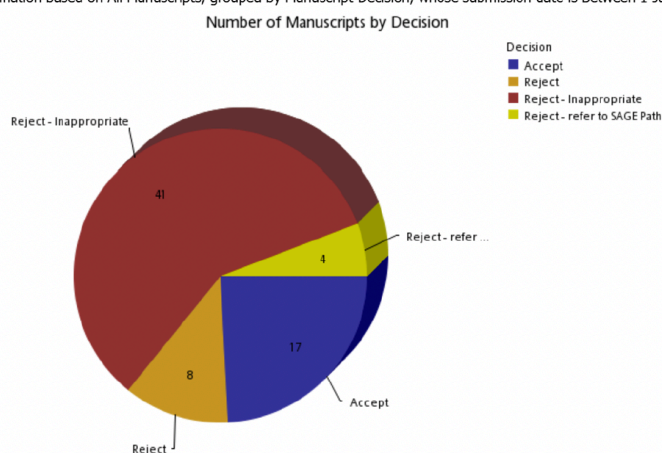


Information based on All Manuscripts, grouped by Manuscript Decision, whose submission date is Between 1 Jan 2023 and 31 Dec 2023.



Manuscript Decision	Number of Manuscripts	Percentage of Total
Accept	33	37.9 %
Reject	11	12.6 %
Reject - Inappropriate	38	43.7 %
Reject - refer to SAGE Path	5	5.8 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>100%</b>

Information based on All Manuscripts, grouped by Manuscript Decision, whose submission date is Between 1 Jan 2024 and 31 Dec 2024.



Manuscript Decision	Number of Manuscripts	Percentage of Total
Accept	17	24.3 %
Reject	8	11.4 %
Reject - Inappropriate	41	57.1 %
Reject - refer to SAGE Path	4	5.7 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100%</b>

Of manuscripts with decisions since January 2024, most were submitted from the US (12), Spain (8), Australia (7), China (7), Finland (5), and Malaysia (5). Australia had the highest acceptance rate (86%), followed by Finland (80%). Despite high numbers of submissions, the acceptance rate for the US was only 25% and for Spain was 0%. No papers were accepted from Malaysia and only one was accepted from China; however, the authors of the latter paper failed to sign the copyright forms and therefore the paper has not progressed to publication. Three Chinese manuscripts that were rejected were submitted by the same group of authors and the veracity of their work could not be proven.

	<i>Ac.</i>	<i>Re.</i>		<i>Ac.</i>	<i>Re.</i>
Australia	6	1	Macao	1	1
Austria	1	0	Malaysia	0	5
Bangladesh	0	2	Netherlands	2	0
Brazil	1	0	Norway	1	1
Chile	0	1	Portugal	1	0
China	1	6	Serbia	0	1
Czech Republic	0	1	South Africa	0	1
Egypt	0	1	Spain	0	8
Finland	4	1	Sweden	0	1
Ghana	0	1	Thailand	0	3
Hong Kong	0	1	Turkey	0	1
India	0	3	Uganda	1	0
Italy	0	2	UK	2	2
Japan	0	3	US	3	9
Kazakhstan	0	1	Zambia	0	1
Korea	0	1			
			<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>59</b>

The editorial team would like to flag repeated submissions by authors of concern, sometimes affiliated with non-existent institutions and using potentially fabricated data or AI-generated text. This highlights the need for a proactive approach to ensuring academic integrity within an increasingly complex landscape. We continue our discussions with SAGE to assist in identifying issues of plagiarism and academic integrity, and wait to see whether the Unusual Activity Detection Tool might be useful in this regard.

*Research Studies in Music Education* is also receiving a substantial number of review articles (scoping reviews, systematic reviews, qualitative metasyntheses, etc.), with 11 submissions in 2024. Six of these were rejected as inappropriate before reaching peer review, suggesting a need for some explicit guidelines and expectations of review articles, especially with regards to an original contribution to knowledge. This is something the Editorial Team will discuss in early 2025 and consider adding to the current submission guidelines on the website.

**Julie Ballantyne, Alexis Kallio and Elizabeth MacGregor, December 2024**



*Music & Science*

Progress report for SEMPRES Committee Meeting, 10 December 2024

This year we have sustained a healthy number of submissions (113 to date) and have published 51 research articles (with three book reviews currently in production). These developments have been supported, in part, by our strategic promotion of the possibility of creating Special Collections (four were completed this year, two are in train and we hope to solicit a further two) but also appear to reflect the growing visibility of the journal within the broad field. The increase in APC (to \$854, but with a 50% discount for SEMPRES members) does not appear to have diminished the journal's attractiveness as a publishing destination. We receive a number of papers (typically from countries or regions with emerging research conventions) which are not publishable and which we reject on receipt (with, where appropriate, constructive feedback).

Early in the year we renewed our Editorial Board (whose members serve as Action Editors, on the *Frontiers* model) to ensure that we have as wide a disciplinary and geographical spread as possible. We still await details on the pending application for a formal impact factor; despite the lack of this, the journal stands 12th (out of 226) in the *Scopus Citescore* list of journals in Music, and 29th (out of 281) in History and Philosophy of Science.

**Published articles**

	Vol. 1 (2018)	Vol. 2 (2019)	Vol. 3 (2020)	Vol. 4 (2021)	Vol. 5 (2022)	Vol. 6 (2023)	Vol. 7 (2024)	Total
Research articles	30	21	30	38	27	43	51	230
Book reviews	2	1	0	3	4	0	0	10
Letter to the Editor							1	1
Conference reports	3	0	3	0	1	2	0	9
Total	35	22	33	41	32	45	52	232

**Of the 274 papers accepted for publication, the following countries are represented:**

Country	2017/18*	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Argentina	1							1
Australia	4	4	6	2	1	4	2	23
Austria		1		3	2	2	1	9
Belgium				2	1			3
Canada	6	2	1	3	2	3	5	22
Colombia					1			1
Czech Republic							1	1
Denmark	1					1	3	5
Finland	3	2	3	1	1	2	4	16
France				1	1	2	3	7
Germany	6	2	1	3	8	7	5	32
Greece				1			1	2
Hong Kong				1				1
Hungary						1	2	3
India						1		1
Israel	1		1		1			3
Italy						1		1
Japan	1			1		1	1	4
Mexico							1	1
Netherlands	1		1	1	1		1	5
Norway			1		2	8	3	14
Poland				1				1
Portugal				1	1			2
Republic of Korea						1		1
Singapore					1			1
South Africa							1	1
Spain							1	1
Sweden	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Switzerland	1		1	2	1	4		9
Taiwan							1	1
UK	8	3	10	12	7	7	10	57
USA	5	4	7	5	3	3	9	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>273</b>

\*Date = decision date (not publication date)

At present, there are 12 original or revised submissions where we await reviewer scores; 2 submissions await a decision by the Action Editor; 15 papers are awaiting major revisions.

## Statistics

### Manuscripts received by year (original submissions):

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan		2	3	6	4	10	2	9
Feb		2	2	2	9	3	10	14
Mar		7	7	3	8	7	9	10
Apr		4	4	7	5	4	7	6
May		2	5	6	1	4	8	7
June	10	6	2	3	4	4	7	8
July	11	6	3	4	2	5	5	12
Aug	16	4	5	8	8	16	7	6
Sep	4	2	2	1	4	12	8	18
Oct	8	10	5	6	5	21	11	14
Nov	2	5	3	6	9	6	13	10
Dec	3	5	16	9	3	4	7	
	54	55	57	61	62	96	94	113

### Time until first decision (original submissions since June 2017):

Average days: 71 (N = 592)

Time to Accept (since June 2017):

Research articles (N=249):  $M=263$  days ( $SD=158.63$  days); range: 1–980 days.

Book reviews/conference reports (N=22):  $M= 22$  days ( $SD=46.90$  days); range: 0–182 days.

### Rejection/acceptance rate:

Year	Reject	Accept
2017	42.9% (N=12)	57.1% (N=16)
2018	42.9% (N=18)	57.1% (N=24)
2019	52.4% (N=22)	47.6% (N=20)
2020	41.7% (N=25)	58.3% (N=35)
2021	42.2% (N=27)	57.8% (N=37)
2022	52.9% (N=37)	47.1% (N=33)
2023	42.9% (N=39)	57.1% (N=52)
2024	48% (N = 48)	52% (N = 52)

Total: 45.8% (N=228) / 54.2% (N=269)



### Special Collections in progress

	Status	N
1) <i>Music Psychology Research in a Complex World</i> (N = 13)	Select Reviewers	1
	Accept	6
	Reject	6
2) <i>Explaining music with AI: Advancing the scientific understanding of music through computation</i> (N = 16)	Select reviewers	0
	Assign reviewers	0
	Awaiting reviewer scores	0
	Make decision	0
	Accept	7
	Reject	8
	Withdrawn	1
	Major revision	0
	Minor revision	0
3) <i>Music and Mental Imagery</i> (N = 18)	Select reviewers	0
	Invite reviewers	0
	Assign reviewers	0
	Awaiting reviewer scores	0
	Accept	12
	Reject	6
	Major revision	0
	Minor revision	0
4) <i>MusicLab Copenhagen ft. The Danish String Quartet</i> (N = 13)	Assign reviewers	0
	Awaiting reviewer scores	1
	Minor revision	1
	Accept	10
	Reject	1
5) <i>Contemporary Auditory Ecosystems and Innovative Musical Contexts: Insights into the Aesthetics and Perception of Sonorous Objects</i> (N = 1)	Accept	1
6) <i>Timbre: From Sound to Meaning</i> (N = 13)	Select reviewers	0
	Awaiting reviewer scores	0
	Accept	11
	Reject	1
	Withdrawn	1
7) <i>Interdisciplinary and intercultural perspectives on musical care</i> (N = 4)	Major revision	2
	Make decision	1
	Reject	1

See <https://journals.sagepub.com/page/mns/special-collections> for further information.

Scott Bannister and Ian Cross, December 2024

## SEMPRE Conference Update, December 2024

### **Recent events:**

*In association with SEMPRE:*

ESCOM<sub>12</sub>

Multi-Hub Conference, based in York; La Plata; and Melbourne

Andrea Schiavio and Helena Daffern (York)

July 3–6 2024

<https://sites.google.com/york.ac.uk/escom12/>

*SEMPRE Conference:*

Autumn 2024:

Online Student Study Day

Date: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November

HP (University of Hull)

Presentations from students across the globe – Mexico, Brazil, Canada, Australia, Italy, Poland, UK.

Surprisingly, no delegates from India, despite their keen interest in the latest MET conference, and none situated in China.

### **Future Events:**

*SEMPRE Conference:* (See the SEMPRE Website for details)

Spring 2025: Intersections between music psychology and education

RNCM (Jane Ginsborg, Michelle Phillips)

April 9–10 2025

- Hickman Award is due at this conference – please encourage your PhD students and recent doctoral graduates to apply where appropriate.

<https://www.sempre.org.uk/conferences/forthcoming>

*Conference in Association with SEMPRE (tbc):*

SYSMUS 25

11th to 13th June 2025

<https://www.uio.no/ritmo/english/news-and-events/events/conferences/2025/sysmus25/>

*Conference in Association with SEMPRE:*

ICMPC 18 – Sao Paulo, Brazil

July 21-25, 2025

<https://icmpc2025.abccogmus.com/>

SEMPRE Autumn Conference 2025 – host needed!

### **Hosting by Lower-HDI Countries:**

- Since the last committee meeting, a proposal was developed to assist researchers in lower HDI Countries to host conferences, to balance face-to-face and online activity more equitably across the globe, bearing in mind sustainability considerations.
- Host institutions would be able to apply for funding for equipment to assist them in hosting a hybrid conference – and this would be kept by the institution for future use for conferences. They would also be able to apply for the costs of one keynote speaker for the event. This is in addition to the existing options of funding for technical support and funding for reasonably local student/unwaged travel.
- Host institutions are currently being identified...

Helen Prior and Mary Stakelum, December 2024



SEMPRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted funds Period 31 December 2023 £	Restricted funds Period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds Period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds Year 31 March 2023 £
	Note				
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	15,000	-	15,000	-
Charitable activities	5	163,992	-	163,992	166,455
Investments	6	3,906	-	3,906	5,365
Other income	7	6,039	-	6,039	5
<b>Total income</b>		<b>188,937</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>188,937</b>	<b>171,825</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	8	64,467	-	64,467	134,832
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>64,467</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,467</b>	<b>134,832</b>
<b>Net income before net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>124,470</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>124,470</b>	<b>36,993</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		9,700	-	9,700	(8,805)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>134,170</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>134,170</b>	<b>28,188</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		593,663	1,236	594,899	566,711
Net movement in funds		134,170	-	134,170	28,188
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>727,833</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>729,069</b>	<b>594,899</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

The notes on pages 11 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

**SEMPRE**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	31 December 2023 £	31 March 2023 £
Investments	13	204,958	193,481
		<u>204,958</u>	<u>193,481</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	14	153,799	167,507
Cash at bank and in hand		386,967	307,839
		<u>540,766</u>	<u>475,346</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(16,655)	(73,928)
		<u>524,111</u>	<u>401,418</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			
		<u>524,111</u>	<u>401,418</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>729,069</u>	<u>594,899</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>729,069</u>	<u>594,899</u>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	17	1,236	1,236
Unrestricted funds	17	727,833	593,663
		<u>729,069</u>	<u>594,899</u>
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>729,069</u>	<u>594,899</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
**Professor Graham F Welch**  
Trustee  
Date: 31 October 2024

The notes on pages 11 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

## Financial Summary

SEMPRE				
Financial Summary @ 5 December 2024				
	Sterling 05-12-2024	PAYPAL 05-12-2024	Miller Investments £	National Accounts Savings £
	As at 02-12-2024		As at 1.1.24	
Account Balances	£170,703	£43,564	£376,093	£49,239
Committed Expenditure to 31 December 2024				
1. SEMPRES Team invoices to 31 December 2024	£9,880			
2. Website development (tbc)				
Outstanding Invoices/ Awards for payment				
1. Outstanding awards - see separate AWARDS spreadsheet (nb: includes £15,763k remaining to be claimed for 50th Anniversary awards)	£62,995			
Total Awards/Expenditure outstanding:	£72,875	£9,903		
		£9,903		£0
Adjusted Account Balances	£97,828	£33,662	£376,093	£49,239
*NB: RIME 2021+ RIME 2023 Income - £9,902.70: ring fenced for Mary; + MET2024				

## Membership Report (Josephine Borradaile)

### SEMPRE Membership Report – December 2024 COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS' MEMBERSHIP

Year	SEMPRE Individual	Notes:
2008	263	Free: 49 SACCoM: 52 New: 60
2009	253	Free & SACCoM: 46 New: 45
2010	228	Free & SACCoM: 55 New: 56
2011	284	Free: 46 SACCoM: 57 New: 94
2012	282	Free: 17 SACCoM: 69 New: 60
2013	265	Free: 11 SACCoM: 67 New: 74
2014	274	Free: 10 SACCoM: 73 New: 62
2015	294	Free: 39 SACCoM: 74 New: 84
2016	290	Free: 25 SACCoM: 77 New: 70
2017	225	Free: 12 SACCoM: 57 New: 24
2018	273	Free: 60 SACCoM: 66 New: 43
2019	271	Free: 90 SACCoM: 66 New: 107
2020	181	Free: 20 SACCoM: 73 New: 51
2021	189	Free: 3 SACCoM: 81 New: 40
2022	193	Free: 14 SACCoM: 80 New: 58
2023	208	Free: 28 SACCoM: 80 (tbc) New: 38
2024	271	Free: 51 SACCoM: 113 New: 70

Josephine Borradaile December 2024

**Charity number: 295670**

**SEMPRE**

**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

RPGCC  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor  
40 Gracechurch Street  
London  
EC3V 0BT

## **SEMPRE**

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## SEMPRE

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Trustees	Professor Ian Cross Professor Adam Ockelford Professor Graham F Welch, Chair Dr Mary Stakelum (resigned 2 June 2025) Professor Alex Lamont (resigned 30 November 2024) Dr Helen Prior (appointed 6 December 2024) Professor Karen Burland Clark (appointed 13 June 2025)
Charity registered number	295670
Principal office	Collage Artspace 2 4 Coburg Road London N22 6UJ
Secretary	Professor Adam Ockelford
Treasurer	Professor Karen Burland Clark
Accountants	RPGCC Chartered Accountants 40 Gracechurch Street London EC3V 0BT
Financial Advisers	SCM Private LLP Waverley Court Wilteil Road Lichfield Staffordshire WS14 9ET
Independent Examiner	Jeremy Tyrrell RPGCC 40 Gracechurch Street London EC3V 0BT

## **SEMPRE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

#### **Objects and Activities**

The object of the Society is the advancement of education and research concerning the Psychology of Music and Music Education for the benefit of people throughout the world.

In furtherance of the above object, but not further or otherwise, the Society through its Trustees, has the following powers:

- To bring together, through the medium of regular regional, national and international conferences and associated publications (in print and electronic forms), researchers, policy makers and practitioners in the field of music education and music psychology and contingent fields arts and sciences who may be working in comparative isolation, and to foster a positive relationship between practising music teachers, music psychologists, music therapists, community musicians, other practitioners, policy makers and researchers and their respective fields of activity;
- To support, in any appropriate way, research undertaken in the psychology of music and music education by members of the Society and others working in the field. This may include financial support at the discretion of the Trustees, should funds be available (for example, for the SEMPRE Awards programme);
- To enable individuals involved in research to inform others about their work and obtain comment and criticism;
- To publish periodically journals, including the Society's current journals as at the date of adoption of this Constitution (being the following: 'Psychology of Music', 'Research Studies in Music Education' and 'Music and Science'), either acting alone or with an appropriate internationally recognised publisher;
- To publish book series, including as at the date of adoption of this Constitution 'SEMPRE Studies in the Psychology of Music';
- To make grants, awards or loans of money and to give guarantees;
- To co-operate with other bodies;
- To raise funds (but not by means of taxable trading);
- To borrow money and give security for loans (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the Charities Act 2011 (as amended or re-enacted from time to time));
- To acquire or hire property of any kind;



## **SEMPRE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

- To let or dispose of property of any kind (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the Charities Act 2011 (as amended or re-enacted from time to time));
- To set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure;
- To deposit or invest in funds in any manner (but to invest only after obtaining such advice from a financial expert as the Trustees consider necessary and having regard to the suitability of investments and the need for diversification);
- To delegate the management of investments to a financial expert, but only on terms that:
  - i) the investment policy is recorded in writing for the financial expert by the Trustees;
  - ii) every transaction is reported promptly to the Trustees;
  - iii) the performance of the investments is reviewed regularly with the Trustees;
  - iv) the Trustees are entitled to cancel the delegation arrangement at any time
  - v) the investment policy and the delegation arrangement are reviewed at least once a year;
  - vi) all payments due to the financial expert are on a scale or at a level which is agreed in advance and are reported promptly to the Trustees on receipt;
  - vii) the financial expert must not do anything outside the powers of the Trustees;
- To insure the property of the Society against any foreseeable risk and take out other insurance policies to protect the Society when required;
- To employ paid or unpaid agents, staff or advisers;
- To enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of other bodies;
- To establish or acquire subsidiary companies to assist or act as agents for the Society;
- To do all such other things as shall further the object of the Society.

### **Public benefit**

SEMPRE is achieving public benefit by assisting in the advancement and promotion of education and research concerning the Psychology of Music and Music Education for the benefit of people throughout the world.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The year 2024 was marked by Sempre continuing with its wide range of successful core activities. Our three successful journals are published commercially by Sage: Psychology of Music, Research Studies in Music Education, and Music and Science and, in consultation with colleagues, we took the opportunity to refresh the editorial teams of the first two of these journals. Meanwhile, our book series with Routledge in The Psychology of Music now has 46 titles and 55 authors, and with more books in press and under review. Both of two publishers report a continued healthy take-up by international audiences, and the Sempre titles are seen as central to their music offerings. We have also continued to support a range of national and international conferences, both by our own members and also by associated organisations in the music education and music psychology fields, such as the International Society for Music Education. Our portfolio of charitable awards has continued, now totalling over £1.1m since its inception in 2004/5, and with support for major global conferences in the planning phase for 2025 and 2026. The awards continue to be mainly as prime funding for small-scale research as well as for individual students and unwaged researchers to attend national and international events in the Psychology of Music and Music Education, in line with SEMPRE's distinct mission. Also, in accordance with our ethical travel policy, we continue to provide funding to organisations to use electronic media to allow more remote participation in their conferences and to

Page 3

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

reduce air travel. Our financial assistance includes website development costs and the employment of specialist IT staffing. We also initiated a major review of our own web presence in a competitive tendering exercise, with the revised website being launched early in 2025.

**Investment Policy and Performance**

In accordance with the trust's constitution, the trustees have the power to deposit or invest funds, employ a professional fund-manager and arrange for the investment or other property of the trust to be held in the name of a nominee subject to the Trustee Act 2000. The bulk of the trust's free reserves are currently held in a common investment fund managed by SCM Private LLP. It was decided to add an additional £150,000 of unrestricted funds to the investment portfolio within the year ending 31st December 2024

**Financial Review**

The Trust had total net income, as defined in the Statement of Recommended Practice, for the year of £43,105 (2024: £132,405).

This is after taking into account the effects of net gains on investments of £11,692 (March 2024: net gain of £7,935.) Net income before investment gains was a £31,413 (March 2024: £124,470).

**Reserves Policy**

Funds which are not required for immediate use (including those which will be required for use at a future date) must be placed on deposit or invested until needed.

The charity maintains sufficient, but not excessive, reserves in order to continue its charitable objectives in the foreseeable future.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Society is constituted under a Constitution originally agreed at the AGM on 13th April 2002 and subsequently revised on 29th July 2016.

The Society consists of the members, the Trustees, and the Committee, which includes the Officers of the Society.

**The Trustees**

The Trustees that served during the year were as follows;

Professor Ian Cross  
Professor Alex Lamont (resigned 30 November 2024)  
Professor Adam Ockelford  
Dr Mary Stakelum (resigned 2 June 2025)  
Professor Graham F Welch, Chair  
Professor Karen Burland Clark (appointed 13 June 2025)  
Dr Helen Prior (appointed 6 December 2024)

The Trustees have responsibility for the general management and administration of the Society.

## SEMPRE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions to committees consisting of two or more individuals appointed by them (but at least two members of every committee must be a Trustee) and all proceedings of committees must be recorded in the minute book and reviewed regularly by the Trustees. They may impose conditions when delegating and may revoke or alter a delegation at any time.

There shall be at least three, but not more than five, Trustees.

Trustees are appointed by the Committee from among its number. Each Trustee holds office until the fifth anniversary of his or her appointment, when he or she must retire but shall be eligible for reappointment.

Every Trustee, after appointment or re-appointment, must sign a declaration of willingness to act as a charity trustee of the Society.

A retiring Trustee or member of the Committee is entitled on written request to an indemnity from the Society in respect of any liabilities properly incurred while he or she held office.

The Chair of Trustees is appointed by the Trustees from their number, and may be removed from that office by the Trustees at any time. A person can serve at the same time as both the Chair of Trustees and the Chair of the Committee. The Chair of Trustees does not automatically cease to be a Trustee as a result of ceasing to be the Chair of Trustees.

#### The Committee

The Committee, as established by the Trustees, has responsibility for supporting the Trustees in their management and administration of the Society.

The Trustees delegate such powers to the Committee in relation to management and administration of the Society as the Trustees deem fit from time to time. Such delegation includes the following powers:

- To appoint, from among its number, the Trustees.
- To make standing orders consistent with this Constitution to govern proceedings at General Meetings.
- To make rules consistent with this Constitution to govern its proceedings and proceedings of committees (including itself).
- To make regulations consistent with this Constitution to govern the administration of the Society including the operation of bank accounts and the commitment of funds.
- To resolve, or establish procedures to assist the resolution of, disputes within the Society.

The Committee consists of the Chair of the Committee as elected by the members, the other Honorary Officers of the Society as elected by the members; the Lay Officers, who are lay members elected by members with specific designated roles; up to two Doctoral Student

## SEMPRE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Representatives, nominated by members and appointed by the Committee; and any individuals co-opted by the Committee to fill any vacancies arising.

The Honorary and Lay Officers of the Society have such roles and duties as may be determined from time to time by the Trustees (or the Committee, where it has been given due delegated authority by the Trustees).

The Honorary Officers of the Society (all of whom serve on the Committee) comprise the Chair of the Committee, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Editors of the Society's Journals, and such other persons to fulfil such honorary positions as may be approved by the members at General Meeting from time to time (whether following a proposal of the Trustees, the Committee or of the members).

In the event of any casual vacancy on the Committee, the Committee has the power to co-opt a member to fill the vacancy; such a co-opted member shall exercise the full rights of a member of the Committee and serve until the next Annual General Meeting, at the end of which he or she must retire but shall become eligible for election by the members.

The Trustees have considered the risks to which SEMPRE is exposed. The major risk concerns the continued demand for the charity's publications and the Trustees consider that the risk of a fall in subscriptions is mitigated by:

A Board of Trustees with the necessary experience and competence to ensure continued research and the subsequent publishing of findings and opinions in the publications that are relevant to practitioners and researchers in the fields of music education and music psychology, both individually and combined.

Regular Trustees' meetings with effective reporting to ensure proper review of Operations, Achievement and Performance.

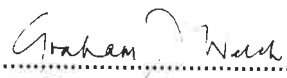
Regular and positive engagement with our international commercial publishing partners to ensure the fitness of our publication portfolio.

#### Going Concern

With solid levels of reserves, a firm control over expenditure, and in the absence of any material uncertainties over the Charity's ability to continue, it is considered by the Trustees to be a going concern for the forthcoming year and the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....  
Professor Graham F Welch

Date: 28/10/25

SEMPRE

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

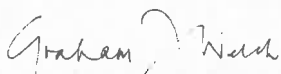
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
**Professor Graham F Welch**  
Trustee

Date: 28/10/25

**SEMPRE**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of SEMPRE ('the charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 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:

 Dated: 29/10/25

Jeremy Tyrrell (FCA)

40 Gracechurch Street  
London  
EC3V 0BT

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds Period
		31 December 2024	31 December 2024	31 December 2024	31 December 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	-	-	-	15,000
Charitable activities	5	148,360	-	148,360	163,992
Investments	6	8,038	-	8,038	3,906
Other income	7	709	-	709	6,039
<b>Total income</b>		<u>157,107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>157,107</u>	<u>188,937</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	8	123,482	2,212	125,694	64,467
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>123,482</u>	<u>2,212</u>	<u>125,694</u>	<u>64,467</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments</b>		33,625	(2,212)	31,413	124,470
Net gains on investments		11,692	-	11,692	7,935
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<u>45,317</u>	<u>(2,212)</u>	<u>43,105</u>	<u>132,405</u>
Transfers between funds	16	(976)	976	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>44,341</u>	<u>(1,236)</u>	<u>43,105</u>	<u>132,405</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		726,068	1,236	727,304	594,899
Net movement in funds		44,341	(1,236)	43,105	132,405
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>770,409</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>770,409</u>	<u>727,304</u>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.


The notes on pages 11 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

# SEMPRE

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Investments	12	369,000	203,193
		<u>369,000</u>	<u>203,193</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	144,913	153,799
Cash at bank and in hand		262,596	386,967
		<u>407,509</u>	<u>540,766</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(6,100)	(16,655)
		<u>401,409</u>	<u>524,111</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>770,409</u>	<u>727,304</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>770,409</u>	<u>727,304</u>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	16	-	1,236
Unrestricted funds	16	770,409	726,068
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>770,409</u>	<u>727,304</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 29 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

  
**Professor Graham F Welch**  
Trustee

The notes on pages 11 to 25 form part of these financial statements.



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1. General information**

SEMPRE is a registered charity, charity number 295670. Its principal office is Collage Artspace 2, 4 Coburg Road, London N22 6UI. The objective of the charity remained the advancement of education and research concerning the Psychology of Music and Music Education for the benefit of people throughout the world.

**2. Accounting policies**

**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

SEMPRE meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

**2.2 Income**

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the charity, can be reliably measured.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.5 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

2.6 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.7 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.9 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.10 Fund accounting

The charity only has general funds. General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.11 Cash Flow Exemption

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is entitled to exemption to provide such a statement.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment**

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. However, for the period ended 31 December 2023, the trustees are of the view that there are no estimates or assumptions that carry the risk of having a material impact on the accounts.

**4. Income from donations and legacies**

	Un- restricted funds	Total funds
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Legacies	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	Unrestricte d funds Period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds Period 31 December 2023 £
Legacies	15,000	15,000
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**5. Income from charitable activities**

	Un- restricted funds	Total funds
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Royalties	143,278	143,278
Individual memberships	2,864	2,864
Conference contributions	2,218	2,218
<u>Total 2024</u>	<u>148,360</u>	<u>148,360</u>

	Un- restricted funds period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds period 31 December 2023 £
Royalties	149,222	149,222
Individual memberships	1,740	1,740
Conference contributions	13,030	13,030
<u>Total 2023</u>	<u>163,992</u>	<u>163,992</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**6. Investment income**

	Un- restricted funds	Total funds
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Dividends	7,426	7,426
Interest	612	612
	<u>8,038</u>	<u>8,038</u>

	Un- restricted funds period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds period 31 December 2023 £
Dividends	3,490	3,490
Interest	416	416
	<u>3,906</u>	<u>3,906</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7. Other incoming resources

	Un- restricted funds	Total funds
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Other incoming resources	709	709

	Un- restricted funds period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds period 31 December 2023 £
Other incoming resources	6,039	6,039

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Un- restricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Promotion of Musical Education	123,482	2,212	125,694

	Un- restricted funds period 31 December 2023 £	Total period 31 December 2023 £
Promotion of Musical Education	64,467	64,467



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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Promotion of Musical Education	102,041	23,653	125,694

	Activities undertaken directly period 31 December 2023 £	Support costs period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds period 31 December 2023 £
Promotion of Musical Education	46,439	18,028	64,467

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 31 December 2024 £	Total funds Period 31 December 2023 £
Awards	47,412	19,002
Bank interest and charges	3,210	362
Conference costs	16,913	-
Editorial and website	28,992	18,756
Investment management	1,270	769
Sundry	3,865	7,550
Travel and Subsistence	379	-
	<u>102,041</u>	<u>46,439</u>

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 31 December 2024 £	Total funds Period 31 December 2023 £
Administration	11,373	8,282
Independent Examination	3,240	3,306
Rent	6,760	5,070
IT	1,455	921
Insurance	825	422
Trustees expenses	-	27
	<u>23,653</u>	<u>18,028</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10. Governance costs

	Un- restricted funds	Total funds
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Accountancy fees & Independent examination	3,240	3,240

	Un- restricted funds Period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds Period 31 December 2023 £
Accountancy fees & Independent examination	3,474	3,474

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 December 2024, expenses totalling £NIL were reimbursed or paid directly to any Trustee (2023 - £NIL to Trustee).

**12. Fixed asset investments**

	Listed investments £
<u>Cost or valuation</u>	
At 1 January 2024	203,193
Additions	225,685
Disposals	(71,570)
Revaluations	11,692
At 31 December 2024	<u>369,000</u>
<u>Net book value</u>	
At 31 December 2024	<u>369,000</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>203,193</u>

**13. Debtors**

	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Due within one year</u>		
Other debtors	144,913	153,799
	<u>144,913</u>	<u>153,799</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	-	3,120
Accruals and deferred income	6,100	13,535
	<u>6,100</u>	<u>16,655</u>

15. Financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Financial assets</u>		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	<u>369,000</u>	<u>203,193</u>

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise the charity's investment portfolio.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>						
General Funds - all funds	726,068	157,107	(123,482)	(976)	11,692	770,409
<u>Restricted funds</u>						
Support for Afghanistan	1,236	-	(2,212)	976	-	-
<u>Total of funds</u>	<u>727,304</u>	<u>157,107</u>	<u>(125,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,692</u>	<u>770,409</u>

Restricted funds represent donations collected to support communities in Afghanistan. The trustees have transferred them to a charity supporting Afghanistan in May 2024. An amount of £976 was transferred in to support the total donation to the charity.

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
General Funds - all funds	593,663	188,937	(64,467)	7,935	726,068
<u>Restricted funds</u>					
Support for Afghanistan	1,236	-	-	-	1,236
<u>Total of funds</u>	<u>594,899</u>	<u>188,937</u>	<u>(64,467)</u>	<u>7,935</u>	<u>727,304</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**17. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2024 £
Fixed Asset Investments	369,000	369,000
Current Assets	407,509	407,509
Credits due within one year	(6,100)	(6,100)
	<u>770,409</u>	<u>770,409</u>

	Unrestricted funds Period 31 December 2023 £	Restricted funds Period 31 December 2023 £	Total funds Period 31 December 2023 £
Fixed Asset Investments	203,193	-	203,193
Current assets	539,530	1,236	540,766
Creditors due within one year	(16,655)	-	(16,655)
	<u>726,068</u>	<u>1,236</u>	<u>727,304</u>

**18. Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions during the year (year ended 31 December 2024: none).