



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra

No (if any)  
295781

CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

| For the period from | Period start date | To | Period end date |
|---------------------|-------------------|----|-----------------|
|                     | 1st May 2024      |    | 30th April 2025 |

### Section A Receipts and payments

|   | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds  | Total funds      | Last year        |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | to the nearest £   | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| <b>A1 Receipts</b>                                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Grant from Friends of the Orchestra                   | 3,000              |                  |                  | 3,000            | 10,000           |
| Donations   | 2,152              | 1,956            |                  | 4,108            | 3,740            |
| Patrons   | 12,050             |                  |                  | 12,050           | 12,350           |
| Playing members subs                                  | 4,735              |                  |                  | 4,735            | 4,290            |
| Fundraising (+Gift Aid via Justgiving)                | 2,198              |                  |                  | 2,198            | 1,854            |
| Gift Aid  | 3,406              |                  |                  | 3,406            | 3,568            |
| Advertising revenue                                   | 400                |                  |                  | 400              | 750              |
| Advance season ticket sales                           | 29,519             | -                | -                | 29,519           | 26,781           |
| Other ticket sales                                    | 26                 | -                | -                | 26               | 666              |
| Box office sales                                      | 35,839             | -                | -                | 35,839           | 49,825           |
| Sponsorship incl programmes                           | -                  | -                | -                | -                | 1,000            |
| Bank interest   | 755                | -                | -                | 755              | 631              |
| Orchestra Tax Relief via RTWSOPL                      | 33,353             | -                | -                | 33,353           | 34,721           |
|   |                    | -                | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>                | <b>127,433</b>     | <b>1,956</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>129,389</b>   | <b>150,176</b>   |
| <b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                                 | <b>127,433</b>     | <b>1,956</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>129,389</b>   | <b>150,176</b>   |
| <b>A3 Payments</b>                                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Fees:conductors, players via RTWSOPL                  | 78,886             | -                | -                | 78,886           | 83,736           |
| Special events (centenary, new MD etc                 | 7,723              |                  |                  | 7,723            | 4,750            |
| Printing of programmes                                | 978                | -                | -                | 978              | 1,385            |
| Music hire via RTWSOPL                                | 2,927              | -                | -                | 2,927            | 2,689            |
| Venue hire via RTWSOPL                                | 24,816             | -                | -                | 24,816           | 24,921           |
| Marketing   | 4,255              | -                | -                | 4,255            | 4,050            |
| PRS   | 1,684              | -                | -                | 1,684            | 866              |
| Advertisements  | 2,475              | -                | -                | 2,475            | 1,773            |
| Misc Direct Costs including education                 | 748                | 1,560            | -                | 2,308            | 3,787            |
| Admin   | 3,346              |                  |                  | 3,346            | 3,099            |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>127,838</b>     | <b>1,560</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>129,398</b>   | <b>131,056</b>   |
| <b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b> |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                |                  |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                |                  |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>Total payments</b>                                 | <b>127,838</b>     | <b>1,560</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>129,398</b>   | <b>131,056</b>   |
| <b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>                     | <b>- 405</b>       | <b>396</b>       | <b>-</b>         | <b>9</b>         | <b>19,120</b>    |
| <b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>                     |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>                    | <b>38,874</b>      | <b>2,404</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>41,278</b>    | <b>22,158</b>    |
| <b>Cash funds this year end</b>                       | <b>38,469</b>      | <b>2,800</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>41,269</b>    | <b>41,278</b>    |

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

| Categories           | Details  | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|----------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>B1 Cash funds</b> | Bank Current Account                                   | 1,013                              | -                                | -                               |
|                      | Bank Deposit Account                                   | 37,456                             | 2,800                            | -                               |
|                      | Bank Current Account                                   |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|                      | <b>Total cash funds</b>                                | <b>38,469</b>                      | <b>2,800</b>                     | <b>-</b>                        |
|                      | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK                                 | OK                               | OK                              |

|                                 | Details | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>B2 Other monetary assets</b> |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |

|                             | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B3 Investment assets</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |

|   | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |

|                       | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>B5 Liabilities</b> |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

| Signature | Print Name | Date of approval |
|-----------|------------|------------------|
|           |            |                  |
|           |            |                  |

# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

| From | Period start date |              |              | To | Period end date |                |              |
|------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|----|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
|      | Day<br>1st        | Month<br>May | Year<br>2024 |    | Day<br>30th     | Month<br>April | Year<br>2025 |

2018

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Other names charity is known by RTWSO

Registered charity number (if any) 295781

Charity's principal address 11A High Street

Pembury

Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Postcode

TN2 4PH

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

|    | Trustee name                  | Office (if any)                      | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|----|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1  | Ms Frances Armstrong          | Chairman                             |                                   |   |
| 2  | Mr Andrew Muir                | Deputy Chairman                      |                                   |   |
| 3  | Mrs Gale Smith                | Minutes Secretary                    |                                   |   |
| 4  | Mrs Alexandra Dicken-Woollard | Treasurer                            |                                   |   |
| 5  | Mrs Anne Parker               | Orchestra Manager and Gen. Secretary |                                   |   |
| 6  | Mrs Libby Summers             | Librarian                            |                                   |   |
| 7  | Mrs Zoe Hayward               | News Editor                          |                                   |   |
| 8  |                               |                                      |                                   |   |
| 9  |                               |                                      |                                   |   |
| 10 |                               |                                      |                                   |   |
| 11 |                               |                                      |                                   |   |
| 12 |                               |                                      |                                   |   |

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| None |                                   |

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|-----------------|------|---------|
| None            |      |         |

### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

|      |
|------|
| None |
|------|

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Type of governing document<br>(eg. trust deed, constitution)        | Constitution adopted at an AGM on 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2014.   |
| How the charity is constituted<br>(eg. trust, association, company) | The charity comprises Honorary Officers, Annual Subscribers and Playing Members. Seven Trustees manage its affairs, retire annually but may be re-elected. New Trustees are inducted and trained by existing Trustees. |
| Trustee selection methods<br>(eg. appointed by, elected by)         | Trustees are appointed by the members at a duly constituted General Meeting  |

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Charity is a member of Making Music, the UK's membership organisation for leisure-time music, and has used their general guidance in such matters as arranging insurance and risk management.

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Charity exists to promote the musical education of the inhabitants of Royal Tunbridge Wells and the surrounding area, through the study and practice of orchestral music, in order to foster public knowledge and appreciation of such music by means of public performance.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

|   |
|---|
| <p>The Charity put on its regular season of six orchestral concerts in Tunbridge Wells. Three free chamber concerts were also scheduled during the summer, one presenting the orchestral world of the French horn, and another bringing together a range of wind instruments.</p> <p>Our Education Outreach programme again held a brass masterclass at a Tunbridge Wells secondary school; this time focussed on the trombone. Members of the orchestra also visited and played at The Rosewood School, a residential school for teenagers with profound mental health issues, run by Kent County Council.</p> <p>The Charity's Education Officer held workshops in two local primary schools this year, with children drawn from 5 different schools in the area. Many then attended an orchestra performance with their families. In addition, school children and students of all ages were able to attend any of our classical concerts for a flat £5 ticket fee, regardless of the regular seat price.</p> <p>We continue to maintain community pages on social media, encouraging and enabling fellow music charities from across the area to publicise their concerts and other activities via our website, Instagram, X and Facebook accounts. We also offered concert tickets to other charities (such as the Samaritans) to help with fundraising.</p> <p>Our Trustees have remained mindful of Charity Commission guidance on what constitutes public benefit, and have continued to seek ways to widen access to orchestral and classical music in the Tunbridge Wells area, in line with the Charity's core objectives.</p> |
|---|

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

|  |
|--|
| <p>All our Trustees and player members are volunteers, some acting in a professional capacity – for example, negotiation with soloists of performance contracts, or placing advertising in local media.</p> <p>In addition to the player members, the orchestra also contracts professional players on a concert-by-concert basis to make up the full symphony orchestra as required by the programme chosen.</p> <p>Three Trustees also serve as directors of RTWSO Productions Ltd, a company established in 2018 to administer production expenses.</p> |
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## Section D

## Achievements and performance

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

The orchestra performed its regular series of 6 concerts from October through to April, with a renowned soloist performing at each concert. The number of tickets sold for this 6-concert series continued the upward sales trend achieved year on year since covid, although no special '7<sup>th</sup>' concert was added this year.

The Charity always tries to support community initiatives led by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, and this year donated tickets to new audience members and some younger hosts as part of the 'Silver Sunday' events run by the Council and Age UK Tunbridge Wells, to introduce older members of the community to new activities.

This year we have said goodbye to our longstanding Music Director, Roderick Dunk. Rod's final concert in April 2025 was very well attended, and he leaves us with enormous thanks from the whole orchestra. In May 2024 a series of workshops was held to determine a short list of candidates to replace him. The three candidates selected each conducted one of our regular Sunday concerts, and the orchestra voted for Peter Selwyn to become the new Music Director and our regular conductor. He has been appointed from 1 May 2025.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Charity holds sufficient reserves to pay expenses anticipated ahead of the following season's ticket sales.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our principal sources of funds are revenue from ticket sales and donations from Friends, patrons and other supporters. We also benefit from Orchestra Tax Relief.

The Friends of RTWSO kindly donated £3000 at the end of the season, which will be used to purchase stage 'risers' for performances requiring a larger orchestra than normal, and to help with the cost of venue hire (our regular rehearsal and function venue now being compelled to charge us VAT under rule changes for private school facilities hire).

The 'restricted funds' section of our accounts relates to donations made specifically for the furtherance of our Education Outreach activities.

|                  |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Section F</b> | <b>Other optional information</b> |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|

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|--|
|  |
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|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Section G</b> | <b>Declaration</b> |
|------------------|--------------------|

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|  |                   |                           |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Signature(s)</b>                        |                   |                           |
| <b>Full name(s)</b>                        | Frances Armstrong | Alexandra Dicken-Woollard |
| <b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b> | CHAIRMAN          | TREASURER                 |
| <b>Date</b>                                | 20/07/2025        |                           |



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name  
The Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra

On accounts for the year  
ended

30 April 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

295781

Set out on pages

1 and 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 30 April 2025.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

21/07/2025

Name:

S Rosling

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

FCCA

Address:

Ashdown Hurrey Auditors Limited

20 Havelock Road, Hastings

East Sussex, TN34 1BP



Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**