

Ballymena Chamber Orchestra

Registered Office: 47 Trinity Mews, Ahoghill, Ballymena, BT42 1FJ

Trustees: Rebekah Olphert (née Durston), Hannah Houston (née Acheson), Matthew Houston, Holly Burnside

CCNI: 103626

Trustee Report for Year Ended 31 August 2024

The trustees of Ballymena Chamber Orchestra prepare this report on the activities of Ballymena Chamber Orchestra for the financial year relating to the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

Activities

Ballymena Chamber Orchestra is governed by its Constitution dated 20 March 2007 and is established to promote the benefits of the inhabitants of the Borough council Area of Ballymena and its surrounding districts in the County of Antrim. It does this without distinction of age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnic identity, political or religious opinion by developing and maintaining the public education in and appreciation of the art and science of orchestral and instrumental music in all aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and by such other ways as the society through its committee shall determine from time to time.

Public Benefit

The direct public benefits which flow from Ballymena Chamber Orchestra are an enhancement of the appreciation of the art and science of orchestral and instrumental music within the area of Ballymena and its surrounding environs. Ballymena Chamber Orchestra also provides positive cross community relations, as instrumentalists from differing backgrounds are afforded the opportunity to work together in practices and concerts with the potential of long-term friendships developing. There is no harm arising from any of Ballymena Chamber Orchestra activities. Ballymena Chamber Orchestra would normally provide two concert periods per year – Christmas and Easter. These usually bring together upwards of thirty musicians for several practices before the concerts are staged. Ballymena Chamber Orchestra also provides facilities for string quartets and soloists at various venues, most notably the Braid Arts Centre, Ballymena.

Events

Ballymena Chamber Orchestra committee, during the period specified, met to discuss the possibility of rehearsing, and holding concerts in December. Committee agreed to run two concert evenings; one in St Patrick's Church and then two concerts held in the Braid Arts Centre on one evening. Committee also decided to reintroduce a spring concert and held one concert in the Braid Arts Centre in June 2024.

Finance

Ballymena Chamber Orchestra commenced the financial year with £7,082 in credit in Bank and Petty Cash Accounts.

Overall income equated to £6,523 and expenditure to £8,072.

At the end of the financial year Ballymena Chamber Orchestra held £5,533 in credit in Bank and Petty Cash Accounts.

There has therefore been a Net decrease in funds of £1,549 during the year.

The primary aim of Ballymena Chamber Orchestra is the enhancement and appreciation of music within the environs of Ballymena. While a net decrease in income is not welcome, it was in consequence of efforts necessary to re-establish the Orchestra by relaunching concerts following the Covid pandemic.

The overall income and expenditure shows that as well as continuing our Christmas concerts in the Braid Arts Centre, resuming the Christmas concert at St Patrick's Church of Ireland helped to increase income. We resumed the Spring Concert after having several years of success at running our Christmas concerts after Covid. Christmas concerts remained our main source of income but committee hopes that, in coming years, spring concert attendances will grow and further bolster income.

The above is a true and accurate record of the operations of Ballymena Chamber Orchestra in the year to 31 August 2024.

Trustee Signatures:

Rebekah Olphert (née Durston)

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light yellow background. The signature reads "R Olphert" in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Hannah Houston

A handwritten signature in black ink. The signature reads "Hannah Houston" in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Matthew Houston

A handwritten signature in black ink. The signature reads "Matthew Houston" in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Holly Burnside

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities for Year ended 31 August 2023

Other than cash held in petty cash or bank, this charity has no other assets or liabilities.