

BELFAST SUMMER SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report prepared in accordance with Charities SORP 2015 (FRS102) and the unaudited financial statements for the period ended 31 March 2025, also prepared in accordance with the aforementioned Statement of Recommended Practice and FRS 102.

Trustees

The trustees who served during the period are as follows:

Ray Morgan
Christine Dowling
Ian Burrows
Brendan Morgan
Andy McGregor
Goretti O'Connor

Structure, Governance & Management

The organisation is an unincorporated charity and was registered with the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland on 19 April 2016. The Charity number is NIC104823.

The charity is governed by its constitution and is managed by key persons from the main organisations delivering traditional music education in Belfast. The charity delivers two annual festivals - Belfast TradFest & Summer School and St. Patrick's Music Festival, along with various programme commissions throughout the year.

The charity's principal address is:
173 University Street
Belfast
Co Antrim
BT7 1HR

Objectives and Activities

To deliver an annual traditional music festival and summer school within Belfast.

To offer Internationally recognised professional musicians for tuition to participants and for performances for audiences.

To support and showcase local and emerging traditional musicians and artists.

To provide opportunities for meaningful interaction between cultural traditions.

To enhance and develop the skills, talents and creative ability of participants in the traditional arts, through the provision of our programme of activities.

To provide access for engagement in traditional music within Belfast where such opportunities are lacking and in a way that will increase accessibility to the socially disadvantaged. Achieved through bursary sponsorships, education programmes and free/easily accessible programming.

To contribute towards the development and promotion of traditional arts activities within Belfast (and NI in general).

To encourage and build tolerance, trust, respect and understanding among all cultural, traditional, ethnic and disabled communities.

To attract participants and audiences from outside NI with a programme, which highlights the many strands of traditional music here, our rich connections with the rest of Ireland and Scotland, and the renowned uniqueness of traditional music in the exciting cultural destination that is Belfast.

Financial Review

The charity achieved a net income surplus of £33,079 from a total income of £607,432.

(For 2024: Net income surplus was £57,151 for a total income of £551,496 this surplus was added to carried forward funds of £30,431). The principal funding sources were grants from the Arts Council of NI, Tourism NI, Dormant Accounts Fund NI and Belfast City Council along with self-generated income from Box Office.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

31ST MARCH 2025

Trustees' Annual Report

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's Annual 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 Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity 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 in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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 (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, 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.

By Order of the Board



Brendan Morgan Trustee

Date: 2nd October 2025