

2024-5 Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra Annual Report

Charity reference information

Charity name:	Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra
Charity registration number:	1057071
Correspondence address:	9A Bourchier Close Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1PD
Trustees as at date of report:	John Hendry - Chairman Anne Webster - Secretary Charles Hebert - Membership Secretary Debra Coote - Treasurer David Floyd - Librarian Nadia Courtenay Elizabeth Crawford Usher Jonathan Jaggard Jane Moore
Additional trustees during the financial year reported:	None

Structure, governance and management

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra is governed according to its constitution as adopted on 5 June 1996 and revised in 2017. Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra is unincorporated. Appointment of trustees is by election by Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra members at the Annual General Meeting.

Reserves policy

It is the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra's policy to hold at least £15,000 in reserves for contingency purposes. To determine the size of the required reserves, we have considered the recommended charitable standard of approximately twice the "costs of the day" of producing a concert.

Objectives and activities

Objectives

As stated in the charity constitution:

The objects (hereinafter called "the objects") of the Society shall be to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of music, and in particular orchestral music, in all its aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and by such other ways as the Society may from time to time decide; and for the general purposes of such charitable bodies or for such other purposes as shall be exclusively charitable as the Society may from time to time decide.

The charity has considered the public benefit of the objectives and activities of the orchestra. The giving of public concerts ensures that the benefits are available to the public. The concert ticket prices are such that these are not prohibitively expensive and in the case of the children's concert are significantly below cost in order to

encourage attendance. In addition the £2 tickets for under 19's at the 3 main concerts have been widely taken up. These have risen from £1 per ticket following a pricing policy change by the Stag to include a £1 per ticket charge within the ticket price. The orchestra receives £1 for each of the £2 tickets sold.

Activities

The orchestra has had a busy and successful year of activities. We kicked off the year with a 'Play for Pleasure' social event, followed by our annual family concert in October, three standard concerts, and a joint concert with Sevenoaks Philharmonic Choir, all of which were well attended. We also held a number of social events for members and patrons.

Achievements and performance

Feedback from audience members has been very positive, in terms of both the standard of playing and the selection of music performed. We are continuing to work hard to raise awareness of the orchestra's activities amongst those who may not traditionally attend classical music concerts to build up future audiences. Membership of the orchestra is strong.

Financially, the orchestra is also stable. Income was lower than expenditure, for the second year running, but balances are still healthy and we have two years' worth of Gift Aid still to claim.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Debra Coote

26 November 2025

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

Statement of Financial Activity

Incoming Resources	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds (Cello Fund)	Total 2024/5	Total 2023/4	
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities - Concert Income					
Season Tickets	2,565		2,565	2,790	
Tickets	14,572		14,572	11,841	
Sponsorship			0	0	
Advertisements	747		747	500	
Total Concert Income	17,884	0	17,884	15,131	
Voluntary Income					
Patrons and Other Donations	4,035		4,035	4,238	
Members Subscriptions	8,410		8,410	8,468	
Sundry Donations	0		0	0	
Tax Recoveries (Gift Aid)	0		0	0	
Grants	0		0	0	
Other	855		855	1,025	Note 11
Investment Income - Interest	91		91	101	
Total Incoming Resources	31,275	0	31,275	28,963	
Expended Resources					
Conductor	8,305		8,305	8,109	
Soloist	2,850		2,850	1,673	
Leader	3,198		3,198	3,597	
Professional Musicians	5,272		5,272	5,240	
Music Hire	2,099		2,099	726	
Rehearsal Hall	1,435		1,435	1,540	
Concert Hall	6,762		6,762	6,078	
Instrument Hire	67		67	0	
Printing & Publicity	2,990		2,990	1,860	
Programmes	1,687		1,687	1,433	
Memberships (Making Music and MMP)	567		567	692	
Card Payment Fee	25		25	25	
Other	1,386		1,386	922	Note 12
Total Resources Expended	36,643	0	36,643	31,895	
Net Incoming Resources	-5,368	0	-5,368	-2,932	
Total Funds Brought Forward	47,017	150	47,167	50,099	
Total Funds Carried Forward	41,649	150	41,799	47,167	

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024/5	Total 2023/4	
Fixed Assets	-	0.00	-	-	Note 8
Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments	4,203		4,203	4,758	Note 9
Cash at bank and in hand	37,970	150	38,120	42,634	
Total Current Assets	42,173	150	42,323	47,392	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-524	-	-524	-225	Note 10
Net Current Assets/Liabilities	41,649	150	41,799	47,167	
Net Assets	41,649	150	41,799	47,167	
Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	41,649		41,649	47,017	
Restricted Funds - (Cello Fund)		150	150	150	
Total Funds	41,649	150	41,799	47,167	

Signed by Debra Exall, Treasurer
on behalf of all the Trustees

.....
Signature

.....
Name

.....
Date of Approval

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of Preparation

1.1 Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with; Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of recommended Practice (SORP) FRS 102, Accounting Standards and with the Charities Act 2011.

There has been no change in the basis of accounting since last year and no changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

2 Accounting Policies

2.1 Incoming Resources

Incoming Resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when SSO becomes entitled to them, the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measure with sufficient reliability.

Concert income is recognised in the concert season to which that income relates.

Income from concerts and the related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity is unconditionally entitled to the resources. Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA when received.

2.2 Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

2.3 Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost more than £500.

3 Detailed Analysis of Incoming Resources and Resources Expended

APPENDIX A comprises a schedule of direct Income and Expenses, analysed by concert, with all other indirect income and expenses listed separately.

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

Notes to the Accounts

4 Trustee remuneration, benefits and expenses

No trustees receive remuneration or benefits

No trustees have claimed travel expenses

Trustees have been reimbursed for costs properly incurred in delivering the charitable activities of the Orchestra, including costs of hiring music, advertising and promoting concerts and providing flowers for soloists etc.

5 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure.

6 Fees for Examination of the Accounts

The Independent Examiner has not been paid any fees or expenses for examining the accounts

7 Paid Employees

The charity has no paid employees.

8 Tangible Fixed Assets

The Orchestra owns a set of music stands and concert display boards, which have been held for some time and fully written off since acquisition. The Trustees estimate the aggregate value of this equipment at £1,200 in total.

The orchestra also owns a set of cymbals and a cello which are valued at below the capitalisation threshold

Future acquisitions of fixed assets in excess of £500 will be capitalised and depreciated at appropriate rates.

9 Debtors and Prepayments

		2024/5	2023/24
		£	£
Debtors	Ticket sales	0	1,658
Prepayments	Music hire	265	159
	Printing & publicity	772	721
	Stag concert deposits	2,880	2,220
	Rehearsal hall hire (Bat & Ball community centre)	286	
		<u>4,203</u>	<u>4,758</u>

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

Notes to the Accounts

10 Creditors and Accruals		2024/5	2023/4
		£	£
Accruals	Piano Tuner (May 24 concert)	0	-180
	Season tickets for next season	-320	-45
Creditors	Making Music - PRS for summer concert	-204	
		<u>-524</u>	<u>-225</u>
11 Other Income		2024/5	2023/4
		£	£
	Play for Pleasure receipts	180	196
	Easy fundraising	121	384
	Teas	554	445
	Total	<u>855</u>	<u>1,025</u>
12 Other expenses		2024/5	2023/4
		£	£
	Gift, flowers for Soloist	42	76
	Audience refreshments	0	86
	Website & Domain hosting	163	163
	PRS Fees	536	67
	Refreshments Play for Pleasure	79	119
	Piano Tuner Pamoja hall May 2024 concert	0	180
	Piano Tuner Pamoja hall May 2025 concert	190	
	Cards and Gifts	37	107
	Tea and biscuits	86	68
	Four Last Songs words in programme	0	120
	Bank Charges	60	60
	Christmas party plates and napkins	7	
	Accounting System Fee	186	186
	Deduct cost of piano tuner for May23 concert	0	-170
	Unrecorded deposits recovered	0	-240
	Purchase of cello using Cello Fund, loaned to SSO Member	0	100
	Total	<u>1,386</u>	<u>922</u>

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra - APPENDIX A

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

	Subscription Concerts and Development of Repertoire				Other Concerts		Total 2024-5	Total 2023/4
	Winter 2024	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Repertoire	Family Concert	Joint Concert with SPS		
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities								
Concert Income								
Season Tickets	855	855	855				2,565	2,790
Tickets	3,677	1,906	4,380		2,488	2,122	14,573	11,841
Total Concert Income	4,532	2,761	5,235	-	2,488	2,122	17,138	14,631
Resources Expended on Charitable Activities								
Conductor	1,610	2,520	1,870	130	1,110	1,065	8,305	8,109
Soloist (including gifts etc)	564	714	514		350	750	2,892	1,749
Leader	625	760	690	70	585	468	3,198	3,597
Professional Assistance	1,110	1,465	780		1,115	802	5,272	5,240
Music Hire	59	133	789		205	913	2,099	726
Rehearsal Hall	210	455	280	175	140	175	1,435	1,540
Concert Hall (inc technical support)	1,680	1,696	1,056		1,680	650	6,762	6,078
Printing & Publicity	407	471	418		328	259	1,883	1,860
Programmes	401	361	346		309	269	1,686	1,433
PRS Fees	120	62	204		81	69	536	67
Piano Tuner at Pamoja Hall			190				190	180
Audience refreshments							-	86
Other	19				45	23	87	120
Total Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6,805	8,637	7,137	375	5,948	5,443	34,345	30,785
Concert Shortfall for the Year	(2,273)	(5,876)	(1,902)	(375)	(3,460)	(3,321)	(17,207)	(16,154)
Other Income								
Patrons and Other Donations							4,035	4,238
Members Subs							8,410	8,468
Interest							91	101
Tax Recoveries							-	-
Advertisements							747	500
Other							855	1,025
Total Other Income							14,138	14,332
Other Expenses (Not allocated to particular concert)								
Making Music and MMP Annual Membership							567	692
Website and Domain Hosting							163	163
Liberty Accounts System							186	186
General printing and publicity (NB in 2023/4 the cost of the overall season leaflet was spread across the concerts)							1,106	
Bank Charges							60	60
Refreshments Play for Pleasure							80	119
Cards and gifts							18	107
Tea and biscuits							86	67
Card payment fee							25	25
Christmas party plates and napkins							7	
Unrecorded deposits recovered								-240
Accrual Piano Tuner for May23 concert								-170
Total Other Expenses							2,298	1,009
Net Other Income & Expenses							11,840	13,323
Net Incoming Resources for the Period							(5,367)	(2,831)
Unrestricted Funds Brought Forward as at 31st August 2024							47,017	49,849
Unrestricted Funds Carried Forward as at 31st August 2025							41,649	47,017

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra

31st August 2025

1057071

1 to 6

On accounts for the year ended

Charity no (if any)

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st August 2025.

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:

11/11/25

Name:

Richard Gilbert

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

Retired Chartered Accountant

Address:

Ryefield, Packhorse Road,

Sevenoaks

Kent. TN13 2QP

Section B

Disclosure

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.