



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: January 1st 2025 To December 31st 2025

Charity name: Martin Read Foundation

Charity registration number: 1156661

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The object of this CIO is to advance the education of the public in the UK in the subject of the composition of music.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The main public benefit activities of the Foundation which continued in 2025 were to: (a) encourage a healthy curiosity for composition in young musicians, towards developing the composers of tomorrow by providing MRF's annual scheme supporting young composers, by: (i) identifying young aspiring composers aged 14 – 17 who were considering undergraduate study and who it was felt would benefit from the support the MRF was able to offer, selecting 3 as MRF award-holders. As for 2024, the trustees agreed to support one award-holder from the previous year for a 2nd year, supporting 4 in total, (ii) commissioning them to compose a short piece for MRF's performer(s) in residence, (iii) supporting this task via mentoring and workshops - 4 established composer-educators agreed to act as mentors. The award-holders were responsible for covering the costs associated with their mentoring and their travel to the workshops from their award, (iv) providing a public premiere of their compositions at the Annual Festival, and an audio recording for promoting themselves as young composers. (b) involve the public in exploring contemporary music, via Come and Sing / Come and Play opportunities at the annual

		Festival '25. This event also provided composition opportunities for MRF alumni in writing for choral or flexible ensemble.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	MRF confirms that its trustees are aware of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	As for 2024, the trustees decided that £250 was to be awarded to each of the 4 successful applicants. This provided a minimum of 3x 1.5 hour mentoring lessons. Remaining funds were to be used to enhance their study of composition, at the discretion of the trustees. The award-holder was to be responsible for agreeing with their mentor the fee for these lessons, around a suggested fee of £50 per hour, and for arranging payment. Each selected young composer received a public performance of their commission at the annual MRF Festival and a recording.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	During 2025, the volunteer trustees continued to be the driving force of the activities of the MRF. Trustees are all keen supporters and / or practitioners of music education, and of the aims of the CIO: primarily to enhance the skills of promising young composers, and include the public in explorations and / or live performance of contemporary music.
Other: Additional focus for 2025		Scheme 2025 was fortunate to have as performers-in-residence the Oxford-based choir Commotio, a partnership which had begun in 2023. Working with choir members and their conductor, the 4 MRF young composers received guidance on composition, through 2 workshops during the Spring Term: (i) an introduction to writing for SATB choir and (ii) looking at their initial compositional ideas. The Annual Festival not only provided the public premieres of their finished commissions, but launched a recording of Martin Read's music, featuring Commotio and cellist Joseph Spooner. Musicians of all ages joined the performers-in-residence in

		rehearsal and performance of contemporary pieces including new short works by 2 alumni for SATB choir and for Flexible Ensemble and the emotional finale: John Tavener's 'Svyati' for choir and cello. Once again, the scope of the Come & Sing / Come & Play community engagement was significantly broadened, See Objectives, line 2, (b)
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	In this it's 11th year, MRF: 1) provided support to promising young composers, 2) partnered with Commotio choir 3) supported all 4 awarded young composers onto further study, 4) successfully applied for a grant of £503 towards Festival '25 costs, 5) provided our school-based project for younger composers: Tomorrow's Composers, the aims of which are to: i) develop in KS2 students a passion & flair for composing leading towards further study such as application to the MRF annual award scheme; ii) teachers to develop skills in teaching aspects of composition. 6) Ran a fundraising challenge – promoting the charity's purpose to a wider audience,

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	We can measure this through: 1) expanding our patrons to include Alan Bullard, composer; 2) High quality applicants for the awards scheme; 3) Community engagement through the numbers signing up for our Festival '25 Come and Sing / Come and Play; 4) Positive Feedback from our awards scheme, including this from an award-holder: <i>'...working with a composition specialist gave me some more insight into all the different elements that must be considered when composing to ensure that the piece works well with the ensemble. I also have been inspired to study composition at college and beyond. Thank you MRF for giving me this brilliant composing opportunity!'</i> 5) New partnership - with Commotio choir.
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		6) Positive feedback from Tomorrow's Composers, including this from a teacher: <i>'I have not been very good at teaching composition or film music, I now feel like I have a good scheme of work for film music.'</i> 7) achieving the aim of raising the sum needed to provide the awards in 2026,
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	<u>Application to East Hampshire District Council</u>: £503 towards Festival costs <u>Fundraising event: Pedal4Pounds</u> – 4 keen cyclists, connected to MRF, cycled Winchester – Oxford to raise the £1000 needed to provide the awards in 2026, raising £1,234.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of this period, MRF carried forward £6,856 to fund its planned award scheme for young composers in 2026, with plans to engage a professional string quartet as performers-in-residence.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Other than its annual agreement to fund the awards of a small number of selected young composers, there are currently no further financial obligations should the CIO fold. All funds held will be used to further the chief activity of the charity: the provision of specialist support for young composers.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£6,856
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	It is anticipated that the major expenditure of the charity will be the provision of the scheme's bursaries to its awarded young composers. Fundraising may be necessary to support this annual scheme and for any additional costs regards the content of the Annual Festival or other composition projects as these arise. The charity was funded initially from the estate of the late Martin Read, Hampshire-based composer and music educator. In this ninth year of Foundation there was a

		growing number standing orders and donations, providing a slightly increased revenue stream. Costs for 2025 were within budget, enabling the planning of future projects requiring a larger outlay, such as professional musicians as performers-in-residence.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	• Fundraising event – <i>Pedal4Pounds</i> • Standing orders. • East Hampshire District Council • Other one-off donations • Festival ticket sales
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Our social media trustee continues to ensure a wider promotional reach, via Instagram - aiming at the younger audience and Facebook - continuing to grow public awareness of the charity. Our website is kept up to date.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Particular concerns of the Trustees during 2025, and ways towards solving them were, as in previous years: 1. ensuring a broad reach of young aspiring composers for the annual award scheme, 2. best ways of promoting the scheme, 3. how to generate the young composers of tomorrow. MRF navigated these concerns via promoting the scheme to a. Hampshire 6th form college music departments, b. Hampshire secondary schools, c. neighbouring music education hubs. d. other connections, including via MRF alumni to younger composers. Promotion to b & c were achieved through our partnership with the Hampshire Hub
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO

Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are selected by existing trustees for their expertise as composers and / or educators. Different trustees take on specific tasks, such as drafting the Call for Scores for the annual scheme / social media / inviting suitably experienced teachers to join our cohort of mentors / fundraising / securing partnerships with other music educators, etc.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	MRF is partnered with: • Hampshire Music Education Hub • Commotio – Oxford-based choir • Royal College of Music Junior Department
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Martin Read Foundation
Other name the charity uses	MRF
Registered charity number	1156661
Charity's principal address	7, Gladstone Street, Winchester Hampshire SO23 8TQ

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	Beccy Read	Founder and administrator		
2	Alison Willis			

3	Simon Speare			
4	Frederick Hodkin			
5	Alexander Ling			
6	Tom Armstrong			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Patron	Howard Skempton	Leamington Spa
Patron	Gwyneth Herbert	Hastings
Patron	Dame Judith Weir	London
Patron	Alan Bullard	Colchester

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

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

n/a

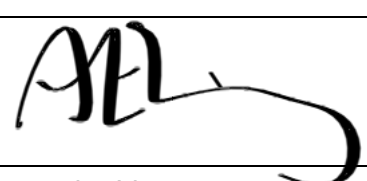
Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Freddie Hodkin	Alexander Ling
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	Trustee

Date

21st August '26



Charity Name MARTIN READ FOUNDATION	No (if any) 1156661
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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 1.1.25	To	Period end date 31.12.25
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Notes	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Carried forward :	5,004				3,797
A1 Receipts					
Donations by standing order	545				711
Other donations	305				543
Festival bar donations	179				
Donations Paypal Giving	302				70
Grant - for Festival		503			
Grant - for Tomorrow's Composers '25	-	-			2,070
Interest, gold & cash accounts	-	-			
Gift aid claim	-				
Feb workshop ticket sales	-				
Festival ticket sales	540				316
Proceeds from external event	1,234				495
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,105	503			4,205
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sub total					4,205
Total receipts	3,105	503			4,205
A3 Payments					
Grant Tomorrow's Composers '24 - spent '25		950	grant received 2024		100
Festival promotion - printing	136				50
Publicity - website costs etc.	315				
Grant for Festival spend- performer's fee		150			865
Grant for Festival spend - venue hire		211			
Grant for Festival spend - choir travel expenses		100			-
Festival conductor expenses	470				
Award payments	1,000				1,000
Festival refreshments	151				102
Venue hire - Feb. workshop	110				
License fee	21				21
Choral score set hire / purchase & postage	47				-
Instrument hire	-				
Annual insurance premium	131				131
Equipment purchase - car reader	33				

Miscellaneous expenses					58
Sub total	2,415	1,411			2,327
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Sub total					2,327.00
Total payments	2,415	1,411			2,327
Net of receipts/(payments)	690				1,878
A5 Transfers between funds	1,162		Grant funding '24-'25 unspend		
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,004				3,797
Cash funds this year end	6,856				5,004

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	
B1 Cash funds			-	
		-	-	
	Total cash funds	6,856		
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	
		-	-	
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	
			-	
			-	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	
			-	
			-	
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Alexander Ling	Aug-26
			Freddie Hodkin	Aug-26