THE MUSICAL BRAIN
(Registered charity no. 1159843)

Annual report and accounts for the period ended 31st December 2025

Schedule of information:

Principal address:	Flat One 2, Montpellier Spa Road Cheltenham GL50 1UL
Governing document:	CIO Constitution dated 8th January 2015.
Trustees:	Hilary Bartlett, MBE Greg Harradine Michael James Pugh Professor Michael Trimble Marina Vaizey, CBE Fiona Wilson, MBE
Bankers:	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Annual Report

The trustees present their annual report for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Trustees – The trustees, who signed the 'Transfer of Charitable undertaking from an unincorporated charity' were Hilary Elizabeth Bartlett, Michael James Pugh, Marina Alandra Vaizey, Ian Ritchie, Michael Trimble, and John Cox. Ian Ritchie resigned as a trustee in 2015. John Cox resigned as a trustee in 2017. Fiona Wilson MBE was appointed as a trustee in 2015. Greg Harradine was appointed as a trustee in 2018, since when there have been no further changes.

Objects – The objects of The Musical Brain are to encourage, foster, assist and promote the advancement of public understanding of the effects of music and other art forms upon the human mind, brain and body, including the scientific, historical and cultural context of music and its potential therapeutic value.

Carrying out the Objects – In order to give effect to its Objects, The Musical Brain's core aim is to organise conferences, study days, performances, lectures, and discussions, which facilitate debate among and between the general public, musicians and artists, neuroscientists, psychiatrists, and the medical profession, thereby disseminating information concerning the effects of music and other art forms upon the human mind, brain and body. A key element of this core aim has been that the organisation's events, whilst being both readily accessible and likely to attract broader audiences than would normally attend scientific lectures, should be of the highest standard, both scientifically and artistically. The trustees have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission when designing and carrying out the charity's activities.

Retirement of the charity's Director

Hilary Bartlett, who served as the charity's Secretary and Director since its foundation in 2010, retired from these roles in September 2017. Working in a voluntary capacity, she had had responsibility for the assembly and delivery of events as approved by the trustees, financial control, and initiating and programming conferences, working together with a salaried part time Administrator. In addition, she provided office space in her home and acted as financial guarantor as and when necessary.

Self-evidently, finding a replacement for Hilary, willing to undertake all of these roles, has been far from straightforward and the trustees have adopted a flexible approach, being willing to consider changes in the charity's management structure in order to secure its future operation. Thus far, no new Director has been found and, since the event based on the life and work of Ivor Gurney held in September 2018, there have been no further Musical Brain activities.

Whilst the Trustees are still convinced that the charity's objects remain worthy of pursuit, no suitable replacement Director or management structure have been found and the future of the charity should be regarded as in doubt.

The Musical Brain's finances

The main source of The Musical Brain's income has been the sale of tickets to its conferences and concerts, though vital additional income has been provided by grants and other donations and by membership subscriptions. Since 2018, these sources of income have inevitably either ceased or dramatically reduced.

Included in the income for 2019 is the sum of £2,000, received into the charity's bank account anonymously during the year and assumed to be a donation. At the start of 2020, the same amount was withdrawn from the charity's bank account. No explanation for the receipt or its subsequent withdrawal has been forthcoming and the Trustees feel bound to conclude that these funds were placed in the charity's bank account in error and subsequently withdrawn.

The Musical Brain

Receipts and payments account for the period ended 31st December 2025

	Year Ended 31-Dec-25 £	Year Ended 31-Dec-24 £
Receipts		
Ticket, book & CD sales	0	0
Grants	0	0
Donations / sponsorship	0	0
Gift Aid	0	0
Membership subscriptions	198.40	195.34
Bank interest	3.40	3.09
Total Receipts	**201.80**	**198.43**
Payments		
Artists' fees and expenses	0	0
Artistic Director's fee	0	0
Speakers' fees and expenses	0	0
Hire of premises / AV etc	0	0
Speech to text, transcripts	0	0
Advertising costs	0	0
Printing and copying costs	0	0
Catering costs	0	0
Staff Salaries	0	0
Office and administrative costs	60	60
Website	0	0
Ticket sale fees & refunds	0	0
Trustee & staff expenses	0	0
Total Payments	**60**	**60**
Net surplus (deficit)	**141.80**	**138.43**

The Musical Brain

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2025

	Year Ended 31-Dec-25 £	Year Ended 31-Dec-24 £
Assets		
Cash Funds - Bank Account	1,790.37	1,648.57
Debtors	0	0
Total Assets	1,790.37	1,648.57
Liabilities		
Admin expenses carried over	0	0
Other Creditors	0	0
Reserves	1,790.37	1,648.57
Total Liabilities	1,790.37	1,648.57
Net assets/(liabilities)	0	0

This report and accounts, having been approved by the trustees, were signed by them on 30 October 2026.

…….	…….
Michael Pugh	**Hilary Bartlett**
…….	…….
Marina Vaizey	**Michael Trimble**
…….	…….
Fiona Wilson	**Greg Harradine**