Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	09	2024	To	31	08	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	ELY SINFONIA
Other names charity is known by	(none)
Registered charity number (if any)	1161642
Charity's principal address	19 Lower End
	Swaffham Prior
	Cambridge
	Postcode CB25 0HT

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	Katy Baker	Chair		The committee
2	John Chalmers			The committee
3	Charlotte Dean			The committee
4	Jennifer Sewell			The committee
5	Rosamund Chalmers			The committee
6	Richard Williamson			The committee
7	Robert Millman			The committee
8	Carol McEvoy		01 Nov 2024	The committee
9	Alex Jameson	Treasurer	01 Nov 2024	The committee
10	Lucy Prichard		01 Nov 2024	The committee
11	Charlotte Ewins		01 Nov 2024	The committee
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Artistic Director	Steve Bingham	19 Home Piece Road, Wells-next-the-sea, NR23 1PX

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

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by membership at the AGM

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The constitution requires that there shall be not fewer than 8 trustees

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	To promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in and an appreciation of the art and science of music in all its aspects by the presentation of concerts, workshops or other such charitable activities as the charity may from time to time decide. These activities will be undertaken to the highest musical standards attainable by the participating players

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The trustees are aware of the guidance issued by the Charities Commission on public benefit and have arranged activities that fulfil the public benefit requirement. These activities fall into two categories, being those open to members, and those open to the wider public. Both have the geographical restriction of an organisation based in the area local to Ely.

Members' activities provide opportunities for rehearsal, training and performance of orchestral music to a local audience, participation in an annual all-comers workshop, and occasional 'sectional' workshops.

Membership is open to anyone from the local area with adequate musical ability to benefit from the orchestra's activities.

The annual Orchestral Workshop provides opportunities for non-members (for a fee of £20) to spend a day working with a professional conductor and members of the charity on a specific piece, generally a symphony from the well-established orchestral repertoire. *This year's event could not take place because of Covid restrictions.*

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The charity benefits from unpaid work by volunteers in the following areas:

- Concert management on the day
- Liaison with Ely Cathedral
- Ushers at concerts
- Management of Friends membership

The charity does not account either for the value of the benefit of, or of any costs for, these volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Ely Sinfonia had a productive year of music making, promoting music within the community through our concerts and educating players - both orchestral members and community members through our annual orchestral workshop. The orchestra led two specific initiatives this year was to broaden our community outreach. The first was associated with the orchestral concert held in September 2024 in Ely Cathedral where we performed Berlioz "Roman Carnival" overture, Beethoven Violin Concerto with soloist Freya Goldmark and to finish Schubert Symphony No.9 Great in C major. This last piece is a real test of stamina for the whole orchestra especially the wind players.

The second initiative of the year was the orchestral concert in Ely Cathedral in May 2025 where the programme comprised of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 7 Leningrad. Martin Roscoe was due to play the concerto but unfortunately due to last-minute illness he had to withdraw the day before. Our artistic director Steve Bingham reached out to his contacts and found that Peter Donohoe was available to play instead. We were only able to rehearse with Peter on the day but in the end the performance came together. We sold over 550 tickets with a quarter (134) of those being sold on the door.

Section D Achievements and performance

We think word got round that Peter Donohue was performing which drew in a large number of people at the last minute.

Finally, the orchestra held its annual workshop in January 2025, which was at full capacity - with members of the orchestra sitting alongside less experienced musicians from the local and wider community who do not usually have the opportunity to play in an orchestra. This annual event is a key outreach programme to support our goals as a charity.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	The charity retains sufficient reserves to pay all costs relating to the rehearsal and performance of at least one major orchestral concert, including for example fees for venue hire, conductor, leader, soloists, instrument hire and specialist musicians, prior to receiving ticket sales
Details of any funds materially in deficit	None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's principal sources of funds are membership subscriptions and concert ticket sales. The charity's aim is to be able to fund the costs of all rehearsal work from subscriptions, and the costs of performance from ticket sales.

Performance costs relate to staging the events, including conductor, leader, any soloists, extra players, venue hire, facility fees, and box office.

Rehearsal costs include venue hire, and the fees of the leader and the conductor plus any specialist coaching.

The charity actively reviews the level of reserves to be appropriate to the maintenance of activities supporting the key objectives.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	KATY JANE LOUISE BAKER	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	

Date	10 SEPT 2026

Ely Sinfonia – Balance Sheet, Y/e 31 August 2025

		Note	2025	2025	2024	2024
Cash at bank	Current a/c		35,791		24,775	
	Deposit a/c	1			5,763	
				35,791		30,538
Debtors		2	595		4081	
Prepayments		3	189		577	
				784		4658
				36,575		35,196
Trade creditors					26	
Deferred income		4	845		761	
Other creditors					37	
				845		824
NET CURRENT ASSETS				£35,730		£34,372
Unrestricted income funds			35220		33863	
Restricted income funds			510		510	
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				£35,730		£34,373
TOTAL FUNDS B/F				34,373		
NET MOVEMENT IN YEAR				1,357		
TOTAL FUNDS C/F				£35,730		

Ely Sinfonia – Notes to Balance Sheet, Y/e 31 August 2025

1	**Bank**	Deposit account closed 23/7/25. Balance transferred to current account.		
2	**Debtors**	This is a balancing figure:		
		Debtors b/f from 31.8.24	4,081	
		Balance for Tschaikovsky concert received from Ely	3,486	
				595
3	**Prepayments**	Proportion of membership/insurance paid to Making Music for services after the year end		189
4	**Creditors**	Tickets sold in advance for Elgar concert		845

Ely Sinfonia – Statement of Financial Activities, Y/e 31 August 2025

		Note		31/8/25		31/8/24
INCOME						
	Charitable activities	1	23,765		*26,224*	
	Other trading activities		59		*116*	
	Membership, donations	2	5,115		*6,310*	
	Investment		86		*184*	
				29,025		*32,834*
EXPENDITURE						
	Charitable activities	3	27,567		*22,787*	
	Fund raising		30			
	Other		71		*297*	
				27,668		23,084
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS				£1,357		*£9,750*

Ely Sinfonia – Notes to Statement of Financial Activities, Y/e 31 August 2025

Note			31.8.25		31.8.24
1	**INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**				
	Paid engagements	1,800			
	Fees charged to non-members	1,100		*1,475*	
	Ticket sales	20,865		*24,456*	
	Other concert income			*293*	
			23,765		*26,224*
2	**INCOME FROM MEMBERSHIP, DONATIONS**				
	Friends' subscriptions	330		*725*	
	Membership subscriptions	4,640		*4,550*	
	Gift Aid reclaimable			*333*	
	Donations	65		*210*	
	Other income	80		*492*	
			5,115		*6,310*
3	**EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**				
	Soloists' fees	3,800			
	Conductors' fees	4,681		*4,555*	
	Leaders' fees	1,399		*1,960*	
	Players' fees	3,292		*1,606*	
	Commissions of new music	1,250			
	Coaching fees	308			
	Hire/purchase of music	619		*2,353*	
	Equipment	400		*165*	
	Hire of venue – Ely	2,960		*1,900*	
	Hire of venue – other	1,376		*1,687*	
	Hire of staging – Ely	1,080		*780*	
	Box office – Ely	880		*2,221*	
	Other ticket sale costs – Ely	86			
	Publicity – Ely	70			
	Publicity/printing/distribution – other	1,503		*1,616*	
	Other concert costs – Ely	1,422		*755*	
	Other concert costs – other	877		*1,774*	
	VAT – Ely	1,038		*933*	
	Making Music membership & insurance	527		*481*	
			27,568		*22,786*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ely Sinfonia

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Ely Sinfonia for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of Ely Sinfonia, 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 Ely Sinfonia's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or

2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or

3. 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.

I discussed with the Treasurer some minor ways in which the accounting records could be amended to comply with usual presentation formats, and general streamlining. I understand that the question of a deposit account is an ongoing matter.

Signed:

EABragg

Name: Elizabeth Anne Bragg

Relevant professional qualification: ACA, retired

Address: Homewards, Chapel Road, Weston Colville, Cambridge CB21 5NX

Date: 3 September 2026