THE WOTTON CONCERT SERIES

CHARITY NUMBER 1203462

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of The Wotton Concert Series ("the Charity') for the year ended 31st December 2025

Constitution and Governance

The Charity was registered as a charitable incorporated organization ("CIO") on 7th June 2023 and is governed by its constitution registered on the same date. The Charity is managed by its Trustees, presently comprising the Chairman, Artistic Director (ex officio), Honorary Treasurer, and Communications Director. The Charity's Trustees for the time being also comprise the members of the CIO.

The first Trustees of the Charity were Messrs Benedict Hoffnung and Rod Marlow. Messrs Edward Harford and Roger Wyn-Jones were subsequently appointed additional trustees at meetings of the Charity trustees. The Trustees meet regularly to conduct the Charity's business and are responsible for all operating decisions. No fee is (or has been) paid to any Trustee for acting as a trustee.

Present Trustees

Rod Marlow	Chair
Benedict Hoffnung	Artistic Director (ex officio)
Edward Harford	Communications Director
Roger Wyn-Jones	Hon. Treasurer

Charity Address

c/o Littleworth Corner
Amberley
Gloucestershire GL5 5AW

Bankers

Lloyds TSB Bank plc
c/o 12 Rowcroft
Stroud
Gloucestershire GL5 3BD

Independent Examiners

TSL Accounting
The Counting House
High Street
Minchinhampton
Gloucestershire GL6 9BN

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objects are *"to promote, maintain, improve and advance the education of the public in the art and science of music, including by the presentation of public concerts and recitals in South Gloucestershire and such other locations as the trustees shall from time to time determine."*

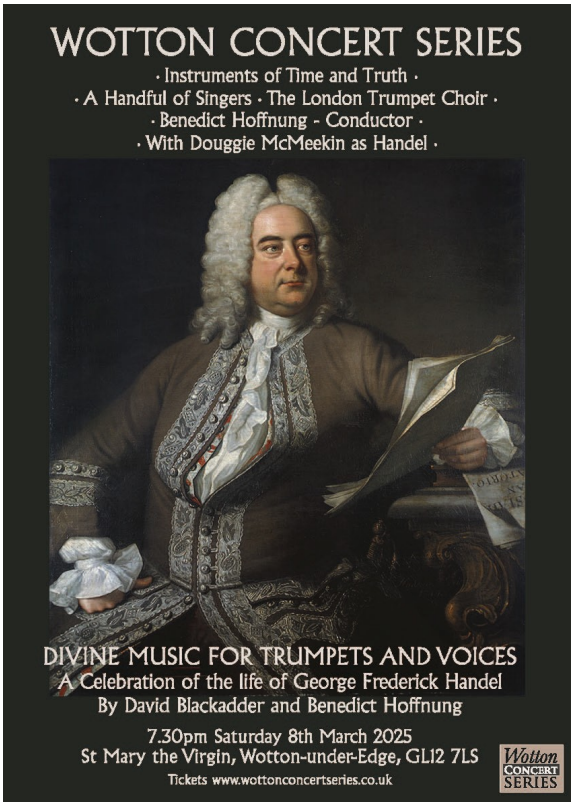
In delivering our events we aim to support the emerging careers of young musicians in their early years as professional performers, in particular by giving them an opportunity to perform alongside seasoned professionals in some of the UK's best-known ensembles. We have had considerable success in this aim, and our events to date have featured young violinists, organists, vocal soloists, harpists, and horn players, some of whom were still studying advanced music degrees when performing for us, and have since gone on to pursue illustrious careers.

Our 2025 concerts

After our opening two well-attended concerts in 2024 at St Mary's Church, Wotton-under-Edge we continued in 2025 to bring outstanding live classical music to South Gloucestershire, directly supporting our educational aims. We organised a varied programme for the three concerts during the year..



Our first concert in March - *"Divine Music for Trumpets and Voices"* - was originally conceived by our Artistic Director, Ben Hoffnung to celebrate the 250th anniversary of George Frederick Handel's death. After previous performances in the presence of the Lord Mayor of London at the Mansion House with Simon Russell Beale as Handel, and at the Cheltenham International Music Festival, Marlborough College and St. Martin-in-the-Fields, WCS brought together the London Trumpet Choir, Instruments of Time and Truth, The Handful of Singers choir and soloists from the Royal Academy of Music, together with actor Douggie McMeekin as Handel. The programme comprised a selection of orchestral, choral, solo and operatic music from Handel's prodigious output.





The second concert renewed WCS' association with The London Mozart Players, bringing
them together with Amadea Dazeley-Gaist, newly-appointed Principal Horn at the Royal Sottish National Orchestra and a regular player with many of the UK's leading orchestras. The programme opened with a rarely-heard march by Mozart which was followed by his Symphony No.1 in E flat major and Richard Strauss' Horn Concerto No.1 also in E flat major. The concert concluded with Beethoven's 4th Symphony in B flat major.



For the third concert, and fresh from their highly successful US tour, we welcomed the distinguished brass ensemble, Septura. They comprise some of the very best brass players

in the UK, holding principal positions in the Royal Philharmonic, London Symphony, BBC Symphony and Philharmonia orchestras. Their exciting and varied programme included works by Gabrieli, Purcell, Handel, Ravel, Debussy and Copland.

Our average attendance of a little over 210 for each concert was very satisfactory.

Volunteers contribute hugely to the smooth and safe delivery of our concerts. They assist the Trustees by dealing with everything from ticket sales to car parking, refreshments for both our musicians and audience, and emergency evacuation procedures. The Trustees are very appreciative of their support.

The Trustees work closely throughout with the Vicar and Church Wardens of St Mary's Church. Not only is the Church, with its excellent acoustics, our principal and much-valued venue, but we work closely with the Wardens on administrative matters, including addressing the risks inherent in having over 200 concert-goers in a large venue, with all the implicit health and safety and other considerations.

Funding

Having begun 2024 with just over £1,000 to its name and successfully raising sufficient funding - via the newly-established Friends' programme - to deliver two classical music concerts in that year, the challenge for 2025 was to expand on that by providing three concerts. This required us to carry forward sufficient money to 2025 to fund the initial concert, and to re-engage with as many of our Friends and concert-goers as possible to cover the extra cost of a three concert year.

We achieved both these objectives, and with the very generous support of our Friends, for whom we hold an annual reception with a musical accompaniment, we were able to promote the three concerts we aspired to. The Trustees are hugely appreciative of all the Friends, concert-goers and others who have helped us to continue with our programme, particuilarly when the Arts generally are struggling to maintain funding levels in these straightened times. Without this support, the Wotton Concert Series would quickly become a distant memory.

All funds raised from the Friends' programme are applied to delivering the concerts, and are paid only to musicians (including our conductor), the Church venue hire, necessary contractors (e.g. staging and programme printing), and emergency medical cover, insurance and caterers. The Charity has no employees and does not give grants or make any investments in related activities.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission. The activities described in this report have been undertaken for the public benefit and in pursuit of the Charity's objects.

Risks

The Trustees regularly review the financial and other risks to which the Charity is exposed, and because of the Charity's limited activities consider those over which we have control to be relatively few. The Trustees aim at the year end to hold sufficient reserves to deal with the financial risks associated with our ambitions for the concert programme into the next year and beyond. Likewise, the Trustees aim to maintain a steady cash flow throughout the year, although the revenue generated by each concert

rarely covers more than 50% of the associated expenses. The Charity also maintains insurance against the risks inherent in organizing concerts.

Financial review

Some 60 individual Friends supported us in the first year of our operations in 2024, in addition to which the Charity received donations from a family trust and one local employer. It has been particularly reassuring to see that since then almost all of our original Friends renewed their financial support during 2025, and that the few who haven't renewed have been replaced by new Friends.

Although the Trustees achieved little success at the outset applying for grants from a number of national and local charities and other grant-giving bodies, because we were a new charity with no recent track record, we intend to re-visit selected grant-givers now that we have two years' accounts available and a two-year track record. If successful, this would provide much-needed security for the future of the Wotton Concert Series, thereby enabling us to fulfil our commitments to our Friends and supporters.

Rod Marlow 30th September 2026
Chairman, on behalf of the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	The Wotton Concert Series		
On accounts for the year ended	31st December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1203462
Set out on pages	n/a (indicate the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2025**

Responsibilities and basis of report

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 ~~(other than that disclosed below *)~~ 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:		**Date:**	11th June 2026
Name:	Craig P Jenkins		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	BA(Hons) FCMA CGMA		
Address:	TSL Accounting Ltd 4 Chapel Row Bath BA1 1HN		

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

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.	NONE

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025 (CONTINUED)

Roger Wyn-Jones

Hon. Treasurer on behalf of the Trustees 18th October 2026

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

The following notes form part of these financial statements

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting
The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014
- the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognized at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

(b) Going Concern
The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, although the Charity remains critically dependent on the continued funding by Friends and others at or near present levels.

(c) Income Recognition
Donations, legacies, and all other income and all expenditure are brought into the accounts when they are received.

(d) VAT
The charity is not registered for VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the related expenses.

(e) Fixed Assets
The Charity has no fixed assets.

(f) Trustees' remuneration, expenses and benefits:
The Trustees give their time and energy acting as such voluntarily, and none of the Trustees (or persons connected with them) received any remuneration or other benefit for acting as such during 2025 *(2024: nil).* However, upon presentation of appropriate invoices Trustees were reimbursed in full for such expenses (e.g. pre-concert publicity) as they necessarily incurred on the Charity's behalf.

For the March and June concerts, Mr Hoffnung, a Trustee of the Charity and its Artistic Director, rehearsed the orchestra and (in March) the choir in Wotton-under-Edge before, and was the conductor at, the concert. For these non-trustee services the Charity agreed to pay Mr Hoffnung a conductor's fee of £850 plus VAT inclusive of associated expenses. In compliance with Charities Act 2011 and the Charity's constitution, the Trustees' considered the conductor's fee was a necessary and essential expense for, and in the best interests of the Charity, and was significantly less than the market rate which would be charged by another professional conductor of equivalent standing and experience.

Otherwise, it is not considered possible to quantify the value of donated services and facilities, or the value of services provided by volunteers, which have not been included in the financial statements.

2. Taxation

As a registered charity, there is no liability to taxation.

3. Gift Aid

Tax recoverable on donations and gifts recoverable are accounted for when the gift aid claim is made.

4. Funds

All funds are unrestricted.