Capella Edina

Capella Edina

Annual Return

31st December 2025

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Charity Registration Number: 1206478

Analysis House
117–119 Sea Rd
Sunderland SR6 9EQ

Registered Charity no: 1206478
Board of Trustees: Christopher Bruerton, Jill Dykes, Luis Schmidt (Chairman), and Andrew Ward

The City of Edinburgh's Philharmonic Orchestra
Patron: His Grace the Duke of Hamilton
Honorary President: Sir Thomas Allen CBE

Socials: @capella.edina
Email: info@capella-edina.com
Web: www.capella-edina.com

Bank of Scotland
Sort Code: 80-22-60
Account no: 26308162

Capella Edina

Trustees' Annual Report

(Year ended 31st December 2025)

The Trustees, present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name:	Capella Edina
Charity registration number:	1206478
Registered office:	Analysis House 117–119 Sea Rd Sunderland SR6 9EQ United Kingdom
Trustees:	Mr L Schmidt SMISM (Chairman) Mr R J Ames (date resigned 24/06/2026) Mr C H N Bruerton Mrs J Dykes Col A C C Lapsley QVRM TD DL (date resigned 27/05/2026) Lt Col A H Ward DL (date appointed 21/08/2026)
Accountants:	1st Cloud Accountants Analysis House 117–119 Sea Rd Sunderland SR6 9EQ United Kingdom

Structure, governance, and management

Capella Edina (the Orchestra) was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on the date of 10th January 2024 (no 1206478).

It is governed by its 'Foundation' Model Constitution.

Artistic direction is undertaken by Mr Schmidt, who holds the role of Director of Music, while the administration and management are carried out by Mr Schmidt, supported by freelance staff, overseen by the Board of Trustees.

The Orchestra has had three Trustees upon registration (Mr Ames, Mr Bruerton, and Mr Schmidt) and appointed Mrs Dykes at the beginning of 2025. While two Trustees (Mr Ames and Col Lapsley) resigned due to an increase in work commitments and family health problems in 2026, the Board welcomed Lt Col Ward on 21st August 2026. The Board is grateful for the dedicated service of Mr Ames and Col Lapsley and knows they will continue to support the organisation in an unofficial capacity, time permitting. The Board currently seeks the appointment of further Trustees to diversify the skillsets and experience currently represented.

Capella Edina

Objectives

The Orchestra's objectives are to promote, maintain, and advance the education of the public in the arts, and in particular the art of music by providing:

a) the presentation of a symphony orchestra, featuring contemporary and classical music, to a diverse audience; and
b) educational workshops about contemporary and classical music through the medium of a symphony orchestra.

The Orchestra utilises a flexible pool of the most talented musicians from the Northeast of England and the Central Belt of Scotland to achieve these objectives. Additional commitment to young talent is reflected in the management and the trusteeship of the Orchestra.

Activities and achievements

During 2025, Capella Edina presented three philharmonic concerts at Edinburgh's internationally renowned Usher Hall, with an estimated 2,300 audience attendances across the programme. These included our free One City Concert celebrating Edinburgh's 900th anniversary, supported by the Rt Hon Lord Provost, which welcomed approximately 1,500 attendees. This concert reflected the charity's commitment to making orchestral music more accessible and removing financial barriers to attendance.

The concert season provided 188 freelance orchestral engagements for 109 individual musicians. Audiences enjoyed a varied repertoire, including works commemorating the 50th anniversary of the death of Arthur Bliss, alongside performances featuring folk pianist Amy Laurenson and young baritone Arthur Bruce.

Rehearsals were held in a council-run school, and development began on a school's residency programme intended to create opportunities for young people to engage with professional orchestral musicians. The orchestra also agreed a recording partnership with Newcastle University, drawing on the University's facilities, equipment and personnel to produce high-quality recordings for composers, including those working in film.

The orchestra welcomed His Grace the Duke of Hamilton as Patron, following his attendance of our One City Concert in June 2025, while the renowned baritone Sir Thomas Allen CBE joined as Honorary President, having been impressed by the orchestra's outreach work.

Financial review

In its first year of presenting concerts and second year of operation, Capella Edina received generous support from individual philanthropists, trusts, and foundations. Donations totalled £76,553.75, with a further £10,250 received through Gift Aid and £8,383.83 from ticket sales, bringing total income recorded in the accounting schedule to £95,187.58.

Expenditure totalled £136,506.24, of which £110,148.84 was allocated directly to the three concert productions. Production costs included freelance musicians' and soloists' fees, venue and equipment hire, accommodation, travel, and other performance-related expenses. Additional expenditure supported freelance administration and orchestra management, marketing, sheet music, insurance, accountancy, and the charity's day-to-day operations. Expenditure exceeded income by £41,318.66 during the year.

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The charity also received an interest-free, unsecured loan of €40,000 from Ms Silke Schmidt, equivalent to £33,208.26 at the dates of receipt. The loan was originally repayable by 31 December 2025, with provision for an extension by mutual agreement. The repayment period has subsequently been extended indefinitely in support of the orchestra's work.

During 2026, the charity applied for VAT registration and requested that the registration be backdated to 2024. The accounting records show a VAT debtor balance of £5,251.14 as at 31 December 2025, of which £3,397.17 relates to transactions during 2025. The final amount recoverable remains subject to confirmation of the VAT registration and the applicable VAT treatment.

At 31 December 2025, the charity reported a deficit of £10,000; however, this is fully covered by surpluses brought forward from the previous financial year. Accordingly, the charity can be considered to be a going concern.

Plans for future periods

In 2026, Capella Edina plans to present four concerts and further develop its educational and community activities. A key priority is to establish a residency at Tynecastle High School, providing a regular rehearsal base for the orchestra alongside opportunities for workshops, jointly developed lesson plans, and engagement between pupils and professional musicians. The charity also intends to explore a research project with Newcastle University linked to the residency programme.

Building on the free concert celebrating Edinburgh's 900th anniversary, the orchestra aims to establish an annual One City Concert, widening access to live orchestral music. It will also explore opportunities for collaboration with the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Strengthening financial resilience will remain a priority. The charity aims to build a contingency reserve to support future projects and meet unforeseen costs, alongside developing relationships with donors, trusts, foundations, and potential sponsors.

Looking further ahead, Capella Edina is considering opportunities for a European tour in 2028, potentially including Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. These plans remain exploratory and will depend on securing suitable partners and funding.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the CIO and the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;

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- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent examiner

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this Report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant information of which the Charity's independent examiner is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant independent examination information and to establish that the Charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

This Report was approved on 30th October 2026 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:



Luis Schmidt, Esq SMISM
Director of Music & Chairman

Friday, 30th October 2025

Enclosed

- Receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025
- Independent examiner's report

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CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Chairty name	Chairty number
Capella Edina	1206478

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	start 01/01/2025	To	end 31/12/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	76,554	-	-	76,554	36,526
Gift aid	10,250	-	-	10,250	-
Ticket sales	8,384	-	-	8,384	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
AR)	95,188	-	-	95,188	36,526
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	95,188	-	-	95,188	36,526
A3 Payments					
Marketing	5,011	-	-	5,011	6,925
Bank fees	70	-	-	70	7
Office supplies	173	-	-	173	64
Admin support	10,892	-	-	10,892	1,659
Costs re Jan-25 concert	45,017	-	-	45,017	3,915
Costs re Jun-25 concert	37,675	-	-	37,675	-
Costs re Oct-25 concert	27,457	-	-	27,457	-
Commission re concerts	899	-	-	899	-
Cost of sheet music	2,894	-	-	2,894	-
Other support costs	6,418	-	-	6,418	-
Sub total	136,506	-	-	136,506	12,570
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	136,506	-	-	136,506	12,570
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 41,319	-	-	- 41,319	23,956
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 41,319	-	-	- 41,319	23,956

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

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Current account	1,258	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,258	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
VAT refund due	5,251	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Equipment purchased for long term use	9336.66	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Luis Schmidt	31/10/2026
	Chris Bruerton	Oct 31, 2026

Chris Bruerton (Oct 31, 2026 23:43:29 GMT)

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Capella Edina		
On accounts for the year ended	31/12/2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1206478
Set out on pages	1-2 (remember to include 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 period ended 31/12/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:	S. Tuckwell	**Date:**	28/10/2026.
	Steven Tuckwell		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	ACCA		
Address:	1st Cloud Accountants 117-119 Sea Road, Sunderland, SR6 9EQ		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.	

CE_Annual Return_YE2025

Final Audit Report 2026-10-31

Created:	2026-10-31
By:	Luis Schmidt (luis.schmidt@capella-edina.com)
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