

Camerata Ireland

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

2023-24 was a year of recovery and renewal for Camerata Ireland, following the downturn in activity and audiences that had occurred due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The season also marked 25 years since the orchestra was founded by Barry Douglas in response to the Good Friday Agreement, and, fittingly, coincided with the relaunching of the orchestra's international touring programme.

The first concert of the season was a highly successful and well-attended concert in the National Concert Hall, Dublin in June 2023, continuing the orchestra's residency at this great venue.

The 22nd Clondeboye Festival took place in August 2023, with 13 concerts taking place over 8 days in the Clondeboye Estate, Co. Down. The festival was a great success, celebrating, as always, the very best of international and home-grown talent, and with a significant increase in audience numbers compared to the previous year. Camerata Ireland performed at 2 concerts during the festival, both of which were recorded for a later broadcast on Classic FM.

The Camerata Ireland Academy - Camerata Ireland's young artist development programme - returned as a live residential course for the first time since before the pandemic with 11 students taking part in master-classes and rehearsals, and performing at the Young Musician's Showcase. The young musicians were awarded bursaries supported by the Dufferin Foundation and Flax Trust.

The orchestra's anniversary celebrations commenced in February 2024 with the launch of a concert series at the National Concert Hall, Dublin - Camerata 25 at NCH - with two further concerts scheduled to take place later in the year. This was followed by a 3-concert US Tour in March, with performances in Manassas VA, Troy NY and New York's Carnegie Hall.

In March 2024, Camerata Ireland was honoured to receive a generous legacy from the estate of Dr Louise Rene Cooke. Dr Cooke was a music lover and longtime attendee of the Clondeboye Festival as well as having a prestigious career as a plant pathologist and academic.

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Michael Gerard D'Arcy
	Noreen Ann Wright
	Simon Taylor
	Kieran Richard Tobin
	Rosemary Margaret O'Mahony
	Roger Alan Pollen
	Ms Julie Hastings (resigned 27 November 2023)

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Structure, governance and management

The charity is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Camerata Ireland is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. The charity was registered with the Charities Commission NI on 15 December 2017.

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are recruited based on their experience and expertise.

Financial review

The legacy from Dr Cooke along with a Gift Aid Claim for 2019-2023 resulted in a surplus of £44,623. The total funds at 31 March 2024 were £39,068. The trustees acknowledged the positive impact of the legacy on Camerata Ireland, and agreed that this sum should be held in the organisation's reserve account.

Policy on reserves

The level of reserves held at 31 March 2024 was £39,068. It is the charity's policy to hold at least 6 months' running costs in reserve.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Camerata Ireland for the purposes of company law) 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), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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10 Dec 2024

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on and signed on its behalf by:

Kieran Tobin

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Kieran Richard Tobin
Trustee