

Suffolk  
Philharmonic  
Orchestra

**Third Annual Report  
2014 to 2015**

**A registered Charity  
No. 1148363**

# **Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra**

**A Registered Charity**

**No. 1148363**

**Accounts and Report for the year ending 31st July 2015**

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# Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

Registered Charity No. 1148363

## About the Suffolk Philharmonic

Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra is a Charitable Trust established by Trust Deed on 8th January 2012.

Its *charitable purposes* are the advancement of the art of music and the education of the public in the art of music.

This document reports on what we have done to pursue those purposes in the period from 1st August 2014 to 31st July 2015, which the Trustees regard as the start of "Phase 2" of the orchestra's existence, including how we raised our funds and how we spent them.

We have identified the following three priorities:

- To present orchestral performances across Suffolk by players of the highest level of professionalism, both in the main venues and also in the smaller towns and the villages.
- To take smaller community concerts to people who, for whatever reason, have limited or no access to live classical music.
- To draw children and young people into the experience of great music.

At the same time, we continue to lay plans and seek support for a manageable but ambitious further programme for the future.

Leslie Olive  
Artistic Director  
4 December 2015

## **Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra**

**Registered Charity No: 1148363**

### **Annual Report of the Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra for the year from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2015**

**(See the first page of the First Annual Report for the aims and objectives of the SPO)**

#### **Chairman's Report on the third period, August 2014 to July 2015**

The focus of the year 2014 – 2015 has been one of broadening the reach of the SPO across Suffolk and ensuring that leaders in the community such as Parish Councils and elected County Councillors are informed about the work of the SPO. This has led to a number of villages making contact with the Artistic Director to request the opportunity of holding a community concert in their locality and a number of County Councillors have also offered to spend some of their Locality Budgets to fund these concerts. As a result, three community concerts were held during this year.

#### Community Concerts

The success of our community concerts depends on local volunteers in each community or village taking responsibility for publicising the event and for helping with refreshments. The first community concert was held on 21 April at Exning, the Suffolk village closest to the Cambridgeshire border. It followed the teatime format which comprises a concert performed by a quartet of string players, followed by afternoon tea. On 30 April, a lunchtime concert was held at Trimley St Mary Village hall, near Felixstowe, where the support was extremely enthusiastic. Volunteers had conducted their own fundraising to pay for the refreshments and travel costs for infirm or elderly audience members. They had also invited music students from the nearby Academy to act as ushers. In the afternoon the musicians travelled to Holbrook village to play in the village hall for an appreciative audience who then enjoyed afternoon tea afterwards.

On all three occasions feedback undertaken showed the audiences to be very appreciative of the opportunity to hear high quality classical music in their village. Comments included

- “Enjoyed the music – exceptionally high standard – lovely selection. Lovely buffet lunch beautifully organised”
- “How privileged to have this event locally”
- “We will check the press and magazines and hopefully enjoy more concerts in the local area”

As a result of visiting these three villages, a number of people chose to come to hear the full Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra at the concert held in Bury St Edmunds on 23 May. Two more community concerts, planned for July 2015 in Hoxne and Debenham, had to be postponed until September.

#### Education

Each visit to a school is linked to a community concert held in the same village and dates are determined by the local volunteers and their availability. The quartet of musicians is skilled in tailoring the choice of music to the ages and interests of the pupils. Feedback from the school events was extremely positive. The primary age pupils at Barnham and Exning schools on 21 April, said how much they enjoyed playing their own instruments alongside the SPO musicians. All the pupils at Trimley St Mary primary school, aged from 5 to 11 years, participated in the activities. All teachers confirm to us how powerful it is for youngsters to see and hear high quality musicians playing live and within touching distance.

## Concert programme

This season the Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra presented three concerts. Two were full symphony concerts held in Bury St Edmunds and one was a smaller string orchestra held in Sudbury.

The first concert of the season was held on Sunday 2 November 2014 at the Apex concert hall in Bury St Edmunds. The major work for the orchestra was Vaughan Williams' *Symphony No.5 in D* continuing the theme of presenting music by English composers begun in our earlier concerts. In the first half, the audience was treated to Barber's *Adagio for Strings*, Mendelssohn's *Overture 'The Hebrides' ('Fingal's Cave')*, and Bruch's *Violin Concerto No:1 in G minor* in which the featured artist was the young up and coming violinist, Benjamin Baker. This concert was a sell-out.

Sunday 26 April, in the arts centre at St Peter's in Sudbury, the world famous trumpeter Crispian Steele-Perkins joined us for a programme of music for trumpet and string orchestra. It took place on a Sunday afternoon and included a cream tea for the audience in the interval. The programme encompassed work by Charpentier, Handel, Bach, Stradella, Dvorak, Mozart, Neruda, Goodall and Stanley, arranged by Crispian Steele Perkins. As an opportunity for the SPO to perform in smaller venues across Suffolk, the Trustees felt that St Peter's in Sudbury proved to be a very good concert hall able to accommodate both orchestra and audience in a comfortable and airy environment. It is hoped to use this location again.

The concert held at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds 23 May 2015 marked the third anniversary of the launch of the SPO. The programme began with the *Overture to Die Mastersingers von Nurnberg* by Wagner and was followed by Beethoven's *Violin Concerto in D Major Op.61*, played for us by Thomas Gould. This was most appropriate as Thomas had helped to launch the SPO with an unforgettable performance of Vaughan Williams's *Lark Ascending* in 2012. The final work in the programme was the *Symphony No.3 in C minor, Op 78* by Saint Saens. The organist playing on the Cathedral's fabulous Harrison and Harrison organ was Dan Soper, Assistant Director of Music at St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Below is the opening section of the report of the Artistic Advisory Board

*"This was the Orchestra's first return to the Cathedral where it had given its inaugural concert exactly to the day three years before, then as now as part of the Bury St Edmunds Festival. The programme was a very attractive one and a large audience clearly enjoyed what they heard. There was much to commend in the performances of the three works by Wagner, Beethoven and Saint-Saens and the members of the AAB were pleased to note changes in matters of presentation which they had been suggesting after more than one previous concert."*

During this season an application to the Arts Council for an award of a small grant was made and received and helped to fund the varied and exciting programmes presented during the spring and summer of 2015. Further fundraising activities took place, including an event at Glemham Hall run by Emma Harvey-Lawrence on 14 February 2015. This was a most successful evening with guests enjoying a three course dinner, a recital by Benjamin Baker, violinist, and very enjoyable auction which enabled a good fund to be raised for the orchestra.

During the year the Board has been pleased to welcome new members, including a finance director who will enable the Board to continue to make astute, prudent and balanced decisions about the future of the orchestra. It has agreed in outline a forward looking three year programme of concerts, community events and education visits.

Felicity Golding

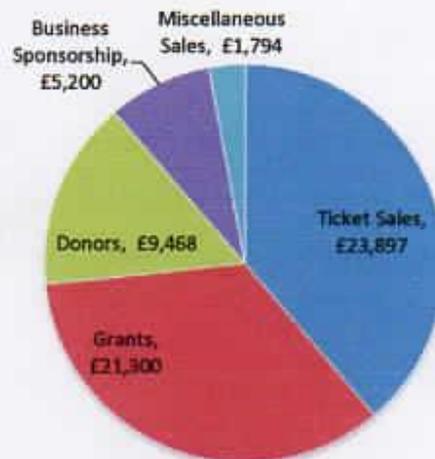
Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

**Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra: Income and Expenditure Report, 1st August 2014 - 31st July 2015**

**INCOME**

	£ - p
Ticket sales	23,897.28
Arts Council	13,500.00
Charitable trusts	7,800.00
Donations	7,113.61
Sponsors	3,500.00
Sponsor a player	1,700.00
Programme sales	1,040.00
Support Network	2,354.55
Bank Interest	273.92
Miscellaneous income	480.00
<b>Total income</b>	<b>61,659.36</b>

**Income summary**

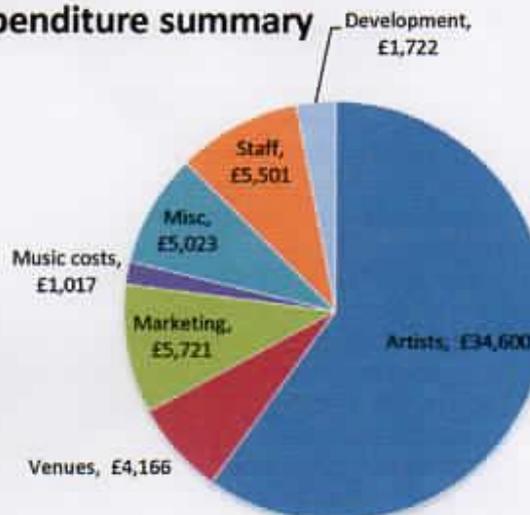


For clarity, some figures in the account have been grouped in the pie chart

**EXPENDITURE**

	£ - p
Artists	34,599.85
Venue hire & equip.	4,166.40
Audience creation & dev.	5,520.96
Hospitality	1,721.74
Event overheads	2,255.99
Programme books	547.92
Music hire & purchase, PRS	1,016.94
Office, stationery & post	470.36
Miscellaneous	1,218.55
Insurance	530.00
Staff costs	4,574.00
Organisation mktg & pub.	200.00
Travel	927.00
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>57,749.71</b>

**Expenditure summary**



For clarity, some figures in the account have been grouped in the pie chart

Net Income	3,909.65
Reserves b/fwd	5,423.07
<b>Reserves at 31 July 2015</b>	<b><u>9,332.72</u></b>
Represented by cash at bank	<b><u>9,332.72</u></b>

Trustee: D.C. Clarke, FCMA 17.11.2015

  
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Examined and found correct:  
A.W. Scott FCMA, 04.12.2015

  
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## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015, which are set out on the adjoining page.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
2. follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
3. state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

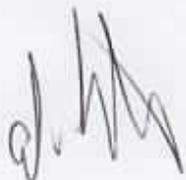
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Alan W. Scott FCMA**

A.W. Scott Accountancy Ltd  
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Acton  
Suffolk  
CO10 0AS



Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015