

Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

First Annual Report
2012-2013



A professional orchestra for Suffolk



Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

Registered Charity No. 1148363

First Annual Report

covering the period 1st January 2012 to 31st July 2013

TRUSTEES during the period

The trustees bear responsibility for all aspects of the organisation.

Felicity Golding, *Chairman of trustees*

Geoff Barton

Wietske Hendriksen, *Secretary to the trustees*

Leslie Olive, *Artistic and Executive Director*

Gordon Puckey

Very Revd Dr Frances Ward

Financial Adviser to the Trustees

Geoff McDonald

Oliver Campbell White

MANAGEMENT GROUP

The management group assists the Artistic Director in day-to-day management within budgets and guidelines established by the Trustees.

Core group:

Leslie Olive, *Chairman*

Wietske Hendriksen, *Project Manager*

Arlette Campbell White *Hospitality Manager*

Felicity Golding

Supported as appropriate by:

Steven Stoddart of Wandering River Photography

Nick Wilson and the team at Virtual Zone

Terry Willington, *Stage Management*

Jane Dalgliesh

Peter Newble, *Programme Design*

Carole Gooderham, *Community Concert*

David Ransom, *Original programme notes*

Oliver Campbell White, *Original programme notes*

ORCHESTRA MANAGEMENT

Julian Milone

Sarah Westley

Duke Dobia

COUNCIL OF REFERENCE

People of standing in the County of Suffolk who have expressed goodwill towards the SPO enterprise.

The Countess of Euston, DL*

Lord Phillips of Sudbury

Dr Merlin Channon

David Cockram

Major Philip Hope-Cobbold, DL*

Mrs Diana Hunt, DL*

Martha Kearney

Col. Paul Long OBE, DL*

Sir John Mowbray, Bt., DL*

Cllr.Stefan Oliver

Libby Purves

Sheila Ravenscroft

David Ruffley MP

Martin Soons

Andrew Speed

Cllr.Joanna Spicer, DL*

The Rt.Revd Nigel Stock

Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

George Vestey, DL*

*DL: Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Suffolk

ARTISTIC ADVISORY BOARD

An organ for the provision of artistic internal audit and a source of professional artistic advice to the Artistic Director.

Dr Michael Nicholas, *Chairman*

Quintus Benziger

James Thomas

DEVELOPMENT BOARD

An advisory and networking group focused on fund-raising.

Simon Bennett

Philip Hope-Cobbold

Duke Dobia

Tim Ingram

Paul Long

Stephen Minoprio

Mike Reynolds

Karen Soons

Andrew Speed

Nick Wilson

SPONSORS, FUNDERS and SPONSORS-IN-KIND

Founding Sponsor: St Edmundsbury Financial Services Ltd

Arts Council England, with funds from the National Lottery

Vaughan Williams Charitable Trust

Bid4Bury

Alfred Williams Charitable Trust

The Britten-Pears Foundation

Andy Howes Commercial Photography

Bury St Edmunds Town Council

Jane Dalgliesh

Actioncoach LLP

Anonymous 1

Ashton KCJ

Crew Building Ltd

The English Curtain Company

The Virtual Zone

Gipping Press

Barrett-Lee Ltd

Broad Blue Catamarans Ltd

Colchester Classics

Greenright Homes Ltd

Jam Tarts Catering

Jeffrey Parker & Company

Edge Partington Chartered Surveyors

John Stebbing, Architect

Mary Hibbert

New Media Business Group Ltd

Page Russell

Sheridans Estate Agents Ltd

Stowmarket and District Chamber of Commerce

Tiz Tiffin

Travel Stop

Wandering River Photography and Videography

Your Telemarketing

SUPPORT NETWORK

Conductor's Circle

Anonymous 1

Dr Simon Bennett

Mr Stephen Guynan

Major Philip Hope-Cobbold

Dr Michael Lynch

Mr Mike Reynolds

Gold Friends

Colonel Paul Long

Mr Harry Wiseman

Mrs Tiz Tiffin

Mr & Mrs Martin Soons

Silver and Bronze Friends

Mrs Mary Gee

Mr & Mrs J.J.B.Ingmire

Mrs Alison Bailey

Dr Charlette Mulnier

Lady Diana Hall

Mr & Mrs Paul Zisman

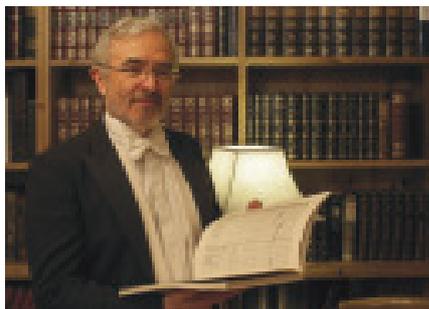
Mrs Joanna Spicer

Mrs C.J.Knapp

Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

Registered Charity No. 1148363

Welcome to our first Annual Report



An introduction by Leslie Olive,
Founder and Artistic Director

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 8th January 2012 to 31st July 2013, which the Trustees regard as “Phase 1” 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.

Our achievements during this initial period in pursuit of each priority have been:

- We have presented four major concerts, at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, The Apex Bury St Edmunds, and Long Melford Church.
- We have piloted our format for village Community Concerts with a highly successful event at Rattlesden, where tickets were free of charge.
- We have worked with children and young people in 8 schools in an education project tailored to the differing needs of primary, middle, and high schools.

In addition we have presented two development events featuring distinguished musicians for the purpose of broadening our support base.

At the same time, we continued to lay plans and seek support for a manageable but ambitious further programme covering the period 2014 to 2016 - our Phase 2.

A fuller description of what we did in Phase 1 follows in this document.

Leslie Olive
December 2013



Applause at Long Melford



Thomas Gould plays
The Lark Ascending



Packed Community Concert at Rattlesden

Chairman's Report on the First Period, January 2012 to 31 July 2013

Our Launch Concert took place at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday 23rd May 2012 as part of the 2012 Bury St Edmunds Festival.

The music selected for this inaugural concert of this newly formed orchestra, under the baton of Leslie Olive, was quintessentially English in character, featuring works by Elgar, Britten, Vaughan Williams and the contemporary American composer John Adams. Thirty two orchestral players, led by Julian Milone, were joined by three excellent soloists of the highest quality.



Hettie Snell, Co-Principal Cello



Duke Dobing, Principal Flute



Sulki Yu, Co-Principal 2nd Violin



Charles Mutter, Guest Leader



Ruth Gibson, Co-Principal Viola



Cecilia Sultana de Maria, Harp

'The three soloists were outstandingly good. Thomas Gould beautifully underplayed the opening of "The Lark Ascending". Tenor and Horn player both gave exceptionally distinguished accounts of the Britten 'Serenade.' The orchestral players were also of very high calibre.'

- Artistic Advisory Board
Report to the trustees.

Considerable advance publicity had created a groundswell of interest, and more than 600 seats were sold so that additional seats were made available in the gallery. To find out how the audience had heard about the concert, what they most enjoyed and what they would like to hear in future concerts, feedback cards were provided in every seat, together with a complimentary Suffolk Philharmonic branded pen. Over 200 cards were returned, providing valuable feedback and forming the nucleus of a mailing list.

We sought to make the experience of the music as accessible as possible. For example, our concert tickets were a folded card with an illustration and a cameo note about "what to listen for." The very high quality printed programmes were much admired and the decision to provide detailed informative background about each piece in the programme was fully vindicated. In addition, each member of the audience was provided with a copy of the first newsletter of the Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra, *The Lark*. This contained information about the vision of the Artistic Director, Leslie Olive, an interview with the Orchestra leader, Julian Milone, photographs of the education project and community concert, and information about how to support the orchestra in the future through the Friends and Patrons scheme. We have subsequently been able to develop our mailing list to over 1000 people.

Each strand of our education project, while complete in itself, also pointed towards the big concert, so that children and young people were encouraged to come. Nearly 400 pieces of children's creative work were displayed at the concert and for a full week beforehand in the cathedral cloisters, for our audience and cathedral visitors to see. The work had been inspired by the education project when players from the orchestra visited local schools in April and gave the pupils an introduction to Vaughan Williams' *Lark Ascending* and the 'Lyke Wake Dirge' from Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings*. Leslie Olive personally led a two-day project at Beyton Middle School in which children created their own musical compositions, poetry and prose, and a spectacular display of drawings, paintings, and sculptures. Year 11 music students from King Edward VI School, Bury St Edmunds spent an afternoon playing alongside members of the SPO and talking with them about advanced musical training and careers in music.



Young Violinists, by Anna Cordon

In addition, the culmination of weeks of practice saw student players from three local Suffolk secondary schools join the orchestra in the second half for a performance of Vaughan Williams' *Concerto Grosso*, a piece expressly written for players of differing levels of ability. The young students were thrilled at this opportunity to play alongside professionals. After the concert one student commented that this had been the best day of her life.

Our Artistic Advisory Board provided a detailed critique of the very high artistic standards reached, and, tellingly, the leader of the orchestra gave very positive feedback from our top-calibre musicians.

The involvement of so many young people has been an important aspect of this project and it was very gratifying to see so many children and young people in the audience. The education project involved some 300 pupils across eight Suffolk schools. It was pleasing to see many of their parents and families come to listen.

ITV Anglia News filmed the entire day of the Launch Concert, and it was conspicuously evident from the package broadcast the following evening through the East Anglia region that our strategy of developing personally identifiable engagement with young people in their schools in a way which points them towards attending a major concert had succeeded. This was confirmed by audience feedback. Indeed it has been a feature of SPO audience feedback so far that we are clearly reaching people - of all ages - who would otherwise have little or no contact with live classical music.

The Launch Project generated extensive interest among the local media generally, with feature articles appearing in magazines including Suffolk Magazine, the East Anglian Daily Times, Bury Free Press, Classical Music Magazine, Musical Opinion, as well as on BBC Radio Suffolk and Independent Television News.

A quartet of SPO players presented our pilot lunchtime community concert in Rattlesden Pavilion which attracted nearly one hundred in the audience. The concert was provided free of charge and local community organisers arranged transport for elderly members and a free lunch for all. The evaluations from that event were extremely positive and the pilot event is considered to have provided an excellent model which we aim to roll out across the County and beyond. One older gentleman said he had never been to a concert of any description before in his life, and that he was “blown away” by the experience.

In keeping with our strategy of taking top-quality performances to people where they are, two concerts were given in the church in Long Melford, again focusing on music mainly for strings and music mainly by English composers.

On Sunday 26th May 2013, Phase 1 of the SPO's planned programme culminated in an Afternoon Tea concert with full symphony orchestra at The Apex in Bury St Edmunds, in a programme featuring cellist Julian Lloyd Webber playing the Elgar Cello Concerto. In the second half of the concert, the SPO performed Vaughan Williams' *A London Symphony* which resulted in outstanding audience feedback.

The engagement of our wider community has throughout been demonstrated by the outstanding voluntary help with administration, sponsorship and other support from our local business community, enthusiastic participation by head teachers, teachers, and students of local schools, and the affirmation and support of many distinguished Suffolk residents, including the nineteen members of our Council of Reference.

Our current plans are for the period February 2014 to December 2016 - our Phase 2. For 2014 we plan five major concerts, an education programme reaching some fifteen schools in the Eastern part of Suffolk, and ten community concerts spread across Suffolk and into the borders with Norfolk and Essex.



Young Cellists, by Anna Cordon

I loved the whole event, seeing the musicians clearly, lovely choice of music, excellent refreshments.
The whole event was a real treat.
I feel it was a REAL PRIVILEGE to be present today.

- Audience feedback,
Rattlesden Community Concert

The performance (of the London Symphony) was one of the very best that I have heard for many years. Absolutely superb! I am a member of the Ralph Vaughan Williams Society and was privileged to be at the concert. I am a collector of all things RVW and have 78's, at least a dozen LP's and over 30 CD's of the London Symphony.

- Audience feedback

Playing principal flute in this concert, I really felt part of a special occasion for the Orchestra, and of a special performance, especially of the Symphony - and I sensed this was a view widely shared by the players.

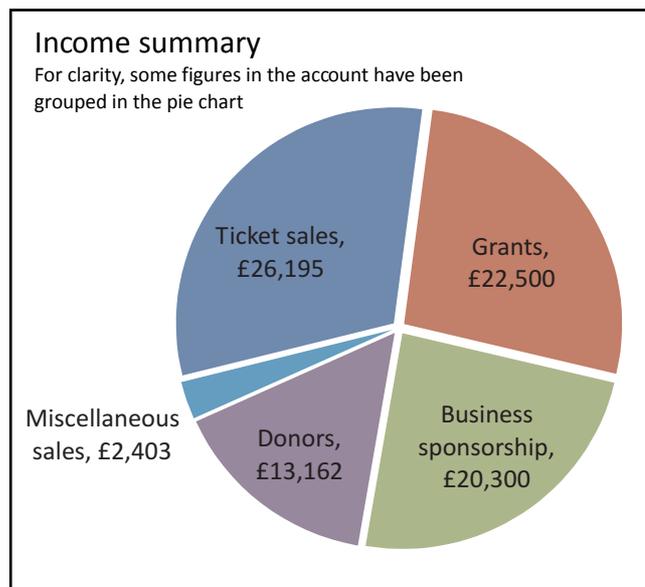
- Duke Dobing, Principal Flute

Felicity Golding, December 2013

Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra: Income and Expenditure Report, 1st April 2012 - 31st July 2013

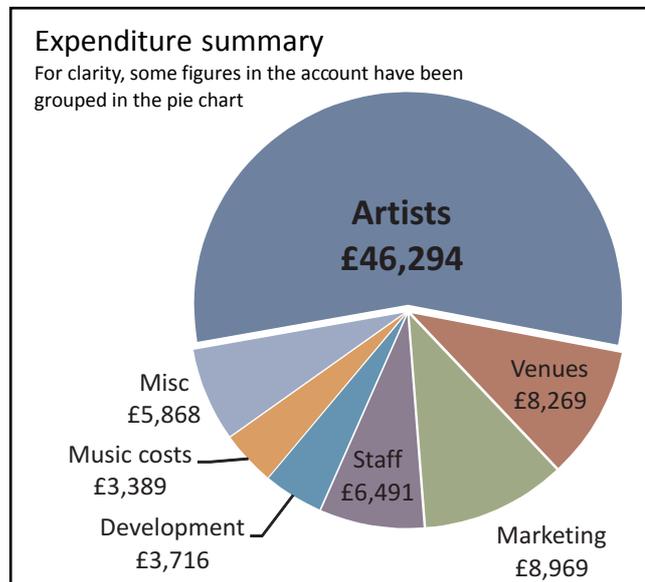
INCOME

Ticket sales	£26,195.12
Refunds	£62.73
Charitable Trusts	£12,500.00
Arts Council England	£10,000.00
Sponsors	£14,500.00
Sponsor a player	£5,800.00
Programme Sales	£1,526.05
Food & drink sales	£557.51
Support Network	£13,162.00
Bank interest	£16.24
Other	£240.00
Total Income	£84,559.65



EXPENDITURE

Artists	£46,294.21
Venue hire & equip	£8,269.46
Audience Creation & Development	£8,496.05
Hospitality	£3,715.70
Event overheads	£310.00
Programme books	£3,023.36
Music hire & purchase, PRS	£3,226.12
Other	£27.00
Stationery, Post & Phone	£1,447.69
Insurance	£1,060.00
Programme planning resources	£163.05
Staff costs	£4,536.36
Organisation Mktg & publicity	£472.99
Travel	£1,954.48
Total Costs	£82,996.47



Net Income £1,563.18

Represented By

Cash at Bank £1,563.18

Trustee: L.W.Olive, 30th November 2013

Examined and found correct:

A.W.Scott FCMA, 30th November 2013



Julian Milone - Resident Leader



Trying a very expensive violin



Julian Lloyd Webber and Leslie Olive rehearse Elgar

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

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31st July 2013, which are set out 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
2 Gotsfield Close
Acton
Suffolk
CO10 0AS

Dated 30th November 2013



Richard Milone, Associate Leader



The Apex, Bury St Edmunds: Julian Lloyd Webber in performance with the Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra

