

APPENDIX 1

OSCR

Scottish Charity Regulator

Office of the Scottish **Charity Regulator**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	04	2025	To	31	03	2026

Reference and administration details

Charity name

Music in West Kilbride

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number

SC037517

Charity's principal address

c/o 40 Bowfield Road

West Kilbride

Postcode KA23 9LA

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Margaret McCrorie	Chair		
2	Helen Cook	Treasurer		
3	Alison Bauzys	Education	From 24.04.2026	
4	Paul Selman	Website		
5	Alan Jones	Publicity	From 24.04.2026	

Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Alan Ward resigned as Secretary. Jill Selman and Alison Turner resigned as Trustees but remain committee members.	All at AGM 24.04.2026

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	Constituted as an Unincorporated Society
Trustee recruitment and appointment	Recruitment is an ongoing process consistent with sustaining the organisation and its capacity to meet its purposes, aims and objectives. The Society recognises the need to recruit new committee members and for some existing members to stand down; this normally takes place at the AGM. Following the 2026 AGM, two new volunteers joined the committee with potential to take on substantive roles in the future. A new Secretary (Trustee) has not yet been confirmed, pending induction of new trustees.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes	To promote live music for the benefit of audiences principally from West Kilbride and North Ayrshire. To develop a programme of educational activities for the benefit of young people from West Kilbride and North Ayrshire in particular. To work in conjunction with others who share similar aims.
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects	The 2025-26 season has seen Music in West Kilbride (MiWK) promote six concerts plus interactive workshops at the local primary school. The programme has been very varied, and we have catered for concert-goers who enjoy strings, piano and wind. We have welcomed soloists, duos and larger ensembles, including both well established and early career performers. Repertoire has included classical and jazz, much of it with a contemporary feel. Regarding educational outreach, two workshops have been organised for West Kilbride Primary School, years P4, P5, P6 and P7. In June 2025 singer Zara Wardrop and guitarist Luke Anderson led a workshop, followed by the Meraki Duo (flute and guitar) in February 2026. The school reported that these were highly successful, and excellent links are now being maintained. We have also continued with our policy of free admission for children and students. Our Steinway grand piano was used for a concert by candidates for grade examinations on 14th December 2025. We raise awareness among our community in as many ways as possible – through a website, email lists (subject to our privacy policy), professionally designed posters and brochures, the West Kilbride Villagers Facebook site and local newspapers. This has enabled us to refresh our membership base, now standing at 106 (up from 105 in 2024-25). We have aimed to keep membership fees and individual tickets as affordable as possible, and we encourage newcomers to join by offering to deduct the cost of their first ticket from the annual membership fee. The membership base is mainly within West Kilbride/ Seamill, but also draws on Largs, Fairlie, Ardrossan, Dalry, Renfrewshire and Ayr.

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Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

The financial position remains positive despite not receiving Chamber Music Scotland grant, but only because we have drawn on reserves. We nevertheless promoted a varied and ambitious programme of six concerts and two education workshops. The latter workshop finally exhausted our reserved fund for education (the Nicola Benedetti Youth Fund, managed by MiWK) and so alternative funding will need to be sought for future outreach.

The dates and audience figures (including complimentary child/student places) for the Financial Year 2025-26 were:

Sasha Savaloni	11 th April 2025	Solo guitar	110 (1 student)
Geirprúður Anna Guðmundsdóttir	24 th October 2025	Cello and piano	120
Tim Kliphuis Trio	21 st November 2025	Contemporary jazz	120
Da Vinci Piano Trio	16 th January 2026	Piano, violin, cello	108 (1 student)
Meraki Duo	20 th February 2026	Flute and guitar	99 (2 students)
Kammerphilharmonie-Europa	27 th March 2026	Chamber Orchestra	118

This average attendance of 112.5 is the highest in the Club's history.

A final concert by violist Milena Simovic will round off our season on 24th April (in the following financial year).

The financial position continues to be healthy, with substantial "box office" sales complementing our annual members. Thus, we have experienced:

1. Consistent audience figures across the year with average attendance of 112.5 per concert (relative to 105 in 2024-25)
2. Membership of 105 (101 in 2024-25)
3. Membership income boosted by door sales ("box office") – which provides a substantial income stream (just under £2,300) enabling us to keep annual membership at an attractively low level
4. A varied programme, embracing classical and more contemporary repertoires, and including a variety of well-known, under-represented and emerging composers. This – together with our enduring emphasis on virtuosity – ensures we appeal to a wide audience and reflect the evolving nature of chamber music.

The key budget headings on a total income of £8,852 and expenditure of £10,851 were

Income	%	Expenditure	%
Box Office	25.9	Artists	69
Membership	71.2	Piano	2.6
Interest	2.9	Marketing	6
		Admin & insurance	3.4
		Venue hire	10.8
		Education	1.6
		Hospitality	5.9
		Miscellaneous	0.8

The following programme has been arranged for **Season 2026-27**:

09/10/2026	Chloe Piano Trio
27/11/2027	Coro Alba
15/01/2027	Resol String Quartet (concert + school workshop)
19/02/2027	CATIL Wind Quintet
12/03/2027	Brass Tracks
16/04/2027	Seonaid Aitken and Conor Smith

The society's website <http://musicinwk.org> provides details about the society and its policies, the season's programme, additional information and programme notes about upcoming concerts, periodic news items, and a booking and payment portal. Between 01.04.25 and 31.03.26 it received 4,300 hits from 1,700 distinct visits (up from 3,700/1,400 last year). As noted last year, visits are increasingly from phones (now 50% of total), ahead of computers and tablets, so care has been taken to streamline design so pages present well on all devices. We communicate by email with our membership and with a wider database of supporters (subject to our privacy policy). We also post details of our concerts on the West Kilbride Villagers Facebook page, place membership brochures at various outlets, display professionally designed posters around the village, and run articles in local newspapers. Visits to the website still arise principally from email links and search engines, but around 100 came from Facebook and online newspaper articles, potentially reflecting new interest.

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Charity's financial position is buffered by the income from members' annual subscriptions which provides a baseline income in excess of £6,000. We had also relied heavily on an annual grant from Chamber Music Scotland (via Creative Scotland), although our application was unsuccessful in 2025 and we have had to draw on reserves. Our other main source of income is from ticket sales to non-members which in the current year is slightly under £3000. This reflects the financial year to 31.03.2026 and further expenditure will be incurred on the final concert of the 2025-26 season, so the balance will reduce. In addition to the stability provided by our subscriptions, we maintain a **reserve** based on the following criteria:

To sustain a level of reserves that covers the costs of three concerts (half the current, annual programme), approx. £6,000 including fees, expenses, accommodation, hospitality, hall hire and other overhead costs. This is to ensure we can meet contractual commitments to performers and meet the expectations of our members.

To build up a **designated** piano fund (designated fund) for the refurbishment and eventual replacement of our principal piano. This could also be used to fund emergency repair work or hire a replacement. The fund currently stands at around £15,000. The Club's Steinway Grand presently requires some remedial work to the upper register which will be undertaken over the summer.

Details of any deficit

MiWK incurred a trading deficit of £1999 in 2025-26 due to the failure to secure a grant from Chamber Music Scotland, but remains in surplus. A stronger funding bid has been made in the current year.

Donated facilities and services (if any)

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Other optional information

We continue to use West Kilbride Village Hall SCIO as our concert venue. Whilst venue hire costs have risen, the facilities have also improved. We now benefit from high quality sound and computer-controlled lighting systems, adding to the enjoyment of our audience. Visiting musicians often comment on the intimacy, acoustics and atmosphere of our venue.

MiWK has recently become a member of the Scottish Consortium of Music Societies (SCOMS) and we anticipate this will improve opportunities for collaboration and the pursuit of common interests.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) <i>OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures</i>		
Full name(s)	Margaret Richardson McCrorie	Paul Harry Selman
Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	Trustee
Date	3 rd August 2026	3 rd August 2026