

**WILTSHIRE
MUSIC
CENTRE**
BRADFORD ON AVON

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES RECRUITMENT PACK

wiltshiremusic.org.uk
Charity No: 1026160



ABOUT US

Our space is unique: we are a 300 seated concert hall in Bradford on Avon in the heart of rural Wiltshire and since we opened in 1997, we've built an enviable reputation as a professional concert hall of exceptional quality, rooted in community participation and involvement.

Our cross-genre music programme runs from classical to jazz, folk and contemporary music, with artists like the Doric String Quartet and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment having close relationships with the Centre. Over the past year, we've welcomed an incredible range of artists to the Centre, including Aurora Orchestra, Penguin Cafe Orchestra, The Breath and Bill Frisell. Learning and music creation happens in every space - music-making opportunities for exceptional young musicians, community groups and our group for disabled young adults brings our space to life every week.

WMC will be changing and growing quickly over the next few years - with exciting developments, new music and artistic changes. It is an exciting time to be involved with Wiltshire Music Centre as the organisation works to become even more relevant, lively and audience and artist focused.





“If you hear unusual, or indeed unusually cutting-edge, sounds reverberating through the damp Bradford-on-Avon-air this autumn, don’t worry. It’s just the sound of Wiltshire Music Centre loosening up.” Nearfield Magazine , Sept 2025

WELCOME FROM OUR INTERIM CHAIR ROSA CORBISHLEY



They're working with the team to embed a new strategy and activities into the organisation, always with the best music and music-making at its heart. Alongside this, there has been a focused effort to breathe new life into the organisation — forging new relationships and partnerships, opening our doors wider to the local community, and taking meaningful steps towards becoming a thriving, inclusive space where people gather and connect through a love of music.

We're proud to offer an exceptional cultural asset at the heart of rural Wiltshire: a concert hall that attracts national and international artists, while also providing music-making opportunities for talented young musicians, local community groups, and disabled young adults through our monthly Zone Club sessions. As a

National Portfolio Organisation, we play a vital role in rural Wiltshire and are committed to growing our positive impact for communities across Wiltshire and beyond.

We're now entering an important new chapter, with a dedicated team, an engaged and supportive Board, renewed momentum, and a clear sense of direction. As Chair, you will play a central role in shaping our future — championing our ambitious, innovative plans and strengthening our influence locally and nationally.

If you would like an informal conversation to discuss the role prior to application, please contact directors@wiltshiremusic.org.uk to arrange a conversation. We look forward to receiving your application.

Key priorities over the next 3 years:

- Building ambition, profile, and scale across all areas of the business
- Expanding the music and learning programmes with audiences and artists at its heart
- Cultivating financial resilience through fundraising and income generation

Thank you for your interest in becoming our new Chair. There has rarely been a more exciting time to get involved. Our talented new executive team, Sarah Robertson and Daniel Clark, appointed in early 2025, have been working hard to reimagine our role and place within the community.

THE FUTURE



A thriving inclusive space where people gather and connect through a shared love of music - a space for musical discovery, learning, connection and extraordinary listening experiences

Delivering more concerts and music-making sessions in enhanced facilities, an ambitious and needed youth focused programme, providing training, skills development and music-making opportunities, and a one-stop-shop for music teaching and ensemble learning in the County.

1

A place for extraordinary listening experiences and a home for musical curiosity - a place to celebrate the past, present and future of music-making

2

Inspiring and high-quality learning opportunities and pathway progression routes for adults and young people

3

Welcoming and open invitation to all. It's our aim to create an open space for community groups, young people and disabled people to explore, play and develop music they're interested in.





Dress rehearsal in November
2025 with Aurora Orchestra and
conductor Nicholas Collon

THE CHAIR ROLE

We're looking for a dynamic and visionary Chair to lead our charity into its next chapter—someone who is both entrepreneurial and ambitious, with the big-picture thinking to guide long-term strategy and the hands-on commitment to support our day-to-day impact.

The Chair will provide strategic leadership to the Board, ensuring it operates effectively, upholds the charity's values, and supports the executive team in delivering our mission. As an ambassador for the organisation, the Chair will play a key role in shaping our public voice and forging relationships with stakeholders and the wider community.

You'll be an influential champion for our mission, bringing experience or passion from the charity, arts or education sector, and an understanding of how to build an inclusive, supportive, and high-performing board.

This is a rewarding opportunity to make a lasting impact on a much-loved venue and creative organisation, ensuring it continues to thrive, inspire, and serve for years to come.

AS CHAIR, YOU WILL

- ✓ Work closely with the Executive team to oversee and shape the delivery of the music centre's new vision.
- ✓ Provide strategic leadership to the Board and ensure effective governance
- ✓ Ensure the Board is focused on high-level strategy, performance, and oversight of senior management
- ✓ Promote a collaborative, inclusive, and effective Board culture
- ✓ Chair Board meetings enabling constructive discussion, inclusive participation, and effective decision-making
- ✓ Act as a key representative and ambassador for the charity, serving as a figurehead for the organisation and its Board of Trustees
- ✓ Ensure trustees receive accurate, timely, and relevant information to support informed governance and oversight
- ✓ Plan annual cycle of Board meetings and Members' meetings



Summer tea party in partnership
with IfOpera and Bluebird cafe

IDEAL CANDIDATE PROFILE

ESSENTIAL

- ✓ Strong commitment to dedicating the time and energy required to fulfil the responsibilities of the role, including regular attendance at Board meetings and key organisational events
- ✓ Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage effectively and diplomatically with Board members, sub-committees, staff, volunteers, and a wide range of external stakeholders
- ✓ Natural ability to champion initiatives and inspire others
- ✓ Demonstrably a good networker and partnership builder
- ✓ Senior leadership experience in the charitable or educational sectors
- ✓ Strategic thinker with the ability to shape and support the organisation's strategic plan
- ✓ The ability to chair Board meetings successfully
- ✓ Current knowledge of the music/ wider cultural arts/education sector and understanding of the challenges the sector faces
- ✓ Understanding, appreciation and passion for the music and the arts
- ✓ A good understanding of charity governance and experience working with a Board of Trustees preferable but not essential
- ✓ Knowledge, understanding and influence in the local area – ideally Bradford on Avon or Bath



CURRENT TRUSTEES

ROSA CORBISHLEY

Interim Chair

Rosa is currently Executive Director at Wiltshire Creative. She has worked in senior leadership roles at a number of cultural organisations such as Bristol Beacon and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

MIKE TOFT

Treasurer

Mike works for Octopus Investments leading the day-to-day activities of the Care Homes team. He also has 20 years' experience in real estate investments.

TESSA ARMSTRONG

Trustee

Tessa is the Founder & CEO of Voices for Life, an award-winning children's music and wellbeing charity. She also works as a senior career and confidence coach.

MIRANDA HOUGHTON

Trustee

Miranda works as a psychotherapist specialising in the mental health of professional musicians. She is also currently editor for Handel news.

ESME JONES

Trustee

Esme is Head of Marketing & Communications at St George's Bristol. Her previous marketing experience lies in the live music and commercial events sectors.

MARK LEE

Trustee

An MBA-qualified Chartered Engineer, Mark operates as a business consultant for a FTSE 250 technology company. Mark is also a Governor at St Laurence School.

RICHARD BROWN

Trustee

Richard has worked for 30 years in investment management and investment banking. He is also on the board for a number of local and national charities.

VICKY ODY

Trustee

Vicky is a Finance Director with background in charities, education, conservation and heritage sectors. Vicky is currently Director of Finance Operations at Watershed.

JAMES OLDHAM

Trustee

James has 20 years of experience in leadership and management in the education sector.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your CV and an accompanying cover letter (max. 2 pages) which outlines why you are interested and suitable for this role to:

recruitment@wiltshiremusic.org.uk.

Please include details of two referees.

For an informal chat about the role, please contact Sarah Robertson and Daniel

Clark: directors@wiltshiremusic.org.uk

This is a voluntary position with an initial term of three years, renewable for up to two additional three-year terms.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS

9am, Friday 29th May

As an equal opportunities' employer, WMC is committed to the equal treatment of all current and prospective employees and does not condone discrimination on the basis of age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, gender identity, or marriage and civil partnership. We aspire to have a diverse and inclusive workplace and strongly encourage suitably qualified applicants from a wide range of backgrounds to apply and join WMC.





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